

P A P E R S

RELATIVE TO THE

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE TARANAKI MILITIA.

PRESENTED BY COMMAND TO BOTH HOUSES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE REORGANIZATION OF THE TARANAKI MILITIA.

No. 1.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO CAPTAIN ROOKES.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland 1st November 1861.

SIR,—

I am directed by Mr. Fox to inform you that his Excellency Sir George Grey, the Administrator of the Government, has been pleased to appoint you to proceed to New Plymouth to enquire into and report upon the state of the Militia and Volunteer Force in the Province of Taranaki; and to enclose for your information and guidance a copy of the memorandum noted in the margin, and to direct your special attention to the points enumerated therein, on which the Government require information.

No. 413.

Under Secretary to Colonial Secretary, 30th Oct., 1861.

You will be good enough to proceed to New Plymouth by the "Airedale," on Thursday next, for the above mentioned purpose.

The Government will pay for your passage (inclusive of expenses for wines, &c.,) by that vessel between Auckland and New Plymouth, and for the time during which you are on shore at Taranaki you will be allowed at the rate of one pound per diem in addition to your present salary.

I have &c.,

Captain Rookes, &c., &c.,
Auckland.

W. GISBORNE,
Under Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 1.

THE UNDER SECRETARY TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Taranaki Militia.

The present condition of the Militia Force, and the current expenditure on account of it in the Province of Taranaki, require the serious attention of the Government.

Since the cessation of hostilities that condition is more and more anomalous, and the expense is excessive in proportion to any beneficial result.

Active duties have nearly wholly ceased, but a large and comparatively ineffective Militia Force is kept up, congregated in town, exposed to the demoralizing consequences of inactivity, semi-civil and semi-military, but its utility impaired in either capacity.

Expenditure in the mean time, on account thereof, is going on at the rate of about three thousand five hundred pounds sterling a month.

This state of affairs has been hitherto maintained not purely for military objects, but also avowedly for political reasons, arising out of the insecurity of agricultural pursuits, out of the heavy losses sustained by the settlers, and their present inability to support themselves and their families.

The objects which I think should be kept in view with reference to the Taranaki Militia are, First,—To organize a thoroughly effective local armed force for military purposes.

Secondly,—To give every facility to the majority of the settlers to return to their homesteads, and to follow their industrial occupations either in town or in the country.

Thirdly,—To furnish as far as practicable every settler with means of defence in cases of emergency.

Fourthly,—To regulate the Expenditure on these accounts with the strictest economy consistent with practicable efficiency.

Generally speaking, it appears to me that a more effective and economical mode of attaining the two-fold object, the security and the settlement of the Province, would be to maintain in concert with the troops of the line a local force, small though it may be, well armed, well disciplined, and exclusively devoted to the service in which it is employed, and thus render available without restriction the industrial labor of the remainder of the settlers; the question of temporary aid, pecuniary or otherwise, to them in that direction being kept apart from that of local defence.

Every encouragement should however be given to the Volunteer movement. The great advantage of these corps is, that in them you obtain at a nominal cost the willing services of the ablest men, and that those services do not injuriously interfere with the regular occupations of colonists.

If the Government concurs in these views, the principal points to which the attention of any person who may be appointed to report on the Taranaki Militia Service should be directed, are;

1. An account of the present state of the Taranaki militia, showing its strength, its cost, its duties and general condition.
2. The effect which its present organization has generally on the security and on the progress of the Settlement.
3. The proposed establishment of a local force, thoroughly efficient.
4. A mode of enabling settlers, as much as possible, to resume their several occupations.
5. The arming and occasional drilling of settlers in the country and in the town.
6. The encouragement of Volunteer Corps.
7. The suggestion of a system of Militia Expenditure in Taranaki, which will properly secure the regularity, the economy, and the proper audit of such expenditure.

A report on these points should be accompanied by any other observations which may tend to elucidate the whole subject, and to guide the Government, in the course most beneficial to public interests.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland 30th October, 1861.

W. GISBORNE,
Under Secretary.

No. 2.

CAPTAIN ROOKES TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Auckland, 4th December, 1861.

SIR,—

I have the honor to state that, in compliance with the instructions contained in the Under Secretary's letter, No. 413, of the 1st ultimo, I proceeded to Taranaki on the 7th of the same month, and on my arrival immediately commenced making the necessary enquiries to obtain the information required in the Memorandum enclosed in the above mentioned letter.

I annex copies of the letters I addressed to various officials at Taranaki, together with their replies, and other documents numbered 1 to 60, and letter from A to E, which (with my report) will I trust enable the Government to obtain a correct idea of the state of militia Matters, &c., at Taranaki.

I have &c.,
CHARLES C. ROOKES.

The Honorable W. Fox,
Colonial Secretary, &c., &c.

Enclosures laid before
Assembly in original.

No. 3.

REPORT FROM CAPTAIN ROOKES ON THE TARANAKI MILITIA.

An account of the present
state of the Taranaki
Militia, shewing its
strength, its cost, its
duties, and its general
condition.

The strength of the Taranaki Militia and Volunteers is at present as under:—

One Major, one Adjutant and Captain, four Captains, six Lieutenants, seven Ensigns, one Paymaster, one Surgeon, one Quarter-Master, twenty-nine Serjeants, nineteen Corporals, four Drummers, and three hundred and fifty-four Privates, including twenty-seven Boatmen, who receive rations only.

Cost.

The cost of this establishment is as follows:—

This expenditure is altogether disproportionate to the benefit at present derived by the Government from the Militia services of the Taranaki settlers: and it being the general opinion that those services are no longer required, I would propose that from and after the 1st December, 1861, lodging allowance and rations cease to be issued to any of the officers of the Taranaki Militia and Volunteers, the authority for drawing which (except in the case of Major Herbert who was guaranteed his allowance by the late Ministry) is doubtful (see letters 1, 2, 3, attached). This deduction would amount to £2348 3s. 4d. per annum. The pay of Captains Richmond, Watt, and Atkinson, might also cease to be given them from the 1st December, 1861. These gentlemen have for some time past been in the receipt of upwards of £333 each per annum, and have other means of subsistence; I imagine then that their Militia pay, if continued, must be considered as given in charity, for their duties are purely nominal and do not prevent them from following their usual avocations. This would cause a further annual reduction of £634 3s. 9d.

For similar reasons I would recommend that the pay of Lieutenants McKechney, McKellar, Hirst, and Hammerton, should also cease to be issued from the same date, (this reduction would amount to £474 10s.); as well as that of Ensigns Jonas, Webster, and Standish, amounting to £287 8s. 9d.; Surgeon Rawson's pay, 15s. per diem, also appears much in excess to that paid to other Surgeons in the Colony who have been receiving pay for actual service, and might be reduced to 5s. per day, causing a saving to the Government of £182 10s. per annum.

The pay of Captain, issued to Adjutant Stapp, should be continued until the proclamation of peace, when it would revert to that of Adjutant, 10s. per day.

Major Herbert is at present drawing £690 a year, which as I have before stated has been assured to him by the late Ministry: these allowances might under the peculiar circumstances of his case be continued until the expiration of the present year, when, if the Government do not wish any longer to employ a Commanding Officer at so high a rate of pay, they could be discontinued, and he informed that active military operations having ceased his services would no longer be required from that date.

Should Ministers act on these suggestions, it will be advisable that they appoint some person to act as Honorary Commandant, not "Commanding Officer," as is the case with Major Herbert, whose commission I do not think authorizes him to make the numerous reductions to the ranks of Sergeants and Corporals that he has made without trial or other record; and to prevent the legal consequences which may hereafter arise from the abuse of power above described, I would recommend the case for the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown, and to the Government when framing the Act of Indemnity.

I would suggest that Colonel Warre be asked to recommend a field officer of his regiment for this duty, who could be remunerated for his services at the rate of 5s. per diem, so long as the Militia are embodied for actual service, and until he has completed the organization in the Province of a force of the kind required by the Government—namely, a local armed body to act effectively with the regular troops in the field.

Twenty-seven Boatmen, in the pay, I believe, of the Provincial Government, are in receipt of pay for their supposed Militia services at a cost of £492 15s. 0d. per annum. This should be at once discontinued.

Twenty-nine Sergeants receive pay and rations,—a number greatly in excess of that sanctioned. I would recommend that the Militiamen and Volunteers holding that rank (and named in the annexed list, marked 4 to 8) cease to receive either, from the date on which Government informs their Commanding Officer to that effect; they having other means of subsistence, and not being dependent on their Militia pay for a living.

The Corporals, Drummers, and Privates named in the list referred to might also, for similar reasons, cease to draw pay and rations.

The last-named reductions and those before specified will amount to £18,964 15s. 10d. per annum.

The issue of forage to the Sergeant and four Privates of the Mounted Force might also be discontinued from the same period.

The annual rent paid by the General Government for the hire of a Militia Office, Quartermaster's Store, and Paymaster's Office, amounts to £143. There are two ways of reducing this expenditure (which must always occur as long as there is a Militia Force in Taranaki). The first is for the Government to purchase a piece of ground, and erect thereon a building of sufficient size to contain the Arms, Militia Office, Magazine (expense), Quartermaster's Store, Paymaster's Office, and Quarters for one of the permanent Militia Staff—the interest on the outlay of capital for which would hardly, at 10 per cent., amount to £60 per annum, less than half that now paid. The other plan is to have the necessary enlargements made to the present Militia Office, for which additional rent will be charged, and save the amounts now paid for the hire of the Quartermaster's and Paymaster's Office.

It is impossible to arrive at any correct idea of the contingent expenses for the Militia Force at Taranaki, either in time of peace or war; payments have been made, and various expenses sanctioned, without the permission or knowledge of Ministers. In more than one instance, Colonel Gold ordered a large expenditure to be incurred for military purposes at the expense of the Colonial Government, without acquainting any person connected with it. Governor Browne ordered the indiscriminate issue of allowances and rations to the Militia, without the recommendation or knowledge of Ministers. A recurrence of this evil can alone be prevented by all Militia matters being under the control of one Minister, and no allowance of any kind ever sanctioned or payment made without that Minister's authority being first obtained.

Although Martial Law still exists in the Province, the Militia duties of the settlers are all but nominal: so I am informed by Colonel Warre, C.B., Commanding at Taranaki; they occupy a few of the block-houses surrounding the town, by which means some of the Officers and many of the younger and unmarried men live rent-free without being a burden to their families.

As a military body, the condition of the Militia and Volunteers reflects the greatest credit on Major Herbert, the Officers, and Men. I had the pleasure of seeing them on parade, and they manoeuvred (at Battalion Drill) as well, if not better than many Regiments which have been a long time in the Colonies; but their semi-military, semi-civil, condition as Militiamen and Settlers, has placed both Officers and Men in a false and dissatisfied position, as is evidenced in the documents appended.

General Condition.

The present organization of the Settlers into a Militia and Volunteer Force has, without doubt, a beneficial effect on the community as regards the confidence that the inhabitants generally have in it, should circumstances demand its active employment in the field, when the ties of consanguinity by which the majority of the community are connected, would call up the best energies of its members to defend their families and homes; the result of former tests in this respect appears to have given a most satisfactory feeling of security to the settlement.

The effect which its present organization has generally on the security and progress of the settlement.

Nevertheless, it cannot but be admitted that the existing state of affairs has somewhat demoralized the people, and retarded their social progress; but it is believed that withdrawing the men from their usual avocations, and bringing them together in a small town like New Plymouth, has been more the cause than their military embodiment.

It appears that grievous complaints are made for want of labour, and that, as long as the present rate of pay and rations are continued to the Militia for merely nominal duties, the difficulty in preventing such complaints will continue.

At present the account of the expenditure of the Taranaki Militia is kept according to the form prescribed by the War Office Regulations, and is complicated in the extreme, involving the necessity of a mass of vouchers, and requiring on the part of the Paymaster a knowledge of the multitudinous Royal Warrants and Regulations of the Imperial Government, which can only be acquired by the experience of years.

The suggestion of a system of Militia expenditure in Taranaki which will properly secure the regularity, the economy, and the proper audit of such expenditure.

I propose that the accounts continue to be kept as at present until the 31st December next, and that from the 1st of January, 1862, the following system be adopted:—

The acting Paymaster of the Militia (who in time of peace might be the Adjutant, or when on actual service the Quarter-master) should prepare an estimate of the probable amount that would be required for the payment of the Force during the quarter (see form marked A, annexed), the correctness of which would be vouched for by the signatures of the Commanding Officer, the Adjutant, and the acting Paymaster. This estimate should reach the Colonial Secretary, or other Minister charged with the control of Militia expenditure, for his approval, some time previous to the pay being due. The Under-Secretary, or officer acting as Under-Secretary for Militia affairs, (see letter marked B in Form A), will then send the documents to the Sub-Treasurer of the Militia District, who thereupon will act as directed.

The Paymaster having at the periods specified in the Under-Secretary's letter to the Sub-Treasurer received from that Officer the amounts authorised, prepares for him a pay list (see forms C and D), in which is to be inserted the name and rank of every person in the Militia Force receiving pay, &c., and the number and date of the authority for such payment is to be quoted in a column preceding the charge, with the signature of the recipients affixed opposite their respective names; and in the case of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates, their signatures to be witnessed by the Captains or other officers in command of the Companies (see Forms C and D).

Form E is then filled in by the Sub-Treasurer, and forwarded by him (see letter in Form E) to the Auditor-General in Auckland.

If the foregoing is approved, I would recommend that a printed form be prepared in accordance with that proposed, and that directions as to the methods of paying the Force be despatched to the Commanding Officers, Paymasters, and Sub-Treasurers throughout the Militia Districts of New Zealand.

Until the settlers receive the assurance of a permanent peace, I feel satisfied they will never attempt to return to any part of the Province, in which they are not protected by the immediate presence of an armed Force, and block-house to retire to in the event of being attacked; even then, as is the case at present in the neighbourhood of the Bell block-house and the Omata stockade, (in which reside some of the settlers whose property lies in the vicinity), they will never attempt to rebuild their houses, make any improvements on their lands, or be able to resume their previous occupations, so long as they consider there is a probability of war.

A mode of enabling settlers to resume their several avocations.

But the case in the town and the suburbs is different. Many of the settlers who are serving in the Militia, for which they receive a very high rate of pay, &c., will never attempt to seek for or accept labour, or resume their trades, calling, or professions, so long as Government pay them. If pay and rations are withdrawn from this class, they will be compelled to rely on their own means and exertions to procure a living, instead of, as at present, living on the public.

A Military force of any kind, to be thoroughly efficient, should be paid, rationed, clothed, housed, and be exclusively devoted to Military pursuits. The suggestion I made on this subject was most favourably received by the Members of the Provincial Council, and the Officers of the Taranaki Militia and Volunteers; who stated that they did not feel themselves in a position to offer any remarks on what would be the best plan of organising a permanent local Force, as they considered that the whole future of the Province depended on the solution of the present difficulty with the Natives, and that if it was considered advisable to raise such a Force, it would evidence a want of security from Native aggression, and the settlement would be abandoned.

The proposed establishment of a local force thoroughly efficient.

They maintain that, until the inhabitants can return to their occupations, it is absolutely necessary that the Militia Force should be kept up, and paid and rationed on its present footing.

With every feeling of pity for the losses and privations which the settlers have sustained during the late war, and with the greatest admiration for their loyalty and courage, it is apparent

that the necessity no longer exists for the continuance of pay and rations to the whole of the Militia; and, as I before stated, I am of opinion that the greater portion of the men will not return to their usual avocations until this assistance is withdrawn.

Under these circumstances, no steps can, for the present, be taken in the formation of a local Force. If, hereafter, the active co-operation of the settlers with the regular troops in the field is required, it will be necessary to alter the Militia Act, so that some now exempted from the first class might be included, and exclude others whom infirmity or other causes render them unequal to the active duties required of them on service. On this subject, "on the arming and occasional drilling of settlers in the country, and in the town," and "the encouragement of Volunteer corps," I have ventured to embody my ideas with reference to the views of the Government expressed in the Under-Secretary's Memorandum, headed "Taranaki Militia," and dated 30th October, 1861; and although I cannot hope that my opinions will carry with them much weight, it will give me much pleasure if they assist the Government in any way.

The 6th section of the Militia Amendment Act, 1860, defines who are liable to serve as Militiamen.

The 2nd section of the same Act divides the population into three classes.

The three classes appear to divide the population too minutely, so that the first or service class is rendered less efficient by the exclusion of many willing and active men, whose services are comparatively lost at the early and most important moment of insurrection.

By dividing the available adult male population into two instead of into three classes, this defect would be obviated.

The first class would consist of all adults from 16 to 40 years of age, who may not be legally exempted.

The second class would contain all the remainder; the members of which would not be called upon to serve unless actually in defence of their homes.

Allowing for the authorised deductions, which should be liberally extended to the fathers of young and large families, to the husbands of sickly or infirm women unable to attend to their children, or to others whom the Government might deem proper to exempt—a Force would be obtained, from which an admirable light corps might be taken, composed of men well acquainted with the country, who would be invaluable to cover the advance and protect the flanks of the regular army, without the support of whom it would not be advisable to attack Natives scattered over a country, the natural obstacles in which render it so formidable.

Occasional drilling of settlers.

An efficient staff, composed of one thoroughly efficient Adjutant, one similarly qualified Sergeant-Major, two drill Corporals, and a Bugler, would assemble the Militia-men at such times and places as might be determined on, (say for 42 days drill in the year) and would drill them by squads, sections, sub-divisions, and companies, according to the locality; and to suit as much as possible the convenience of the settlers at stated periods, the whole force might be assembled, and drill together. An armoury, militia office, and store would be the sole expense beside the purchase and freight of ammunition, targets, &c.

Volunteer or Yeomanry Cavalry Force.

A cavalry corps should be instituted, which would be most valuable in the event of war—not only to cover the advance of troops, to effect the necessary "reconnaissances," and to escort provisions, &c., but to communicate rapidly from one Force or place to another.

This Volunteer Force might be taken from the most intelligent and respectable settlers' sons, who are able and willing to provide their own horses, for the loss on service of which an allowance might be made. It would not be necessary to drill this Force as cavalry, to teach them simply the use of the rifle when mounted, or arm them with a lance and revolver; they would act irregularly and only be drilled as above, and taught skirmishing on horseback and on foot, and the perfect use of their weapons.

3lb. Rocket Corps.

Some men, say 40, might be selected and trained to the use of the 3lb rocket, which would be found of the greatest use in protecting the advance of skirmishers in fern and low scrub-covered land, like that at the Waitara and Tataraimaka. This corps might also be taught a knowledge of the use of hand grenades, and how to make powder bags to place against any pah attacked.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES ROCKES.

No. 4.

No. 48.

MR. SEWELL TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF TARANAKI.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 7th January, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to forward for your information the annexed copy of a letter addressed to the Officer commanding the Militia at Taranaki, and am to request that your Honor will cause the same to be published for general information.

I have &c.,

HENRY SEWELL,
In the absence of Mr. Fox.

His Honor the Superintendent,
New Plymouth.

Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY TO THE OFFICER COMMANDING TARANAKI MILITIA.

No. 6.

Militia Branch, Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 6th January, 1862.

SIR,—

I am directed to inform you that the Government have had under their consideration the question of the present state of the Militia Force in the Province of Taranaki, and of its future constitution and maintenance; and that although the Government have not yet come to a decision on the subject they will in all probability do so in the course of the present month.

The effect of that decision will probably be an entire organic change in the establishment of the present Taranaki Militia, and a great reduction in its expense.

It is intended that all persons able to maintain themselves should be left to their own resources, and that in the case of others, the receipt of pay and rations should be coupled with conditions requiring from such persons effective services in return for the same.

This intimation of the views of the Government is given in order that it may be at once communicated to all persons concerned, both Officers and Privates, in order that they may be prepared for the impending change, which it is likely will take place from the commencement of next month.

I am to request you to give immediate publicity to this announcement.

I have, &c.,

Major Herbert,
Commanding Taranaki Militia,
Taranaki.W. GISBORNE,
Under Secretary.

No. 5.

MR. FOX TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF TARANAKI.

No. 117.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 25th January, 1862.

SIR,—

With reference to my letter of the number and date noted in the margin, informing your Honor that changes in connexion with the Taranaki Militia Force were in the immediate contemplation of the Government, I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter dated the 24th instant, which, by my direction, the Deputy Adjutant-General has written on this subject to the officer commanding that force. No. 48 of the 7th Jan., 1862.

That letter will place your Honor in possession of the intended arrangements affecting the Taranaki Militia; and, with reference to the public works alluded to therein, I further enclose for your information a copy of a letter dated the 24th instant, which has been written from this department to Mr. F. A. Carrington, communicating to him his appointment as Engineering Surveyor in Taranaki, and his instructions in relation thereto.

Your Honor will perceive that it is contemplated that the particular works to be constructed should be determined on in consultation between the Superintendent, the Officer Commanding the Garrison, and the Engineering Surveyor.

The General Government confidently relies on your Honor's co-operation in the attainment of the objects in view, and on the willingness of the Provincial Government of Taranaki to render every aid which it may be in their power to afford to Mr. Carrington in the performance of his duties.

The Government will always be glad to receive from your Honor, in connexion with the construction of the works referred to, any suggestions or information which you may consider that the public interests require.

I have, &c.,

His Honor the Superintendent,
Taranaki.

WILLIAM FOX.

Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF MILITIA, TO OFFICER COMMANDING MILITIA AT TARANAKI.

No. 1282.

Deputy Adjutant-General's Office,
Auckland, 24th January, 1862.

SIR,—

Referring to the letter of the number and date noted in the margin, from the Honorable Colonial Secretary to yourself, I am directed by the Government to inform you of the following changes which have been determined upon in connection with the Taranaki Militia Force.

1. All pay issued to any of the Colonial Forces, except the Permanent Staff specified in paragraph 7, and except as hereinafter directed, to cease one week after the receipt of this letter.

2. Any Militiaman desiring to be put on pay, may receive the same at the rate of four shillings a day, on condition of his being employed either in such Militia service as may be specially ordered, or on

public works conducted under the superintendence of the Engineering Surveyor of the General Government.

3. That as many men as may be necessary for the garrisoning of the Omata Stockade, (say, 1 Lieutenant, 50 Rank and File, and 2 Serjeants), shall be employed on that service till further orders. All others receiving pay to be placed on the public works, as above.

4. That in selecting Sub-Engineers, Foremen of works, or Overseers for the public works above referred to, preference be given to Commissioned Officers of the Militia and Volunteer Corps, provided they possess the requisite qualifications to the satisfaction of the Engineering Surveyor.

5. The arms be retained by the men till further orders.

6. There are to be only two parades per month, for the inspection of arms.

7. A Staff, consisting of 1 Adjutant, 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal, and 1 Bugler, are to be retained with the salary appointed (see Estimates).

8. The men employed on public works at four shillings per diem will not receive rations; but those employed at garrison duty at the Omata Stockade, will receive the present rate of Militia pay and rations as heretofore.

9. New Volunteer Regulations and Instructions have been forwarded.

In communicating to you these arrangements, which will probably have the effect of terminating the present official position occupied by yourself, I am directed to express to you the thanks of His Excellency the Governor and of his Responsible Advisers for your valuable services, and their full appreciation of your gallant conduct whilst in command of the Militia and Volunteers.

I am also to request you to convey to the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates of the Militia and Volunteer Forces in Taranaki, the thanks of His Excellency the Governor and the Government, and to express the high sense which they entertain of the courage and devotion displayed by that Force under extraordinary difficulties.

I have, &c.,

H. C. BALNEAVIS,

Deputy Adjutant-General of Militia and Volunteers.

Major Herbert,
Commanding Militia and Volunteers,
New Plymouth.

Enclosure 2 in No. 5.

No. 31.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY TO MR. CARRINGTON, TARANAKI.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Auckland, 24th January, 1862.

SIR,—

With reference to your letter of the 20th instant, expressing your willingness to accept the appointment of Engineering Surveyor in the Province of Taranaki, with a salary of four hundred pounds per annum, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor is pleased to appoint you to that office, and to convey to you the following instructions with regard to its duties.

The object of the Government is to promote the construction of roads, bridges, and other public works, &c., in the Province of Taranaki, and to employ for that purpose the services of those of the settlers who may be willing to place them at the disposal of the Government on certain terms.

The nature of these terms will be best explained by the enclosed copies of communications which Mr. Fox has addressed to His Honor the Superintendent of Taranaki, and the Officer Commanding the Militia there, on the subject of the Militia Force in that Province.

The determination of the particular works to be constructed, Mr. Fox considers will be best arrived at after a consultation between the Superintendent of Taranaki, the Officer Commanding the Garrison, and yourself, and those Officers will be requested to be good enough to co-operate with you for that purpose. In the event of any disagreement in this matter, which Mr. Fox does not anticipate, the question will have to be referred for the decision of the General Government. You will of course, however, report for the information of the Government what works may have been agreed on between the Officers named and yourself, and keep it fully informed of the progress of such works.

The responsibility of the execution of the works decided on will entirely devolve on you, subject to any instructions which you may receive from the General Government.

I am to address you in a future communication on the mode of payment of the expenses that will be from time to time incurred in the construction of these works, and of keeping the accounts of such expenditure.

I have, &c.,

W. GISBORNE.

F. A. Carrington, Esq.,
&c., &c.,
Auckland.

P. S.—Your salary will commence from this day's date.

W. G.

Colonial Secretary to
Superintendent, Taranaki.
Lt.-Col. Balneavis to
Major Herbert.

No. 6.

MEMORANDUM BY MINISTERS FOR HIS EXCELLENCY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 24th January, 1862.

His Excellency's Responsible Advisers respectfully submit for his consideration, the following suggestion :—

In the letter, a copy of which is enclosed, proposed to be written to Mr. F. A. Carrington with reference to his appointment as Engineering Surveyor in Taranaki, it is contemplated that the works to be constructed should be determined on in consultation between the Superintendent of Taranaki, the Engineering Surveyor, and the Officer Commanding the Garrison there.

His Excellency's Advisers would suggest, with that object, that the approval of the Lieut.-General should be obtained to this proposal, and in that event, that the General should request Colonel Warre to be kind enough to lend his valuable aid in the determination of the particular works to be constructed in Taranaki.

WILLIAM FOX,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 7.

MAJOR WHITMORE TO THE UNDER SECRETARY.

No. 1134.

Head Quarters,
Drury, 6th February, 1862.

SIR,—

With reference to the Minute of the Colonial Secretary giving cover to the instructions furnished to Mr. F. A. Carrington, which was forwarded to me by you for the consideration of the Lieut.-General Commanding, I am by him directed to inform you that Colonel Warre has been directed to co-operate with His Honor the Superintendent and Mr. Carrington, in determining on the roads and other works to be constructed in the Province of Taranaki.

A copy of Mr. Carrington's instructions has been forwarded to Colonel Warre by this mail.

I have, &c.,

The Private Secretary, Government House,
Auckland.

G. S. WHITMORE, MAJOR,
Assistant Military Secretary.

No. 8.

MEMORIAL FROM TARANAKI SETTLERS TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR GEORGE GREY, GOVERNOR OF NEW ZEALAND, &c., &c., &c.

The Memorial of the undersigned Settlers in the Province of Taranaki humbly sheweth :—

That your Memorialists are most sincerely desirous to co-operate with the Colonial Government in any plan they may think fit to adopt for reducing the expenditure on the Militia and Volunteer Forces in this Province, provided that it shall satisfy the following conditions :—

1. Every Settler rendered destitute by the late war should be placed in a position to earn an amount of pay or wages, sufficient to provide him with the ordinary necessities of life, in the way of food, clothing, and lodging, until enabled by the Government to return and occupy his home in safety.

2. Without fixing the rate of pay at an amount such as to make it attractive to those who would otherwise find employment for themselves in other ways, provision should be made for giving special assistance to destitute Settlers who have wives and families to support.

3. The greatest economy consistent with the above objects should be used in the expenditure of the public funds ; and all who avail themselves of the assistance offered, should be placed under regulations calculated to ensure a fair equivalent in the way of work for the pay received.

4. Provision should be made for allowing men receiving such assistance, to devote a portion of their time, if they desire it, to the work of keeping down weeds, cutting hedges, or other farm operations, their pay being stopped whilst they are so employed.

Your Memorialists respectfully submit that the new arrangements proposed in the letter of Lieutenant-Colonel Balneavis to Major Herbert, dated January 24th, 1862, and in that from Mr. Gisborne to Mr. F. Carrington, of the same date, do not, as far as they can understand them, satisfy the above conditions.

They fail of meeting the second condition, inasmuch as the pay, 4s. per diem, without rations, is inadequate for the support of a man with a wife and family ; even assuming that it is intended that pay at this rate should be issued for every day in the week, wet or dry, including Sundays.

They do not fulfil the third condition for the following reasons :—

Firstly,—The organization provided is neither Military nor Civil, but a mixture of both; the powers entrusted to the Government Surveyor being of so peculiar and indefinite a nature, that even the most able man in such a position would find it impossible to perform his duties in a satisfactory manner.

Secondly,—The gentleman appointed to this office has proved himself on a former occasion, unfit for the performance of similar functions; it being an indisputable fact, that he, at that time, lavished a very large amount of the New Plymouth Company's funds in such a manner as to produce scarcely any useful result.

Thirdly. The pay not being sufficient to support a man with a family in tolerable comfort, a feeling of dissatisfaction will be produced which will render it impossible to obtain from the men employed a fair equivalent in work for the money actually received by them.

Fourthly. This dissatisfaction will be increased by the circumstance that it is proposed to select fifty men from the whole force, who are to receive pay and rations at the present rate, which, together, are equivalent to 3s. 6d. per diem, and are only to be employed in garrison duty, which in the absence of hostilities is exceedingly light.

These men, who would probably not be on duty more than one day in the week, would thus be receiving very nearly the same pay as those who were fully employed every day on public works, and the result would be jealousy and discontent amongst the latter.

Your Memorialists, being in uncertainty as to whether it is the wish of the Colonial Government to maintain a civilian force in this Province available at any moment for active military service, or whether it is no longer necessary, feel some difficulty in making any definite suggestions as to the manner in which the conditions which they regard as indispensable to the satisfactory working of any new arrangements could be best carried into effect.

Assuming, however, that your Excellency's Government will think it desirable as far as possible to retain in the Province the young men now resident here, and that these should be available at any time for active service; and assuming also, that the Government wish to limit the number employed on public works, to those who have no other means of supporting themselves; we are of opinion that all the requirements of the case would be best secured in the following manner:—

In the first place, the present Militia and Volunteer forces should be disbanded.

Secondly, two separate Volunteer corps should be organized, the first of these to be a working force subject to special regulations, carefully framed to meet the conditions stated in the commencement of this memorial, and of which the most important would be one providing that rations, and perhaps a small lodging allowance, should be issued for the wives and families of men of this corps, and one empowering the Officer in command, or other proper authority, to make stoppages of pay to any reasonable amount for idleness or other misconduct.

The second corps to be an ordinary body of Volunteers, enrolled for Military duties only, the pay to be proportionate to the amount of time actually employed, and sufficiently liberal to retain in the Province most of the young settlers now enrolled in the Militia and Volunteers.

Being firmly convinced that the new arrangements proposed in the letter above referred to, will not work in a manner satisfactory either to the Government or to those for whose assistance they were intended, and believing it is very difficult, if not impossible, to meet all the requirements of such a complicated case, without personal enquiry into the condition of the settlers and the settlement, your Memorialists respectfully pray that Your Excellency would be pleased to visit this Province in person, before carrying into effect any changes, except such as are recommended in this Memorial, in the existing state of the civilian forces in the Province;

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

On behalf of the meeting, at the request of the meeting.

CHARLES BROWN,
Superintendent.

No. 9.

No. 206.

MR. SEWELL TO THE MEMORIALISTS (IN ANSWER).

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 24th February, 1862.

SIR,—

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial signed by your Honor on behalf of a public meeting at New Plymouth, to his Excellency the Governor, on the subject of the proposed changes in the Militia in Taranaki.

In reply, I have to state that the Memorial has been duly submitted to his Excellency, and that the subject of it has received the careful consideration of the Government.

I transmit herewith for the Memorialists a copy of a Memorandum embodying the decision of the Government in this matter, and specifying the arrangements which for the future have been sanctioned by the Government.

I have to request, on behalf of the Government, that your Honor will be good enough to assist in carrying these arrangements into operation, as regards the allowance of passage money to militiamen leaving the Province. I have also to request that your Honor will give the requisite authority to persons desirous of availing themselves of that privilege.

I have, &c.,

His Honor the Superintendent,
Taranaki.

HENRY SEWELL,
For the Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 9.

MEMORANDUM ON THE TARANAKI MEMORIAL.

Taranaki Militia, &c., pay and duty.

On discussing with His Honor the Superintendent of Taranaki the arrangement as to employment and pay of the Militia at Taranaki, we arrived at the following result to be recommended to His Excellency for approval.

Messrs. Burton, Halse, and Atkinson, to be requested to act on behalf of the Government in settling any difference which may arise out of the present arrangement; subject to directions from the Government and to their approval.

All men taking service in the militia under the new arrangement, to be employed at three shillings and sixpence per day, for seven (7) days in the week.

Such of them as are settlers who have been driven from their homesteads, to be allowed to work on their own lands for two days in the week, receiving pay, with permission to work elsewhere by arrangement to be specially sanctioned by the above named gentlemen, the object being to allow the men to work interchangeably upon each others' lands; but not for hire as labourers.

Captain Burton to be the principal overseer of the works, to execute the same as directed by Mr. Carrington, he to receive his present militia pay. He to recommend to the Government the persons to be employed under him, with their rate of pay.

Mr. Carrington to be the Surveyor and Engineer, to lay out the works and to direct the mode of executing the same, to recommend to the Government the necessary staff to be employed under him, with their rate of pay.

All persons so employed as subordinates under Mr. Carrington or Captain Burton to be Officers either of Militia or Volunteers who cannot return to their homes, and have not Government employment or other means of support.

All disputes and questions as to misconduct of men, stoppage of pay, &c., to be referred to Messrs. Burton, Halse, and Atkinson, who shall decide the same subject to the approval of the Government.

The Superintendent to be authorized to procure necessary tools, &c.

The mode of garrisoning Omata Stockade to be arranged by Captain Burton, subject to the approval of Colonel Warre. Captain Brown's offer to undertake the duties of Paymaster to be accepted, he being allowed his present serjeant, as clerk, at 5s. per day.

Men at present in the Militia force to be permitted to leave the Province, their passage money being paid to any part of the Colony.

HENRY SEWELL.

No. 10.

THE UNDER SECRETARY TO MESSRS. BURTON, HALSE, AND ATKINSON, TARANAKI.

No. 81.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 22nd February, 1862.

GENTLEMEN,—

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a Memorandum as to the employment and pay of the Militia at Taranaki, embodying the arrangement sanctioned by His Excellency.

I am to request, on behalf of the Government, that you will be so good, as far as relates to yourselves, to assist in carrying it into operation.. Messrs. Carrington and Burton have been requested to give immediate effect to it.

I have, &c.,

Messrs. Burton, Halse, and Atkinson,
Taranaki.

W. GISBORNE,
Under Secretary.

No. 11.

MESSRS. BURTON, HALSE, AND ATKINSON TO THE UNDER SECRETARY.

New Plymouth,
5th March, 1862.

SIR,—

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, requesting our assistance in carrying out the arrangements for the employment of the Militia, as detailed in the Memorandum accompanying it.

We have held several meeting to discuss this subject, which Mr. Carrington has attended at our request.

The only points on which we would suggest a modification of the terms are (1), the employment of *bonâ fide* settlers, (2) of skilled laborers, (3) of men rendered unfit for service, and (4) medical assistance.

1st. The Government offer to settlers who have been driven from their homesteads, of two days per week, their pay running on, to enable them to work on each others' lands, but not for hire.

It is probable that the majority of these will employ the time thus given in cutting down thistles, collecting live stock, and otherwise in reference to their own lands and property. But there would be great difficulty in the way of their working for each other except for hire, and it would be impracticable to establish a mutual equivalent for the services rendered.

We propose that the two days should not in all cases be given. A person who resided on his quarter-acre allotment in the Hua village, or without the town entrenchments, and in other cases we need not detail, though having been compelled to leave his homestead, should not receive the same indulgence as the farmer and stockowner, who have something yet to look after and employ their spare time upon; and we think that one day instead of two would, in such cases, be a fair and equitable allowance.

We likewise think that, whilst the intention of the Government in granting the indulgence should be distinctly stated—namely, to enable the men to work upon their own and each others' lands—that they should not be absolutely prohibited from engaging for hire. There is work to be done that will bear paying for, and it will scarcely be done gratuitously. Collecting cattle, for instance, is very hard work, especially in the forest; and there are many laborious occupations on the farm which there is no reason the owner should not pay for.

2. We also propose that skilled labourers, when actually employed as such, should receive 1s. a-day extra. There are many works on public roads which will require this description of labor, such as facing and bedding stone for culverts, the construction of bridges, drains, &c., and waterworks.

3. No provision has hitherto been made for the wounded and others, more or less rendered unfit for work by the war. These are, happily, under twelve in number, and we propose that they should receive the pay granted to efficient workmen, in the absence of other provision, rendering such assistance as they are able.

4. Some arrangement for the medical charge of the men would seem necessary. Already a slight accident has occurred from the falling in of earth; and when large bodies of workmen are employed accidents are almost certain to happen.

The above are the only points on which we have to address you at the present time. We are happy to add, in conclusion, that the men appear well satisfied with the terms granted to them by the Government, and work to the satisfaction of the Engineering Surveyor.

We have, &c.,

The Under Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.,
Auckland.

GEORGE RUTT BURTON,
W. HALSE,
H. A. ATKINSON.

No. 13.

No. 117.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY TO MESSRS. BURTON, HALSE, AND ATKINSON.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 8th March, 1862.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honor, by the direction of the Government, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th of March, and to return to you their thanks for the assistance which you afford in carrying out the arrangements for the employment of the Militia, as specified in the Memorandum accompanying my letter of the 22nd ult.

In reply to your suggestions on the points referred to by you, I am to convey to you the views of the Government on these points *seriatim*—

1. The Government agree with you in thinking that you should have the power of giving one or two days per week, as you think in each case equitable, to persons for the purpose of enabling them to work on their own farms. The Government, however, desire to keep in view the principle laid down in their former instructions—viz., that persons working for hire as labourers, under ordinary circumstances, should not at the same time draw Militia pay; if, keeping that principle in view, any *special* case may appear to you to require a departure from the strict letter of the rule, the Government leave the matter to your discretion. In case of any such exception, if the person in whose favour it is granted is receiving support from the Government for his family, a proportionate reduction in such support should be made.

2. Your suggestion that skilled labourers should receive an extra shilling per diem is very reasonable, and is sanctioned by the Government.

3. With respect to destitute and invalided Militiamen, I am to enclose for your information a copy of a letter, dated 1st March, current, which has been addressed to His Honor the Superintendent of Taranaki on this subject, from which you will perceive that provision has been made for their support and medical relief. The names of any Militiamen who have been wounded in the war should be returned to the Government, in order that the claims for pension under the "Militia Act, 1858," may

be considered. If any accident should occur on the public works, the Government will be at the charge of medical attendance.

I have, &c.,

Messrs. G. R. Burton,
W. Halse,
and H. A. Atkinson,
Taranaki.

W. GISBORNE,
Under Secretary.

Enclosure 1 in No. 13.

Inter-Colonial Royal Mail Steam Packet Office,
Auckland, 21st February, 1862.

SIR,—

With reference to our conversation this morning respecting an extension of the present contract for the conveyance of refugees from New Plymouth to the other ports of New Zealand, the amount of passage money to be payable by the General Government at Auckland on the production of certificate of such refugee, or of families, as the case may be (steerage passages), viz. :—

New Plymouth to Auckland	...	...	...	£2 10 0
New Plymouth to Nelson	...	...	...	2 10 0
New Plymouth to Wellington	...	...	...	5 0 0
New Plymouth to Port Cooper	...	...	...	7 0 0
New Plymouth to Port Chalmers	...	...	...	8 0 0

per adult—children in proportion.

And such extension subject to be determined by the General Manager of the Company, Captain J. Vine Hall, if not approved of by him.

I have, &c.,

To His Honor the Superintendent,
Taranaki.

W. H. HOBBS,
Local Manager.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

FOR HIS EXCELLENCY'S CONSIDERATION.

Suggestions for making provision for the return of the Refugee Families from Nelson to Taranaki.

Passages to be provided at the charge of the Colony, as per agreement with the Steam Company.

A certain number to return as may be arranged in each steamer.

The number and families to be arranged by the three Sub-Commissioners in concert with the Superintendent.

Instructions to be sent to Nelson with peremptory instructions to the Refugees there to conform to the proposed arrangements.

The details to be under the direction of the three Sub-Commissioners in concert with the Superintendent.

Houses to be built for the reception of returned families in New Plymouth on Government land.

The mode of construction, plans, &c., to be under the like management.

£4000 now in the hands of the Provincial Government applicable for Barrack accommodation to be applied for the above purpose.

The occupant to pay rent as may be arranged.

The buildings to be on Government land and to be considered as the property of the General Government.

Subject to any better arrangement being made, Germain Square to be appropriated for the above purpose.

His Honor the Superintendent approves of this arrangement.

CHARLES BROWN,
Superintendent,
5th March, 1862.

G. GREY.
5th March, 1862.

No. 14.

MR. SEWELL TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF TARANAKI.

No. 207.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 24th February, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a tender from the I. C. R. M. Steam Packet Company, which has been accepted by the Government for the passage of refugees

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE

from Taranaki, who, under the recent arrangements respecting the Militia in that Province, may be desirous of proceeding to other Provinces.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Taranaki.

I have, &c.,

HENRY SEWELL,
For the Colonial Secretary.

No. 15.

No. 18-52.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF TARANAKI, TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Superintendent's Office, New Plymouth,
April 15th, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to make the following statement and recommendation for the favorable consideration of the Government:—

The number of men now employed on road-making by the General Government is on an average one hundred and twenty; of this number about one-half are men driven from their homes by the war, the remainder are either town residents whose homes have never been injured, or strangers who have arrived from other Provinces during active hostilities to enlist in the Militia or Volunteers for their pay and rations.

The latter half receive on an average over five and under six shillings a working day for their labor, and I submit have no equitable claim on the employment offered by the Government, but should be left to find private employment for their labor, or leave the Province to seek it in some other part of the Colony.

I, therefore, recommend that those who have not been driven from their homes by the war be struck off Government pay, and that the troops in garrison be employed in their stead; which will obtain for the Government, for the expenditure now incurred for sixty men at five shillings a day, the services of three hundred soldiers at tenpence working pay per day.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

CHARLES BROWN,
Superintendent.

No. 16.

MR. CARRINGTON TO THE UNDER-SECRETARY.

New Plymouth, Taranaki,
28th February, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to enclose herewith a duplicate of my letter of the 13th instant, and, in continuation of the subject therein contained, I beg leave to submit for the information of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary the leading points of the course pursued by me in the performance of my duty as Engineering Surveyor in this Province.

On the 14th instant, I posted a notice (copy herewith enclosed) informing the settlers of the terms and hours with which they would have to comply if desirous of employment on the Government works.

On Monday, the 17th instant, I met the men who were anxious for employment, and after I had made to them a brief address, I read the rules I had drawn up for their guidance (a printed copy is herewith enclosed); at each stipulation I asked them if they had any objection to it, and if so to name it at once. They were unanimous in approval.

Monday being a very wet day, nothing was done beyond looking at tools, &c., for the following day.

On Tuesday, 18th, we commenced the heavy cutting on the Devon road, immediately over the Henui Bridge. The pay list, which I enclose with this, will show the number of persons employed.

I have much pleasure in stating that, notwithstanding some of the men are more physically adapted for the work than others, all join harmoniously in the cause.

And now, I would observe, in asking for the services of a chief assistant and clerk, that Walter John Morrison, a Lieutenant of Militia, has shown since the commencement of the work, ability and great attention to his duty.

Mr. Morrison was articled in London to an engineering surveyor and contractor, well known to myself; he there served for four years, and since he arrived in this settlement has been employed as a draftsman and clerk in the Survey Department. For a period of five years, Major Herbert and the chief Surveyor of this Province under whom he has served, speak in high terms of his moral and professional worth. I therefore trust that the Colonial Secretary will be pleased to sanction the appointment of Mr. Morrison to the office I have named (chief assistant and clerk) to the Engineering Surveyor, and to allow him such rate of pay or salary as to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary may seem fit.

Thomas Good, an Ensign of Militia, who during the war was Captain of the Native force, has been an overseer on the road since the commencement of the work; he has some practical knowledge of the duty required, and is anxious for permanent employment, having a large family and lost most of his cattle and property. I trust the Colonial Secretary will be pleased to state at what rate per day he is to be paid. Hitherto I have not paid anyone more than the 4s. a day allowed. I have told all the officers who have been employed that I cannot go beyond that sum without further authority from the Government.

Several of the officers have intimated to me that they are likely to apply for employment. I am not prepared to state that any of them, further than I have stated, are qualified for the work.

A few of the men who are employed on the works were subpoena'd as jurymen on the 25th and 26th instant; as the Judge could not allow them any pay for the days they were absent, they have asked me to solicit the Government for them to have the said two days pay allowed them; they are very poor and work well. I therefore hope the Government may be pleased to comply with their request.

W. Gisborne, Esq.,
Under-Secretary, &c., &c.,
Auckland.

I have, &c.,

FREDK. A. CARRINGTON,
Engineering Surveyor.

No. 17.

MR. CARRINGTON TO THE UNDER SECRETARY.

Engineering Surveyor's Office,
New Plymouth, Taranaki, 12th May, 1862.

SIR,—

Referring to the 5th paragraph of my letter of 30th ult., No. 15, in which I did myself the honor of stating to you as follows:—"The road south from Poutoko towards Tataraimaka I have not yet commenced, but shall probably do so in a few days, &c."

I now beg leave to state that since I made the above remark a threatening letter has been received by the Poutoko Natives from two turbulent chiefs, who are living some twenty miles south of this place. The effect of the letter has been such as to prevent the Poutoko Natives from commencing the road through their own land or making the bridge over the Tapuae river, notwithstanding the Poutoko Maoris are most anxious to see the work done.

Herewith I enclose the copies of the two letters sent to me by my Assistant and Interpreter, Mr W. Carrington, bearing upon the matter.

The Natives employed on the road between the Waiwakaiho and the Bell Block are working particularly well.

I have furthermore the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., 180, with the transcript of letters from and to His Honor the Superintendent, in which His Honor recommends "that those who have not been driven from their homes by the war be struck off Government pay," &c.

His Honor has not yet made known to me who are not entitled to employment, I shall therefore confer with him on the matter.

Your letter of the 9th inst., 197, I have received and noted.

I have, &c.,

W. Gisborne, Esq., Under Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

F. A. CARRINGTON,
Engineering Surveyor.

Enclosure in No. 17.

MR. W. CARRINGTON TO MR. F. A. CARRINGTON.

New Plymouth,
6th May, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that, agreeably to your instructions, I have visited the Poutoko several times, on the subject of the road between that place and Tataraimaka. I find that the principal chief, Ngarongomate, and his people are willing to work at once, but Ekati and several others who are favourably disposed will not at present have anything to do with it; they are evidently afraid of the Southern hapus. I was there this morning and met the principal owners of the said piece of land, and after hearing what they had to say, told them most distinctly that the road would not be commenced at present, except all were agreeable, as your object was to have it done peaceably and quietly. I pointed out the advantages of the road, of which they seemed to be well aware; there is no doubt but that they would go to work at once, if it were not for the threats of the Southern hapus.

The meeting was perfectly quiet and orderly.

Enclosed is the translation of a letter from Paringa Kingi, and Minarapa, which was handed to me this morning; it is from the south side of the Hangatahua River, about 20 miles south of the town. This letter is the principal cause of the non-commencement of the work.

The Natives at present employed on the road between Waiwakaiho and Bell Block seem much pleased with their work and are getting on very well; the number has considerably increased since commencing; there is not the slightest trouble with them.

I have, &c.,

F. A. Carrington, Esq.,
Engineering Surveyor.

W. CARRINGTON.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 17.

Paiaka Nahoe,

May 1st, 1862.

To Hopa, Taituhi, and Patara,—

This is what we have to say to you, all who would commence (road-making). Let your thoughts be clear, do not join in it, lest boasting and rashness quickly appear on our side—for this reason, there are laws, the laws of our Island, that is from God. You know these laws, stop this (road-making) for love, good will, and peace, leave it for them (alluding to Bob and others) to bring it to a lead. You have spoken what has been said in the ears of Himiona and his son, Henere te Reo, Bob's brother.

This is all, it is ended,

From KINGI and MINARAPA.

True translation,
W. Carrington.

No. 18.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY TO MR. CARRINGTON.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Auckland, 21st May, 1862.

SIR,—

I am directed by Mr. Fox to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, relative to the employment of Natives on the public works under your direction, and to convey to you his approval of the course pursued by you.

I am also to instruct you not to prosecute the works on the roads, under any circumstances which may be likely to lead to collision with the Natives.

I have, &c.,

F. A. Carrington, Esq.,
Engineering Surveyor,
New Plymouth.

W. GISBORNE,
Under-Secretary.

No. 19.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO MR. CARRINGTON.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Auckland, 9th June, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to enclose for your information and guidance a letter from the Military Secretary to the Private Secretary, from which you will learn that in pursuance of a suggestion made by the Superintendent of Taranaki, Colonel Warre will be immediately instructed to furnish working parties of soldiers, on the application of the Superintendent.

As there is not time before the closing of the mail to have a copy made, I enclose you the Military Secretary's original letter; and have to request that you will, after making a copy of it for your own file, return it to this office.

You will also be so good as communicate a copy of it officially to the Superintendent of Taranaki.

You will report as early as possible what steps may be taken by Colonel Warre, the Superintendent, and yourself, in reference to the subject to which it relates.

I have, &c.,

F. A. Carrington, Esq.,
Taranaki.

WILLIAM FOX.