

## PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE

and the central tribes is frequent, and much more regular than our communication with Government; and the mail road between this Garrison and the Waitara, including the Ngatiruanui and Taranaki country, is open to the Natives *only*.

The least cause or imaginary cause would excite the Natives to act against us, and probably a larger Native force could be brought against Wanganui, in a short space of time, than against any other settlement in the country; and its means of receiving support from without are limited, as only small vessels can enter the Wanganui river.

The Garrison consists of only 200 men, and it would require at least 400 of another Regiment to replace these 200 of the 65th, every man of the 65th being worth two of a Regiment fresh from home, for service in this country; and an increased force of another corps would, I believe, excite suspicion in the Native mind.

I shall be obliged by your informing me who is to act as the Governor's Deputy for calling out a part or all of the Militia, as the Magistrates empowered to act, under the old Act, seem to imagine that their power has expired with the new Act.

I have, &c.,

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary,  
&c., &c.,

I. R. COOPER,  
Major Commanding Wanganui Militia.

## No. 4.

MR. STAFFORD TO OFFICER COMMANDING MILITIA, WANGANUI,

Militia Branch, Colonial Secretary's Office,  
June 6th, 1861.

SIR,—

With reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo, forwarding an Estimate for the pay of the Wanganui Militia from the 1st to the 16th May, 1861, I have the honor to acquaint you that in conformity with arrangements entered into between the Civil and Military Authorities, the sum of One hundred and forty-five pounds fifteen shillings and seven pence has been placed to the credit of the Paymaster of the Wanganui Militia, with the Commissariat Officer in charge at that Station.

I herewith return you your Estimates, the duplicate of which has been forwarded to the Military Secretary.

Until further orders on the subject, the Paymaster of the Wanganui Militia and yourself will take for your guidance, with respect to the method of payment and rendering the pay lists to the Colonial Secretary, the form prescribed by the War Office Explanatory Directions to Paymasters, whose Department embraces in this respect the duties performed by the Secretary of State for War at Home.

I have &c.,

Major Cooper,  
Commanding Militia and Volunteers,  
Wanganui.

E. W. STAFFORD.

## No. 5.

OFFICER COMMANDING MILITIA, WANGANUI, TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Wanganui, 14th June, 1861.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 202, of the 6th instant, directing that the Paymaster of the Militia is to take for his guidance the War Office Explanatory Directions with respect to the method of payment, rendering pay lists, &c. Hitherto I have been unable to obtain a copy of that work, but hope to get one from the 57th Regiment.

The Estimate you allude to did not accompany your letter, and as there is some difference in the amount of pay estimated for by the Paymaster, and the amount actually received from the Commissariat Officer, it will be requisite that I should obtain the Estimate or a copy of it.

I have &c.,

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
&c., &c.,

I. R. COOPER,  
Major Commanding Wanganui Militia.

## No. 6.

MR. STAFFORD TO OFFICER COMMANDING MILITIA, WANGANUI.

Militia Branch, Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Auckland, 3rd July, 1861.

SIR,—

With reference to the Warrant of the 6th May last, bringing the "Militia Act Amendment Act 1860," into operation, I have the honor to transmit a Warrant renewing the authority to appoint the times and places for training and exercising the Militia of the Wanganui District.