

Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 January. Rough and cold easterly wind and a heavy rain.

The English government does not want and the English people are not able to understand other than what is useful.

Saturday 16 January. Left Ohinemutu at 6 o'clock and came to Tapuaeharuru

Monday 18 January. On horseback with Davies, Young and Warbrake [sic] to Omatangi.

Wednesday 20 January. Returned from Omatangi to Tapuaeharuru.

Thursday 21 January. Left in the steamship Victoria for Tokano where I arrived at 6 p.m.

In Ohinemutu Capt. Mair and 50 men 'native force'. Hakas in the evening at Mair's. The more important of the military there – Taipoa, the chief and Pererika. More lively than it was in September, more people and more young people – still many were absent – more summer clothes. Boys on horses. The little chief – halfcast and adopted by Ngahuruhuru [?] begged for sixpence all the time. Boys asked to be paid for picking up my hat. Storekeepers, [?] Allom and Dr Cowan⁴ with native wives. Dancing in Wilson's new house. Haka in the meeting house, the sick Mr Carter from Australia. The rich . . . from there too [Australia] have both stayed at Tikitere. The rest of the company mere oafs with shirts patched all over and in shirtsleeves or barefoot with a shawl around the waist a la Maori – walked in . . . slippers. Got the letters from [home] . . . Old Tairua 'ka kino kahore riwai kahore moni' A boy fencing . . . the young people ask if wahine are desired. Bathing in the lake shamelessly.

Races on the 14th and sports on the 15th January in this place. Philips in a red coat. Silver plays a very minor role, Maori the important person here. Contributed with £1. First two men. (2) the same (3) . . . more (4) twice round the course. Then the military and finally Maoris and Maori women. Many fell off their horses. Two hurdles to jump over. Racing is just the thing to amuse Maoris and this brings money to the hotel owners – mostly Pakeha took part. Many Maoris from Maketu and Paeroa with horseloads of potatoes and pork, hanging . . . the trees and the church and the school and eat raw potatoes and peaches that were not yet ripe. Colourful groups the red and white on the women, less colourful clothes at home.

I could not see Edward Rodger⁵ nor Taipo with his bare legs during the first day. But the elegant Parerika was faithful at the bar. Both publicans . . . between Ohinemutu and Whakarewarewa. Terrible noise. Maoris laughing. A stand had been built for the judges. Many drunks. The Maoris unmanageable, hitting and kicking and showing their ill will against Pakeha. But otherwise more calm than in a group of drunken Europeans. The women gather around a reeling drunk