

PAPERS RELATIVE TO AFFAIRS AT TAURANGA.

No. 1.

NOTES of SPEECHES made at the PACIFICATION MEETING of His Excellency the Governor with Ngaiterangi Tribe at Te Papa, Tauranga, 5th and 6th August, 1864. Furnished by Mr. H. T. Clarke, R.M., and Mr. E. W. Puckey, Government Interpreter.

PENIAMINI Taka: Welcome! Welcome! Welcome, O my father. Welcome that which is good. Welcome that which is right. Welcome truth. Welcome to Tauranga. Welcome love. Welcome you and our great mother, whose laws we have trodden under foot—whose peace we have trampled upon at this place which you made sacred. (This refers to His Excellency's assurance that the Natives who remained quiet should be unmolested.) We have trampled upon your justice. Song. * * * *

Enoka te Whanake: Salutations to you, O Governor. Salutations to you, O father, you whom I have trampled upon. But here I have returned to life. When we gave up ourselves and our arms to the Colonel, we expressed a wish that you should come and see us. We could not be satisfied with a letter from you, we wished to see you face to face. You have come. We have already made a declaration, and we repeat it here in your presence—that this shall be a firm and lasting peace. We have made submission to the Queen, and are under the shadow of her laws; henceforth we will be obedient to her commands. We will be your dutiful children. We will not return again to folly. This declaration I now make is an unalterable one. I have ceased to speak falsely to you. This is our firm resolution—we will not return again to anything that is evil. This is the declaration we wished to make to you personally. This is a second declaration. The first was made to the Colonel, when we gave up our guns. This is our second submission.

Hokohoko: Welcome! Welcome, O Governor. I was not drawn into this quarrel; I went of mine own accord. I have seen my folly, and have made my declaration of submission to the Colonel, and now do so to you. That to the Colonel was my first, this is my second, to acknowledge the Queen's authority and be under her laws. The land also I give up to you. (Here he was interrupted by Raniera te Hiahia.)

Te Harawira: Enoka says this is an unalterable declaration; it is so. We have come in and given up our guns and powder, ourselves, and the *mana* of (authority over) our land. Answer us upon all these points. Te Hokohoko speaks for himself.

Enoka: We have nothing more to say. I have given up the *mana* of my land to you; it is in your hands. This is another word: Let the prisoners return to me. This is our request: Let Iraia and his companions who were taken at the Gate Pa and Te Ranga be returned to us; but it is for you to decide. Enough of that. Here is another word for you and the General to take into consideration: Let the soldiers cease to suspect me; I am without arms, cease to suspect me when my canoes go past. Let all that cease now that I have seen your face. Do not make it necessary for me always to have a pass when going about Tauranga; let that be necessary only when about to proceed to a distance.

His Excellency then, through the medium of the Interpreter, asked the Natives assembled if the words expressed were the words of the whole meeting, and if they had nothing more to say.

Te Harawira: Yes.

It was then put by him to the whole meeting, who replied, *unā voce*, "Yes."

His Excellency then asked to be further enlightened with respect to the *mana* of the land.

Te Harawira replied: What we mean by the *mana* of the land being given up to you is, that you may consider the *mana* of the land yours. You may occupy it. Permit us to do so or not, as you please.

There was still some considerable amount of ambiguity in the expression *mana*, and further enlightenment having been requested through the medium of an interpreter,

Te Harawira replied: I mean that you are to hold the land as your own, and to do what you like with it. When we made our submission to the Colonel, we gave up our arms and ourselves. The question about the land was left for you to decide; the decision, therefore, rests with you.

His Excellency thereupon made the following reply: I regret that you should have committed yourself to the evil courses which have caused so much misery to so many people. But since you have done this, you have made the best amends in your power by the absolute and unconditional submission you have made to the Queen's authority, which submission is hereby accepted by me on the Queen's behalf. I will see you again to-morrow, and will then inform you of the decision which has been come to upon all those questions we have spoken of this day; in the meantime informing you that in as far as circumstances will admit of you shall be generously dealt with. You will, for the future, be cared for in all respects as other subjects of the Queen; and the prisoners taken at Puhedinahina (Gate Pa) and Te Ranga shall be allowed to return to you, if you undertake to be responsible for their future good conduct.

Next day His Excellency made the following address to the Ngaiterangi Natives:—"At present I am not acquainted with the boundaries or extent of your land, or with the claims of any individuals or tribes. What I shall therefore do is this:—I shall order that settlements be at once assigned to you, as far as possible, in such localities as you may select, which shall be secured by Crown Grants to yourselves and your children. I will inform you in what manner the residue of your lands will be dealt with."