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Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 7th November, 1860.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the following Despatch, with enclosures, from the Major-General Commanding at New Plymouth, and an extract of a Letter from Mr. Parris, to be published for general information.

E. W. STAFFORD.

Head Quarters,
New Plymouth, Taranaki,

6th November, 1860.

Sir,—I have the honor to state for the information of your Excellency and the members of the Government, that yesterday afternoon information reached me that the Waikatos had crossed the Waitara river that morning in force to join Wm. Kingi, and that they would possibly next morning be in the neighbourhood of Mahoetahi. I at once arranged that a force from this, and another from the camp at the Waitara should march so as to join early in the morning at that place; we did so, and met the Waikatos, and after an action which lasted about two hours, they were defeated and fled, with very considerable loss. I write these hurried lines, and send them by the "Victoria," to enable you to communicate with the Home Government by the present mail, and will send full details hereafter.

Amongst the killed are three very influential chiefs. The first I am told was the leading chief in the Maori King movement, the

two others powerful and leading men. There are also many other chiefs killed of minor importance. I enclose lists of those already known up to this hour.

Our loss was two Officers and 14 men wounded, and 4 men killed: nothing could exceed the behaviour of the Troops of all arms, as I shall detail at length in my Despatch. The loss of the enemy is not yet ascertained but from the number killed and buried I should say they must have had between 80 and 100 killed and wounded.

I enclose an insulting letter sent by the Waikato Chiefs a few days ago, and it is a curious fact, that the two Chiefs who signed it were both killed the very day after they crossed the Waitara.

In communication with the gentlemen of the Native Department, I brought into town the bodies of the three principal Chiefs for proper interment, the other Waikatos killed were interred in a pit on the field. We have taken 6 prisoners and a considerable number of very fine arms, rifles and double barrelled guns.

I shall be obliged by the "Victoria" being sent back without delay, as I have discharged the "Wonga Wonga."

I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,
T. S. PRATT,
Major-General Commanding.

To His Excellency
Col. Gore Browne, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
New Zealand.

LIST OF NATIVES KILLED.

Name :	Tribe :
Wetini Taiporutu (Chief)	...
Wharangi (Chief)	... Ngatiapakura
Hakopa (Chief)	... Ngatikoura
Tamu	... Ngatiruru
Hikaraia	... Ngatihaua
Hakopa	... Ngatikoroki
Heneriko	... Te Urikopi
Wirihana	...
Wanganui	... Ngatikoroki
Pari	... Ngatihaua
Tamihana	... Ngatikoroki
Harawira	... Ngatihaua
Hirini	... Ngatikahukura
Tamihana	... Ngatiruru
Wharawhara	... Ngatihaua
Tamati	... Ngatikahukura
Hemi Karena	... Ngatiruru
Harawira	... Ngatihaua
Hakopa	...
Twelve others whose names I have not obtained.	
Five prisoners badly wounded.	
One	„ not wounded.

ROBT. PARRIS,
Assisant Native Secretary.

Pukekohe, Nov. 1st, 1860.

TO MR. PARRIS:

Friend,—I have heard your word—come to fight me, that is very good; come inland, and let us meet each other. Fish fight at sea—come inland and stand on our feet; make haste, make haste, don't prolong it. That is all I have to say to you—make haste.

From WETINI TAIPORUTU,

From POROKORU,

From all the Chiefs of Ngatihaua and Waikato.

True Copy,

R. CAREY, Lt.-Col. D.A.G.

Extract from a Letter dated 6th November, 1860, from Mr. Parris to the Native Secretary.

We left town this morning, 4 o'clock, 600 strong, under the command of the Major-General, for the purpose of taking possession of Mahoetahi and on our arrival we found it occupied by the rebels. On approaching the pa they opened fire upon us, which was warmly returned, and the seaward end of the pa soon taken. They at last went out of the pa into the swamp the inland side of the pa, and there remained until Colonel Mould arrived with his party from Waitara, when they were betwixt two fires, which cross-firing wounded some of our own men; after they had lost about 12 men they ran away under very heavy fire along the road leading to Huirangi and before they got to Waiongona ford, 10 or 12 more fell, and amongst them Wetini Taiporutu.

We followed them to Huirangi, and found 4 on the road nearly dead, and there is no doubt a great many have got away badly wounded.

I recommended that the 3 Chiefs mentioned at the head of the list should be brought to town and buried, which the General sanctioned. We have brought in 4 prisoners badly wounded, 1 wounded in the leg, and 1 not wounded, from whom I got a list of the names enclosed.

I believe there are as many more, killed and wounded, not yet heard of.

We lost 4 killed:—2 Militia men (Rev. Mr. Brown's son and William Edgecombe's son, and 2 soldiers; 12 wounded—1 only badly—from the cross-firing.

Wm. King's people were not present.