

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Te Ao: Who is to be the judge of the faults of each place unless there be kai-whakawas and policemen at each? Let there be ten policemen; Wirihana as upoko for here. Where is the kai-whakawa for Rangikahu? These are the difficulties. I shall have no police to seize offenders, and my women will go astray. [The speaker is said to have three wives.] One policeman is not sufficient, but if plenty then they will be strong.

Waata: You say you want two kai-whakawas, Tamehana for Waikauwau, and another for Kawa, and another for Pakerewa; Hoeta for Rangikahu. Why they will have nothing to do. Let the kai-whakawa come here, and decide cases when required; one policeman is sufficient for each place. Let the upoko be where the Runanga is; the kai-whakawa will have the hardest work: the upoko has nothing to do except to preside over the Runanga; I agree to Hoeta being a kai-whakawa along with Tamehana.

Kereopa: I object to Wirihana, but I approve of Henare. Let Ropiha be the upoko here and Hoeta the kai-whakawa. If there is only one policeman at my place (Pukerewa) I will knock him down when he comes to arrest me, but if there are two then I will offer no resistance. I can master one, but I cannot manage two. [N.B.—This was all said in jest.]

Te Ao: I agree to three kai-whakawas, one at Horea, one here, and a third at Waikauwau; Hoeta as kai-whakawa here.

The Runanga then agreed that Hoeta should be the third kai-whakawa.

Waata: If Wirihana is appointed as upoko, I think Ngatipari (the only dissenting or absent portion of the tribe) would agree.

A long discussion then followed about the upoko, some proposing one party, some another, continuing until the parties were exhausted, with of course no result.

Kereopa: I do not want a upoko and a kai-whakawa at Pakerewa. that would be ridiculous.

Hona and Hemi both agreed in favor of Te Wirihana as upoko.

Show of hands was called for; majority in favor of Wirihana.

Hemi: If Henare lived here I would propose him, but he lives with us at Horea.

Waata: Wirihana, do you agree to be the upoko of the Runanga; all have agreed to you.

Wirihana: Part of my family, Ngatipari, have objected to this work, and therefore I cannot answer the question; but if my father (Tikapa) consents, I agree.

Waata: Yes, but these objectors are only a few bush pigs; if you agree they will do so also.

Te Ao said the policemen were to arrest and shackle him (the speaker) if necessary, that he would submit to the upoko and kai-whakawa because he appointed them, and why should he object to their performing their duty.

Reupene now approved of Te Wirihana and withdrew his former objections, and strongly urged Te Wirihana to accept the office.

The Runanga unanimously agreed that Te Wirihana should be the upoko.

Te Wirihana said he would not decide absolutely, but some other thoughts should arise from his people. Let them agree and he had no objection; he also agreed that he would consult with them and then write Mr. Armitage the result.

Te Ao said if Te Wirihana refused the office, Henare should be the upoko.

Hemi Hapitana was selected for the office of policeman at Pukerewa.

Henare Ngatai ditto ditto Rangikahu.

No policeman appointed for Kawa and Wai-kauwau, there is to be one for each place.

Wikiriwi was asked if he would be the secretary of the Runanga, but when he heard there was to be no salary, he rather declined the office.

We then proceeded on our journey to Waikato.

On arriving at Maraitai we were applied to by the Natives there respecting Spargoe's cattle and sheep (see *ante*); they complained of them straying on to their lands, and having to abandon their cultivations in consequence. Mr. Fenton promised that the matter should be referred to the Runanga, and the Natives undertook not to molest Spargoe farther until the meeting of the Runanga.

JAMES ARMITAGE,
Resident Magistrate.

No. 7.

REPORT BY J. ARMITAGE, ESQ., OF THE NGATIMAHANGA RUNANGA.

Proceedings of the Runanga of Ngatimahanga, assembled in W. Nero's house, at Raglan.

Whaingaroa, 27th January, 1862.

The principal Chief of Ngatimahanga also attended. A large flag was flying over the building, with the inscription of "Mahia te Pai" on it.

Mr. Fenton: My friend William Naylor,—I have no word of advice or otherwise to address to you, because you have always been a steady and consistent supporter of the Queen and her Crown. We know what your sentiments are, and therefore we need not waste time in asking you to repeat them. The Runanga will now proceed to appoint the officers.

Hetaraka: All the tribe, at their different places, have been considering who was the most proper person for the head of the Runanga. Honi Pirihi is the person we have selected for that office.