

I reached that place in H.M.S.S. "Niger" about four hours earlier. Some boats from the ship landed at once, and my Private Secretary, Captain Steward, Lieutenant Blake, R.N., and Mr. Rogan, Native Agent, seeing no one, advanced to meet the troops. They soon, however, discovered a number of natives lying in ambush, well concealed. After some talk with the Native Agent, who told them they were between the troops and the sailors, they retired, saying they would return.

During the night W. King's natives built a pah commanding the road, and the following morning stopped an escort coming into camp. On hearing this, I sent a message by my Private Secretary and Mr. Parris, Native Agent (vide enclosure marked 2) saying, that if they did not evacuate it in twenty minutes, I should instruct the troops to fire on them. This had the desired effect, and the pah (which was found to have traverses and to be extraordinarily well designed) was burnt by the troops.

I then returned to New Plymouth in H.M. S.S. "Niger," information having been received that the natives on the south would attack the town at once.—See reports enclosed: Parris, marked 3; Turton, marked 4; Missionary, marked 5.

The force in the town at this time consisted of about 300 Militia and Volunteers and 26 regular troops.

Friendly natives also informed me, that other tribes were likely to join Wm. King, and that every endeavour would be made to cause a war between the races. I therefore sent for the company of the 65th Regiment stationed at Wellington, directing the Officer Commanding there, to entrust the care of the town to the Militia; fifty men, a six-pounder gun, and a 12-pounder rocket tube were also landed from the "Niger."

The European inhabitants of the Tataraimaka block were recommended to come into town, and two block-houses—one about four miles on the north, and the other five miles on the south—were erected to command the main roads and afford protection to stragglers.

The native pah in the town was closed, and Maories admitted by passes given only to those who will sign a declaration of allegiance to Her Majesty.

I further prepared to enrol the few natives who can be depended on, into an irregular company under the charge of Mr. Richard Brown, a gentleman who has been resident among them for very many years.

The whole of the population is now assembled in the town, and the Militia and the Volunteers perform the ordinary military duties by day and night, with a good will which is deserving of the highest commendation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) T. GORE BROWNE.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 21.

THE GOVERNOR TO COLONEL GOLD.

New Plymouth,
3rd March, 1860.

SIR,—

The reply from the chief, William King, received last night having been unsatisfactory, and evincing only a desire to gain time, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to take military possession of the land purchased from the chief Teira, at the Waitara river.

It will be desirable that some policemen and some of the natives to whom the land belongs, should attend you in case of any attempt at what the natives consider passive resistance.

Finally, I beg to observe that it is very desirable that collision should be avoided as long as it is possible to do so.

I shall be obliged, if you will keep me acquainted with your proposed movements.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) T. GORE BROWNE.

The Honble. Colonel Gold.

Enclosure 2 in No. 21.

THE GOVERNOR TO NATIVES.

To the Chief who obstructs the Queen's Road.

You have presumed to block up the Queen's road, to build on the Queen's land, and to stop the free passage of persons going or coming.

This is levying war against the Queen. Destroy the places you have built; ask my forgiveness and you shall receive it: if you refuse, the blood of your people be on your own head.

I shall fire upon you in twenty minutes from this time if you have not obeyed my order.

(Signed) T. GORE BROWNE.