

PAPERS RELATIVE TO NATIVE AFFAIRS.

No. 1.

H. T. CLARKE, Esq., to the Honorable the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR,—

Civil Commissioner's Office, Tauranga, 20th April, 1865.

I have the honor to enclose for the information of the Government, the translation of a letter just received from William Thompson. I have not time to copy the Maori, but it shall be sent by the earliest opportunity.

I do not like the temper in which William Thompson writes: there is something defiant in the tone of the letter. He has assumed a right to interfere in the arrangement made at the peace, made by His Excellency the Governor with the Ngaiterangi Natives. I have, &c.,

HENRY T. CLARKE,
Civil Commissioner.

The Honorable the Native Minister, Wellington.

Enclosure to No. 1.

[TRANSLATION.]

To the COLONEL at Te Papa.

FRIEND,—

Puketiketike, April 18th, 1865.

It was reported to me on the 17th—the report came from thence—stating that the troops had occupied Te Puna. If this report is correct I will ask you a question. What is, now, the reason for bringing the soldiers (to Te Puna)? Is it to provoke a quarrel? If it is a desire to fight, go to Taranaki. If you have heard that the Maoris desire to fight, the occupation of Te Puna with soldiers would be correct.

Friend, if I had a desire to fight I would not hide it from you. The saying of my ancestors still holds good—"Hide, and it may be death; reveal it, and it still may be death"—(meaning that there is little use in concealing a thing.)

Now, listen. When war commenced at Waikato I told Mr. Ashwell to go to the town, that there would be fighting. I also wrote to Minister Archdeacon Brown. I did not conceal it.

I have lately heard from Hakaraia that he is about to be attacked by 300 Arawas and 400 Pakehas. He stated that he was to be attacked in the days of March. I then wrote to the General at Te Awamutu; this is my word to him. "Friend Colonel, listen you. I have received a letter from Hakaraia. He states that he is about being attacked by 400 Pakehas and 300 Arawas. If this statement of Hakaraia is correct, I will assist Hakaraia."

And also, O Colonel of Te Papa! what I look at is—what do you mean by this system of provocation? Friend, think at this time as a person of mature age ought to think, and do not confuse the policy of FitzGerald and also Paramete.*

Friend, this is a word to you to carefully consider this word. Do not let Te Puna be occupied by the soldiers—do not. If you have a desire to fight, go to places where they are fighting—to Taranaki; or if Hakaraia's statement is correct that there is to be fighting, then go there. I also will be there—that is, if it is true that there will be fighting there. But, O friend! leave Te Puna unoccupied, for consideration during the administration of Mr. FitzGerald. Enough.

W. TAMIHANA.

No. 2.

H. T. CLARKE, Esq., to the Honorable the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR,—

Civil Commissioner's Office, Tauranga, 21st April, 1865.

I have the honor to enclose a copy, in Maori, of William Thompson's letter to Colonel Greer, a translation of which I forwarded to you by yesterday's mail. (D. 22.)

I have compared the letter with one of William Thompson's now in possession of the Venerable Archdeacon Brown, and we are both convinced that the letter is a genuine one.

I have, &c.,

HENRY T. CLARKE,
Civil Commissioner.

The Honorable the Native Minister, Wellington.

* And also of the Parliament.