

introduced) is not only a virtual admission of the accuracy of their statements, but is absolutely identical with them. The charge brought was that Dr. Featherston had threatened that 500 armed men would be sent to protect those persons who would be employed to cut a boundary. Dr. Featherston, you tell me, has "absolutely denied" the truth of this. Mr. Buller indeed says that it is "untrue," but then adds, in reply to a question from "Noa Te Rauhihi, Dr. Featherston stated (through me) that Kawana Hunia had offered to go with 500 men to cut the inland boundary of the ceded block, but that he had refused to sanction any step of this kind at present, being extremely anxious to get the question of reserves and dissentients' claims disposed of first. Noa then asked whether the party would go armed, His Honor replied, that Kawana Hunia had distinctly stated his intention of going armed. His Honor repeated that 'he would not send them at present.'"

The only matter at issue has now been conceded by Mr. Buller. No question was raised as to the origin of the suggestion that 500 armed men should be sent to protect the survey, whether it came in the first place from Kawana Hunia (who was not present at the meeting of 29th June), or from Dr. Featherston, but only as to the threat having been made by the latter, and now Mr. Buller fully admits this.

It cannot be necessary that I should make any further comment on Mr. Buller's Memorandum. It must be perfectly clear to Mr. Richmond that I have nothing either to substantiate or retract. There is really no difference between the statement made by Henere Te Herekau, and the facts as admitted by Mr. Buller himself. It now only remains for him to reconcile these with Dr. Featherston's alleged denial.

I have already forwarded a statement from Pumipi Te Kaka corroborating what was said by Henere Te Herekau. I had similar statements from five or six other Natives who were present at the meeting, but I accidentally left them at Manawatu: they shall be forwarded to you. I may as well add that Ihakara has on several occasions detailed all that was said by Dr. Featherston, and ridicules the attempt made to deny it. Mr. Richmond will have learnt from my letter of the 25th instant that the subject has attracted considerable notice.

W. Rolleston, Esq., Native Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.,
OCTAVIUS HADFIELD.

No. 18.

Copy of a Letter from Archdeacon HADFIELD to Mr. ROLLESTON.

SIR,—

Otaki, 5th September, 1867.

I have the honor to enclose a statement from Patoropa comprising the charges referred to in my letter of 29th August. You will observe that he mentions four hundred, but I am told that both numbers were mentioned during the discussion that was carried on at the meeting of 29th June.

I have, &c.,

W. Rolleston, Esq., Native Secretary's Office.

OCTAVIUS HADFIELD.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Ko Hune te marama i hui ai maua ki Tawhirihoi i te 29, 1867. Ki a Te Petatone raua ko Te Pura—ko maua e toru tekau ka puta i reira te kupu a te Huperetene, e wha rau tangata e wha rau hoki o nga pu hei whakatakoto mo te tini ki Waitapu, ko aku kupu enei i rongo atu ai ki tona waha, engari ekore e taea te huna, ko Te Pura ano te kai-whakamaori.

NA PATOROPA.

[TRANSLATION.]

It was during the month of June that we met at Tawhirihoi, on the 29th June, 1867, to see Dr. Featherston and Mr. Buller. There were thirty of us. It was then that the Superintendent gave utterance to his word—that there should be four hundred men with four hundred guns to lay down the chain at Te Waitapu.

These are the words which I heard from his own mouth, but it cannot be kept back. Mr. Buller was the interpreter.

PATOROPA.

No. 19.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. ROLLESTON to Archdeacon HADFIELD.

(No. 486-1.)

Native Secretary's Office,

VENERABLE SIR,—

Wellington, 9th September, 1867.

I have the honor, by direction of Mr. Richmond, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, enclosing extracts from letters received by Matene Te Whiwhi, relating to threats alleged to have been made by Dr. Featherston at Tawhirihoi on 29th of June, also of your letter of the 29th August having reference to Mr. Buller's Memorandum, and of your letter of the 5th instant, enclosing a statement by Patoropa on the same subject.

In reply, Mr. Richmond directs me to state that there can be no doubt that the statement made to Noa Te Rauhihi, as reported by Mr. Buller, was an equivocal one, and much to be regretted. The Government is now taking means to bring the claims of the Manawatu dissentients before the Lands Court; and under these circumstances it is considered that it would answer no useful end to prolong the discussion of this particular question.

I have, &c.,

The Venerable Archdeacon Hadfield, Otaki.

W. ROLLESTON,
Under Secretary.