

if we wanted to fight to go to Taranaki and Waikato?' I confess that, knowing that such was the language held to the natives in this Province, it is not easy to answer their queries."

6. I will, in another despatch, address your Grace in relation to the line of policy the Government are in this instance pursuing, when I have received the explanations of my Responsible Advisers.

I have, &c.,

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

G. GREY.

No. 23.

MY LORD DUKE,—

Government House, Auckland, 26th May, 1864.

I have the honor to transmit, for your Grace's information, copies of two letters from Whanganui, the first containing a description of the origin and opinions of a body of fanatics which has recently arisen amongst the natives in that part of New Zealand, the other containing a copy of the depositions of Mr. Booth, relative to the escape of himself and his family from a body of these misguided men. It seems highly improbable that so strange and foolish a delusion will spread to any extent in this country.

Yours, &c.,

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

G. GREY.

No. 24.

MY LORD DUKE,—

Government House, Auckland, 28th May, 1864.

I have the honor to transmit, for your Grace's information, the copy of a very interesting letter from Mr. Buller, the Resident Magistrate of the Manawatu district.

2. Your Grace will be glad to find that the state of Mr. Buller's district is rapidly improving. He gives it as his opinion that if the system of allowing the natives some share in the administration of local affairs in their own district, which was introduced into the country in 1861, had been brought into operation at an earlier date, it would probably have arrested the rebellion which now unhappily exists here.

I have, &c.,

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

G. GREY.

No. 25.

MY LORD DUKE,—

Government House, Auckland, 30th May, 1864.

Adverting to my Despatch, No. 80, of the 26th instant, in which I reported the rise of a fanatical sect of natives in the neighbourhood of the Settlement of Whanganui, who seemed bent on attempting the expulsion of the Europeans from that part of this Island, I have now the honor to enclose for your Grace's information copies of the letters of Messrs. Logan and White, from which you will learn that a body of these deluded people attempted to descend the Whanganui River, with a view of attacking the town, but that they were opposed by a party of friendly natives, and that an action ensued, in which the body of fanatics was nearly entirely destroyed—their high priest being killed amongst the others.

2. In the affair with Captain Shortt's party at New Plymouth, a number of these fanatics, including one of their prophets, were also killed, so that I suppose that this sect, which rose so suddenly, and the members of which appear to have been rendered almost insane under the delusion which possessed them, is now nearly extinct.

I have, &c.,

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

G. GREY.

No. 26.

MY LORD DUKE,—

Government House, Auckland, 6th June, 1864.

I have the honor to transmit, for your Grace's information, a copy of a letter which the Bishop of Waiapu has addressed to the Colonial Secretary, and which my Responsible Advisers have forwarded to me.

2. In this letter the Bishop of Waiapu gives his reasons for believing that the war against Waikato was necessary, and could not have been avoided.

I have, &c.,

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

G. GREY.

No. 27.

MY LORD DUKE,—

Government House, Auckland, 8th June, 1864.

I have the honor to transmit for your Grace's information a printed copy, in the native language, of a notice issued to the natives by the New Zealand Government on the 2nd of February last, which makes known the course they propose to pursue towards the natives who have been implicated in the existing Rebellion, and in the King movement. This paper is signed by Mr. Fox, the Colonial Secretary and Native Minister. I also enclose a translation of this paper, made in the Native Office.

2. Your Grace will find that it contains this paragraph to the natives who may come in and avail themselves of the terms of this Proclamation :—

"This, however, is to be remembered: the disposal of their lands is with the Governor."

3. I enclose also for your Grace's information the copy of a letter from Mr. Buller, the Resident Magistrate at Manawatu, dated the 9th of May, to shew the manner in which this paragraph is interpreted by some of the Government officers to the natives. Mr. Buller says he spoke thus to the natives who had been in rebellion :—