

No. 2.

Major MAIR to the UNDER SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR,—

Alexandra, 28th November, 1873.

I have the honor to report that on the 25th instant I met Rewi, by his request, at Kopua, where he, with Hape Whitipatato, had just arrived from Kawhia.

It appears that some of the "cases" for hearing at the sittings of the Native Land Court at Hamilton next month, are lands claimed by Ngatimaniapoto, and Rewi's chief object in sending to me was to request that they should be withdrawn from before the Court, or "trouble might again arise over this much-vexed question." The blocks are Otautahanga, Wharepuhunga, and Manganika. The first is, I believe, under offer for sale by Ngatihaua; the second has been brought forward by Ngatiraukawa; and the last by Hone Te One. Rewi agreed to send one of his people to the Court to request that these cases be struck out, and reminded me that this was a great concession on his part, as he had "never in any way recognized the Native Lands Court hitherto!" I assured him that Government would do what they considered right in the matter, and he seemed satisfied. His manner was very conciliatory.

Tapihana Tahau visited me yesterday. He came from Kawhia with Rewi, and is going to Kuiti to urge Tawhiao and Manuhiri to ask the Governor to meet them at Ngaruawahia in the autumn. He is very earnest about it, and says that he will persist until he succeeds. In the end, he will come and inform me of his success. Rewi approves of his action. I encouraged him all I could, saying that it was right that he should initiate such a movement. Tiria, Parehauraki—Tawhiao's wife—and her child, are visiting the Natives of Aotea and Raglan. It is a woman's mission, and is regarded by the *kupapa* as a very favourable sign.

Tu Tawhiao's formal visit to this place will do a great deal towards breaking down the barriers of reserve existing between ourselves and the Kingites.

The Under Secretary, Native Office, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

W. G. MAIR, O.C.

No. 3.

Major MAIR to the UNDER SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR,—

Alexandra, 29th December, 1873.

I have the honor to report upon Native matters in this district.

During the present month we have had two visits from Tu Tawhiao. On the first occasion he stayed in Alexandra only one night, as it was merely a formal visit. On the last he came to take part in the festivities of the season, arriving on Christmas Day, when he called on several of the leading settlers, taking great interest in the races and various amusements of the following day. He is still in the settlement, and, though accompanied by a great many followers, the greatest order has prevailed. In the early part of the month, Tawhiao himself came to Kaipiha, some two and a half miles distant, and there is very good reason for believing that he would have come openly to Alexandra; but Tu having been persuaded to come on without waiting, offended his father, and he changed his mind.

Rewi, with a large party, have for several weeks been near the confiscated line, drying cels for a meeting called by himself and Whitipatato for next month. There is a great amount of speculation as to the object for which this *hui* has been called, but nothing definite is known about it. I do not anticipate anything hostile, for recent events prove a very marked improvement in the state of Native feeling.

Hone Wetere, of Kawhia, visited me a short time since. He assures me that now that Tapihana has declared himself a "man of peace," the Kawhia Hauhaus—lately the most violent in their tone—are becoming very moderate in their language.

There has been a considerable mortality among the King people lately. Pungarehu—son of the late Hoani Papita, chief of Ngatihinetu—and Maehe Toheriri, Papaka, and Te Rache, all of Ngatimahuta, and chiefs of high rank, are among the dead.

The Under Secretary, Native Office, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

W. G. MAIR, O.C.

No. 4.

Major MAIR to the UNDER SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR,—

Alexandra, 14th April, 1874.

I have the honor to inform you that on the 6th instant I received an urgent request from Rewi Maniapoto to meet him at Kopua. I went up immediately, and remained with him till next morning. Upon arriving at the house of a half-caste named Hughes, at about 11 p.m., word was sent to Rewi, who, with about fifty followers, principally Ngatiraukawa, was encamped half a mile away. He came at once, and after a very friendly greeting asked where Mr. McLean was. I said, "He has gone to Sydney." He then said, "I have heard so, but sent for