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Colonial Secretary's Office,  
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**H**IS Excellency the Governor directs the publication of the following Despatch with enclosures, from Lieutenant-General Cameron, C.B.

WM. FOX.

*Lieutenant-General Cameron to the Governor.*

Head Quarters,  
Camp Te Rore, 13th Feb., 1864.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward for your Excellency's information, copies of reports received from Colonel Waddy, C.B. and other officers (as named in the margin\*) of a skirmish which took place on the 11th instant on the Mangapiko River.

Having been an eye-witness to the engagement, I can fully corroborate the favourable report given by Colonel Waddy, C.B. and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir H. Havelock, Bart, of the conduct of all the troops engaged.

I beg more particularly to bring to your favourable notice the gallantry displayed by Captains Jackson and Von Tempsky, and the officers and men of the Forest Rangers, under their command.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Havelock exhibited the greatest zeal and gallantry throughout the engagement, the successful result of which is in great measure to be attributed to the skill with which he directed the move-

ments of the skirmishers, and intercepted the retreat of the enemy.

I have, &c.,

D. A. CAMERON,  
Lieut.-General.

His Excellency,  
Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c.

*From Colonel Waddy to the Assistant Military Secretary, Te Rore,*

In front of Paterangi,  
12th February, 1864.

SIR,—I have the honor to report for the information of the Lieutenant General, commanding the forces, that, about 3 p.m. yesterday, a party of about 50 men of the force under my command were proceeding to bathe in the river at a point some 500 yards to the right rear of this camp, when they were fired upon by a party of the enemy, who lay concealed in the fern on the opposite side of the river. The covering party of 20 men, under an officer of the 40th Regt., returned the fire, upon hearing which I at once sent off 50 men to reinforce this party. A very sharp fire was kept up by both sides for some time, the Maoris falling back. Soon that a considerable number of the enemy were scattered about the flat near the river, I sent out further reinforcements, till about 20 men were engaged.

Owing to the broken nature of the ground, and the high and thick fern, the troops could advance but slowly, and had great difficulty in finding where the enemy lay. After the greater number of the enemy had retired, I recalled the troops, as soon as all our killed and wounded were carried off the field, except one of the 40th Regt. 10 dead and

\* Lieutenant-Colonel Sir H. Havelock, Bart.; Captain Jackson, Forest Rangers; Captain Von Tempsky, Forest Rangers.

2 wounded Maoris were also brought into our camp, but several more were left on the field. Lt.-Col. Sir H. Havelock, Bart. (who was engaged with the troops from the time they first went out till their return to camp, about half-past seven p.m.) reports having counted 28 dead of the enemy; and, from the reports of other officers, I believe five or six more are killed. I have much pleasure in stating that all officers and men turned out with the greatest alacrity, and those engaged behaved very much to my satisfaction. I estimate the force of the enemy at about 150. I beg to enclose a return of casualties. The body of the man of the 40th Regt., who was missing yesterday, was recovered this morning, brought into camp, and interred with the other dead. The bodies of the enemy killed have been handed over to a party of their own, in compliance with the orders of the Lt.-General commanding the forces.

I beg to enclose a report from Sir. H. Havelock, Deputy-Assistant-Quarter-Master General, who was senior officer with the troops actually engaged.

I have, &c.,

R. WADDY,  
Colonel,

Commanding in front of Paterangi.

(True copy.)

J. D. Baker, Captain,  
Assistant Military Secretary.

*Lieut. Colonel H. M. Havelock to Colonel R. Waddy, C.B., commanding the Advanced Camp near Paterangi.*

Camp before Paterangi pah.

12th February, 1864.

SIR.—Having been directed by the Lieut.-General Commanding to report on the successful skirmish of yesterday, on both banks of the Mangapiko River, I have the honor to state that about 2:30 p.m., on an alarm that a bathing party had been suddenly fired on from an ambush by apparently 100 Maoris detached from the Paterangi pah, the inlying picquets of 40th and 50th Regiments, at this camp, turned out promptly and hastened to the scene, being reinforced immediately by parties of both regiments as fast as the men could seize their arms.

2. The Maoris retired along the left bank, and a sharp running fight soon commenced between them and the foremost pursuers.

3. Finding themselves so readily met, they took post, while endeavouring to gain their pah, on the site of an ancient entrenchment called Waiari, where the high mounts and deep ditches of an old fortification, densely overgrown with thick cover, gave them, together with their intimate knowledge of the ground, great advantage.

4. On reaching the level plain, under Paterangi, after crossing the Takoutu stream, I found that the pursuit and fight had gone to my right. But as there were threats of large bodies sallying out to cut off those of our men whose eagerness had carried them

farthest to the front, I collected every available soldier of both regiments, and formed them up in chain of skirmishers and supports to watch this flank.

5. Soon after, a considerable party under Captain Honourable F. le Poer Trench, 40th, having assured our left and rear, I moved rapidly down to where our leading men were hotly engaged and pressed. They were commanded by Captain Fisher, 40th, who had hastened here earlier with a few men. Captain Heaphy, Auckland Rifle Volunteers, and Captain Jackson, Forest Rangers (both accidentally on the spot), had lent their services, and reinforced him with some 30 men of 40th and 50th.

6. These parties, that which I myself brought up, and one under Ensign King, 40th, united, had now the happiness to come full on the main body of the Maoris, retreating towards Paterangi. We turned them back to the shelter of the ancient earthwork above mentioned, which is singularly placed in a double loop of the Mangopiko.

7. Major Bowdley's party of 40th, who had moved down the right bank, were firing on the front of the Maoris from across the river. Our arrival on their rear effectually hemmed them in and sealed their fate.

8. After much hot firing we were able to dash across the river into the entrenchment, over a bridge formed of a single plank. The banks are here from 40 to 60 feet high, precipitous, and densely wooded.

A series of hand to hand encounters here took place, between the Maoris crouching secreted in thick bush, and our men who displayed, if anything, too keen an eagerness to dash at and close with their lurking enemies whenever visible. This forwardness cost some valuable lives, but the punishment inflicted on the Maoris was sharp and telling, and read them a severe lesson.

9. At the time some 20 men of the Forest Rangers (both companies) arriving from the head-quarter camp, materially assisted in hunting out and destroying the enemy.

10. Eventually every Maori that could be discovered, being either killed or wounded or made prisoner, the work of removing our wounded (most difficult from the narrowness of the planked bridge), and of securing their dead commenced.

11. Two large parties of the enemy now approaching through thick bush, endeavoured to intercept this. It became necessary to throw Captain Fisher's party, with which were Lieut. Simeon and Ensign King, again on the right bank, where they most steadily covered this operation under a sharp cross-fire.

12. Finally, near dark, all our wounded having been removed, and as many as possible of the Maori dead brought in, the skirmishers were gradually withdrawn, file by file, across the plank bridge, and the troops moved slowly, taking every advantage of ground towards camp.

13. This very successful affair cost the

Maoris twenty-eight men killed (counted) and two wounded, and prisoners in our hands. Both these are said to be chiefs. Our loss was five killed and six wounded (one since dead).

The effect on the Maoris of their insidious attempt at ambushade, being thus promptly met, and signally and completely frustrated, with their heavy loss in dead, cannot but be salutary.

14. † It becomes my pleasing duty as senior officer, accidentally on the spot, to report that nothing could have been better than the behavior of men and officers engaged. Where the forwardness of all was distinguished, it is enough to name the officers present.

15. But I would beg specially to bring to notice Assistant-Surgeon Stiles, 40th Regiment, to whose assiduity in caring for the wounded in the most exposed situations, and under sharp fire, their safe and early removal to camp is mainly attributable.

16. Captain Heaphy, Auckland Rifle Volunteers, took charge of a party and ably directed it. In gallantly assisting a wounded soldier of the 40th, who had fallen into a hollow among the thickest of the concealed Maoris, he became the target for a volley at a few feet distant. Five balls pierced his clothes and cap, and he is slightly wounded in three places. Though hurt himself, he continued to aid the wounded to the end of the day.

Captain Jackson, Forest Rangers, gave great assistance, and Captain Von Tempsky, when I directed him to relieve the soldiers, who had been skirmishing for hours, covered the extreme rear of our march with much coolness and judgment.

I have, &c.,

H. M. HAVELOCK,  
Lieut.-Colonel,  
Dep.-Adjt.-Qr.-Master-General.

*From Captain Jackson to the Assistant  
Military Secretary.*

Camp Te Rore,  
February 12th, 1864.

SIR,—In accordance with instructions, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding, that yesterday morning, in company with Captain Heaphy, I started to look at the enemy's position, at Paterangi; that, whilst in Lieutenant-Colonel Havelock's tent, we heard some heavy firing on the Manga Piko. We immediately proceeded to the scene, and I led a party of soldiers to the rear of the enemy, and thus cut off their retreat. Whilst there, we shot several natives. Some of them drifted down the river, and three I

pulled on shore. One of the natives snatched both his barrels at me, and I shot him with my revolver, took his gun, and brought him across the river. Whilst there, I noticed several natives concealed in the thick scrub on the edge of the river, and thought that a few of the Forest Rangers would be useful in driving them out of it. I, therefore, with the permission of the Lieutenant-General, sent for all who were in Camp, about thirty-five, and they arrived about four or five o'clock p.m., under the command of Captain Von Tempsky. I took them to the place where the enemy were concealed, and instructed them to go down and search for the natives, which they did, and in about ten or fifteen minutes they brought up five natives, whom they had killed, and two who were wounded. The wounded were carried to the nearest camp.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM JACKSON,  
Captain Commanding  
Forest Rangers.

(True Copy.)

J. D. Baker, Captain,  
Acting Assistant Military Secretary.

*From Captain Von Tempsky to the Assistant  
Military Secretary.*

Camp Te Rore,

February 12th, 1864.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding the Forces, that on the 11th instant, at three p.m., an orderly arrived in Camp with orders for the Forest Rangers to proceed immediately to the front. Forty men of the two companies being absent on duty (burning fern), and Captain Jackson being at the front already, I proceeded, with thirty-five men of both companies, to the scene of action, on the Mangapiko Creek. On arriving at the extreme right flank of our position, I met Captain Jackson, who informed me that there were natives in a thicket on the river bank. Colonel Havelock then ordered me to dislodge these natives. My men, with promptitude, surrounded the thicket, and entering the same, revolvers in hand, extracted in a short time seven natives, which they had killed at close quarters, after a good deal of a resisting fire from those same natives. We carried seven bodies up to the bank, laying them in a heap. Two of the same number, showing signs of life, were carried to our nearest Redoubt—one of them dying on the road; the latter was laid with nine bodies brought in previously by the regulars. My men behaved with coolness, judgment, and alacrity, particularly in covering the orderly retreat of the Forces.

I have, &c.,

D. G. F. VON TEMPSKY,  
Captain Forest Rangers,  
No. 2 Company.

(True Copy.)

J. D. Baker, Captain,  
Acting Assistant Military Secretary.

† Present:—Brev.-Major Bowdler, 40th Regt.; Capt. Hon. F. le P. Trench 40th; Capt. Fisher, 40th; Lieut. Simeon, 40th; Ensign King, 40th; Capt. Doran, 5th; Lieut. Leach, acting staff officer to Colonel Waddy, C.B., 50th; Ensign Campbell, 50th.

NOMINAL RETURN OF KILLED AND WOUNDED OF THE TROOPS (40TH AND 50TH REGIMENTS), AT PATERANGI, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1864.

Corps.	Regimental No.	Rank and Names.	Age.	Service.	Date of Death.	Place of Death.	Nature of Injury.	Result.	Remarks.
			Years.	Years.					
40th	367	Private John McDool	33	17	February 11, 1864	Paterangi	Penetrating wound of chest, through the heart	Killed	
"	63	" Henry Blake	24	6	Do.	Do.	Gunshot wound through the head	Do.	
"	55	" George Cooper	22	3	Do.	Do.	Perforating wound of chest, through the heart	Do.	
"	3192	" Michael Cahill	30	11	Do.	Do.	Gunshot wound of face and base of skull	Do.	
"	38	" James Bready	25	6	... ..	... ..	Gunshot wound through hand, and left wrist joint	Very severe	Fore arm amputated
"	3564	" James Robins	28	9	... ..	... ..	Flesh wound of left hand	Severe	
"	413	" Joseph Stiggs	21	3	... ..	... ..	Gunshot wound in right iliac region; ball lodged in bone	Do.	Ball extracted
"	39	" John Peaton	24	6	... ..	... ..	Gunshot flesh wound through nape of neck	Slight	
"	2949	" John Meighan	38	13	... ..	... ..	Flesh wound of left leg	Do.	
"	182	" Thomas Sullivan	24	5	... ..	... ..	Flesh wound of scrotum	Do.	
50th	4545	" James Cussen	28	8	February 11, 1864	Paterangi	Perforating wound of chest, over the heart	Killed	
"	596	" William Bane	22	5	Do.	Do.	Gunshot wound through the heart and head	Do.	
A.V.R.	...	Captain Charles Heaphy	...	...	... ..	... ..	Gunshot flesh abrasion of left side and arm	Slight	

Head-Quarters,  
Camp Te Kori, N.Z.,  
February 12, 1864.

J. MOUAT,  
Dep.-Insp.-Gen.,  
Prin. Med. Officer.