

No. 6.

Sub-Inspector GOODALL to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

(Telegram.)

Wanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

HAVE heard nothing whatever of murder of John McLean near Waverley, except from *Herald* newspaper report of last evening. Scene of murder is not in my district, hence local police have not reported to me. That district is in charge of officer at New Plymouth. Officer at Waihi is nearer than New Plymouth. Offender is unknown to me; have received no information of the route he has taken. Am unable to give any further information on the points named in your telegram.

S. GOODALL,

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

Sub-Inspector.

No. 7.

Sub-Inspector GOODALL to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

(Telegram.)

Wanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

PEOPLE here are not alarmed. Newspaper reports say it is a private murder, and not connected with surveys.

S. GOODALL,

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

Sub-Inspector.

No. 8.

Mr. R. W. WOON to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

(Telegram.)

Wanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

Re Wairoa murder: First heard of matter by reading telegram in last night's *Herald*. No rumours had reached me previously indicating any intention on the part of Natives to commit such violence. Alleged offender unknown to me; no information as to where he has fled. No alarm here yet. I will make due inquiry as to the nature of the offence in connection with the surveys, and let you know. Seems to me rather like a simple murder, although the matter looks suspicious as coupled with the survey of the confiscated land. Last Wednesday, on way down river, met Paiaka's party on way home, and they reported that ammunition-cart had left Wanganui for Waimate, as survey would be resisted, if Te Whiti so ordered it. Saw Paiaka in town, and we both treated it as an idle rumour, as previous one about Titokowaru and rebuilding of Nga-utu-o-te-manu Pa. I shall at once institute inquiries amongst the Natives, and procure all the information I can on the subject, and inform you forthwith.

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

No. 9.

Captain WILSON to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

(Telegram.)

Hawera, 22nd September, 1878.

HEARD rumour last evening of man being murdered. Telegraphed to Captain Wray this morning to ascertain if true. Received reply, "J. McLean murdered; Hiroki suspected, and warrant out for him. Supposed to have fled King country." I telegraphed Sub-Inspector Kenny to say that supposed murderer would probably go by one of the bush tracks between this and Patea. If so, he would have to pass White Cliffs Police Station. I would have gone to Waitotara myself, but do not feel justified in leaving Waimate Plains surveys in case of any excitement on receipt of news; therefore sent for Sergeant Blake, of Native Police, to go to Waitotara and get all the information he can for the Government. Have heard of no opposition to lead me to suppose murder was in consequence of surveys; if so, those actually surveying would have been victims. Believe it resulted from private quarrel. My work lies chiefly between this and Stony River. Know little of Waitotara Natives. Do not know the supposed murderer, or his position, and believe that he will go by one of bush tracks between this and Patea, if escaping to King country. For that reason telegraphed to Sub-Inspector Kenny re White Cliffs Station. No alarm among settlers, as murder considered result of some private quarrel.

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

P. G. WILSON,
Captain, New Zealand Militia.

No. 10.

Captain WRAY to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

(Telegram.)

Patea, 22nd September, 1878, 4.20 p.m.

THE death of John McLean was supposed by surveyors to have resulted from his having accidentally slipped and impaled himself on a stake whilst drawing water out of Momohaki Creek, and evidence of murder did not transpire until after *post mortem* examination yesterday, when bullet was extracted. Hence affair was not reported earlier. The murder was committed during absence of survey party from camp, deceased being cook, and alone in charge. No evidence throwing light on perpetration elicited from survey party at inquest, beyond the fact that some three weeks previously there had