

Sir George Grey : How many did they kill of your people?

Rewi : They only killed one man of my people, but he was a chief.

Sir George Grey : Had they any guns?

Rewi : We had guns; but they had not.

Sir George Grey : Then Karaitiana's people must have been plucky to fight you in these circumstances.

The subject of salmon was introduced, and *Sir George Grey* said that he hoped to be able to come up to Puniu to eat salmon with *Rewi* yet.

Mr. J. Jones (of Mokau), who was present, said that he believed the Murray cod would succeed admirably in the Mokau River, and that the Natives intended to ask the Government to assist in acclimatizing the fish in the Mokau.

Sir George Grey said he had no doubt but the Government would assist him in introducing the Murray cod to the Mokau, and that he would set about the work as soon as the Natives asked him.

Sir George asked *Rewi* if he and his people were well provided for, and had plenty of food. *Rewi* said they were well off for food, but the houses were hardly sufficient. During the conversation something was said about ages. *Rewi* said he remembered what *Sir George* was like shortly after his arrival in New Zealand. *Sir George* said he remembered *Rewi* as a stalwart fighting man at that time. Many came to the conclusion that they were both about the same age, and that *William King* was somewhat older. *Rewi* shortly afterwards went away, returning to the *kainga*.

I have several times referred to the invasion of Waikato, which took place about 1830 or 1831, and I may state how that war was brought about. The Maoris could not resort to conferences and protocols and ultimatums, but they managed just as well when they wanted war. The story is as follows: A little boy, a grandson of *Tarawa's*, of *Ngatiruanui*, came to this part to visit some relations amongst the *Atirawa*. This boy was murdered at a place called *Whaaturangi* (now called *Inglewood*) by some of the *Atirawa*. These people wanted to make war against *Ngatiruanui*, and took this means to bring on a war. The child was chopped up in pieces, and cooked in an oven, and then taken out. The bones were made fishhooks of, with which fish were caught off the beach at *Opunake*. Some of these fish were sent to the relatives of the child, and they did not know of the murder till they had eaten the fish caught with the bones of their child. Then *Ngatiruanui* formed a war party, and killed *Te Karawa*, a great chief of the *Atirawa*. After killing *Te Karawa* they flayed and stretched the skin over a hoop, and trundled the hoop along the ground. *Ngatata*, the father of *Wi Tako*, who then lived at the *Sugarloaf*, determined to avenge the death of *Te Karawa*, and went to *Waikato* to induce *Te Wheorowheoro* to raise an army to attack the *Ngatiruanui*. *Te Wheorowheoro* brought down four thousand men, and attacked, first, those residing at *Waitara*, who were the people who had sent for him. The *Waikatos* then drove all before them.

[From the *New Zealand Herald*, 27th June.]

THE NATIVE MEETING AT WAITARA.

(By Electric Telegraph. From our Special Correspondent.)

New Plymouth, Wednesday.

AGAIN I have to report delay, and that another day has been lost. It really needs peculiar qualifications to deal with Maori meetings, and the greatest of all these qualities is patience. My stock of patience is almost used up, and I am afraid your readers will begin to consider themselves "sold," in seeing it stated every day that all business had been put off till to-morrow. The meeting was appointed for the 21st of June, and now we are at the 26th, and yet nothing has been done. *Rewi* does not care about saying anything in the absence of any man of weight belonging to the district. He himself is a stranger. I have no doubt that he desires to make the people of *Taranaki* parties to a friendly arrangement with the Government, but he would not think of attempting to commit them in their absence. We must, therefore, wait patiently. *Sir G. Grey* is very anxious to get away.

The "*Hinemoa*" arrived off *New Plymouth* to-day, and it is supposed she will have to beat about till Ministers are ready to go.

The long-expected convoy from *Parihaka*, *Te Whiti's* place, came into *New Plymouth* to-day. There were forty-four carts, forty of them drawn by 106 bullocks, and four of them drawn by ten horses. On a pole on one of the carts was a white flag over a red one, and on one of the other carts were two flags. Most of the Natives were mounted. They have encamped at *Bell Block* to-night, and enter *Waitara* to-morrow. The carts are loaded with potatoes, kumaras, live pigs, and other kinds of food. The weather to-day has been squally, and several slight showers have fallen. There is a prospect, however, of better weather to-morrow. Perhaps I ought to say that the Europeans now hold *Waitara*, as it was included in the *Taranaki* confiscated block. The block was first purchased from *Te Tira*, and we went to war with *William King* because he resisted the sale, and would not allow the survey to be made. Afterwards a proclamation was issued, stating: "Whereas an engagement for the purchase of a certain tract of land at the *Waitara*, commonly known as *Te Teiara's Block*, was entered into by the Government of *New Zealand* in 1859, but the said purchase has never been completed. And whereas circumstances connected with the said purchase, unknown to the Government at the sale of the said land, have lately transpired, which make it advisable that the said purchase should not be further proceeded with: Now, therefore, the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, doth hereby declare that the purchase of the said block of land is abandoned, and all claim to the same on the part of the Government is henceforth renounced." This proclamation was issued a few days after the killing of *Lieutenant Hope*, *Dr. Tragett*, and a party of men who were marching in from *Taitaraimaki*. I am informed that when *Sir George Grey* came here with *Dr. Domett* and *Mr. Dillon Bell*, to take into consideration the troubles of *Taranaki*, it was determined that the purchase of *Waitara* was wrongful, and that it ought to be given back. The proclamation renouncing the purchase was prepared, but, owing to the necessities of Ministerial responsible Government, its publication was delayed for a few days, and in the meantime the escort from *Taitaraimaki* were murdered. Some