

must be evident to your Excellency that that, is a mere subterfuge on their part, and intended, simply, as a cover to those extremely malignant feelings which, on the part of the former at first found vent in the murderous slaughter of his unarmed opponents, and which have even since been manifested (and long too before this Pah, was built,) in endeavouring to cut off the remainder of Rawiri's family.

As to the "Ninia" itself it has been erected on the very site where Arama Karaka and Tikiku were born—the land all round chiefly belongs to them, and beyond that, they have no other land unsold which they could occupy for the purposes of cultivation. The half-section where Rawiri's house stands, belongs to his widow and not to the tribe, and the "Ninia" Pah is moreover close to the spot where the slaughtered chiefs always used to reside, and against which no objection from any party was ever before heard. It is therefore not at all likely that the greatest man in the tribe will allow himself to be dictated to by a third rate chief like Katatore, or by strangers from the Waitara or Ngatiruanui districts, as to what portion of his own land he shall please to occupy as a place of future residence and cultivation.

Seventy-six of the Ngatiruanuis have already arrived, and others are following. They had not been here twelve hours before they joined the aggressive party in active hostilities against the Ninia, and let but one of them fall in the conflict, and, (as in the affair at Waitara) it will bring up the remainder of the tribe (400) who would all have been here long since, had we not succeeded in dividing their councils. There will then be more than 700 men, well supplied with ammunition, against 200, whose resources are nearly all expended. Of course, under such circumstances, the fall of the Ninia must be certain, and the quick arrival of the vanquished party in the settlement of New Plymouth, as a rallying point for their forces must be equally so. They have no other place to flee to, and we can hardly imagine that their exasperated enemies would have sufficient moderation to deter them from following after, even though it were to the very centre of the town, for it is not yet two years since many of them expressed serious intentions of cutting down our flag-staff, after the manner of Hone Heki. From the way in which Katatore and William King have deceived your Excellency, and broken their engagements, there is not the least confidence to be placed in any promises of theirs, in regard to the European population, especially as they now seem to view us with such extreme contempt.

As far as I can see into our difficulties, the great point now to be gained is to secure the Ninia from being successfully assaulted by a force already very superior, as also to prevent its occupants from leaving their stockade on any pretext whatever. We have already used the influence of argument and persuasion with both parties, and been in some degree successful. And now as a *denier resort*, so as to endeavour to keep them separate and thus gain time until your Excellency can despatch sufficient relief for the protection of the English settlers. I intend to-morrow to fix my tent between the Pah and its assailants, and trust for safety to the Providence of the Almighty, and the personal good will and respect of these much misguided people.

I have, &c.,

H. HANSON TURTON,

His Excellency

The Officer administering the Government.

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April 21st, 1855.

Friend the Governor,—

Salutations to you, great is my regard for you, I now write to let you know what has been done since you left. On the 18th of April we took Arama Karaka to see the spot on which Rawiri fell, when he saw that Rawiri had fallen on Government land, he said, Katatore had done wrong, had he shot Rawiri on Native land, then well. On our return to our Pah, Tikiku got up and said, "that the land must be taken as payment for the killed and that they were to build a Pah at Manawahui, I have no thought, but that the land be payment for the killed." So ends what Tikiku said. Tamati Waka then said, "no I don't wish for the