Famous Maori Chiefs



(Left) TAMATI WAKA NENE

One of the most famous Maori Chieftains, and a noted leader of the Ngati-hao tribe of Hokianga. As a young warrior he was engaged in endless tribal battles and fierce raiding expeditions, followed by cannibal feasts. With the coming of the white man, Tamati Waka Nene soon became a great friend of the pakeha. In the Northern Wars of 1845, he fought side by side with his white friends against the fierce and truculent Hone Heke. After the War he was showered with honours, including his appointment as an honorary post-captain in the British Navy.

(Right) REWI MANGA MANIAPOTO

Amongst the most famous events in the annals of New Zealand is the historic siege of Orakau, in which the Maori Warriors and their Chieftain, Rewi Maniapoto showed such outstanding bravery and fortitude. This renowned chief will long be remembered as one of the most ardent and noble supporters of the Maori cause. He was of the highest rank in the Ngati-Maniapoto tribe, and was almost constantly at war in the Taranaki and Waikato Campaigns from 1860 to 1870.



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