



THE
HAWKE'S BAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

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DONALD M'LEAN,
Superintendent.

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No. 32.

PROCLAMATION.

By DONALD M'LEAN Esq., Superintendent of the Province of Hawke's Bay, in the Colony of New Zealand.

I, DONALD M'LEAN, Superintendent, as aforesaid, by virtue of all powers in this behalf in anywise enabling me as Deputy for His Excellency Sir George Grey, Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, do hereby direct Lieutenant-Colonel George Stoddart Whitmore, the Officer commanding the Napier Regiment of Militia, to draw out for actual service—

Such of the Napier Regt. of Militia and Volunteers as shall volunteer for actual service.

And I hereby authorise and request the said Lieut. Colonel George Stoddart Whitmore to carry into effect this direction.

Given under my hand at Napier, this thirteenth day of October, 1866.

DONALD M'LEAN,
Superintendent.

Napier October 13, 1866.

BY VIRTUE and in exercise of the powers and authorities vested in me, I, George Stoddart Whitmore, Lieut.-Colonel, the officer Commanding the Napier Militia District, do hereby CALL OUT for actual service all such men of the Napier Regiment of Militia and Volunteers, not exceeding seventy in number, as shall Volunteer for actual service.

G. S. WHITMORE,
Lieut.-Col. Commanding Napier Militia District.

Provincial Council Chamber,
Napier, October 13, 1866.

THE Provincial Council of Hawke's Bay was this day prorogued by His Honor the Superintendent in the following address:—

MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL,

I have to express my thanks to you for the zeal and assiduity with which you have discharged the duties devolving upon you.

It being now within a few months of the dissolution of the present Council, I take this opportunity of recording the deep sense entertained by me of the support that has been accorded by the Council to this Government during the whole period of its administration.

Regarding it as most essential under the free institutions which we all enjoy, that the acts of the Government should form the subject of fair criticism, I take this opportunity of assuring those members who have differed with me in opinion, that I fully appreciate the frank and courteous tone in which they have given expression to their sentiments.

I congratulate this Council, and the Province generally, on the successful issue of yesterday's military operations, which resulted in the capture and submission of the armed bands of Hau Hau fanatics who invaded the settled and otherwise peaceable districts of this Province.

The zeal and alacrity displayed by all classes of her Majesty's subjects, of both races, in repelling the unprovoked aggression of brave, enthusiastic, but dangerous fanatics, must ever form a bright page in the history of Hawke's Bay.

The ability and determination of the settlers to defend themselves has been so signally displayed, that it may now be confidently anticipated that the peace and prosperity of the Province will never again be so wantonly interfered with.

The able disposition of the forces made by Lieutenant-Colonel Whitmore, and the efficiency and promptness of all the officers and men under his command, deserve my warmest thanks and approbation.

I must also include the gallant conduct, at Petane, of Major Fraser and the officers and men under his command, who, on this, as on various previous occasions, rendered services which this Province and the Colony cannot too greatly appreciate.

I now declare this Council prorogued.

DONALD M'LEAN,
Superintendent.

Superintendent's Office,
Napier, October 13, 1866.

THE following resolution was this day passed by the Provincial Council of Hawke's Bay, and is published for general information:—

RESOLUTION.

This Council desires to convey to Lieut. Colonel Whitmore and the Officers and men under his command its deep sense and appreciation of the great and valuable services rendered to the Province by the gallantry and bravery displayed by the Colonial Forces in the engagements with the enemy which took place at Oamaru and Petane yesterday.

This Council feels that it would be difficult to find language adequately to convey

its sense of the vast importance of those services, not only to this Province, but to the Colony at large.

This Council is further of opinion that the operations of yesterday must have a most beneficial effect on the minds of the disaffected natives, while it will strengthen and encourage the loyalty of those who are already friendly, and thereby secure and establish on a more permanent basis the future peace of this Province, and the welfare of both races of Her Majesty's subjects.

This Council feels that at a time when all parties are united in opinion as to the brilliant achievements of yesterday, that it might be out of place to enter into particular details further than to express in general terms its thorough appreciation of the services rendered.

Council Chamber,
October 13, 1866.

Napier, 13th October, 1866.

MILITIA DISTRICT ORDER,
A. 2.

1. The Lieutenant-Colonel commanding has the satisfaction of announcing to the officers and men under his orders that the Oamaru Pah was carried yesterday morning by the Colonial Forces, after a sharp engagement, which lasted nearly an hour-and-a-half. The enemy, who defended himself with great desperation, did not surrender till half his force was either killed or wounded, and even then a small party preferred the chances of flight to laying down their arms in their no longer tenable position. This party, with few exceptions, were all afterwards taken by the volunteer horse.

2. These results could not have been attained except by the most determined courage and steady behaviour on the part of all the forces engaged; and the Lieutenant-Colonel desires to record his admiration of the noble manner in which all ranks performed the dangerous and difficult service which they were called, without any previous experience in the field, to carry out.

3. The Lieutenant-Colonel was however prepared to find the Colonial Forces manifest that steadiness under fire and devotedness in performing their duty which they evinced yesterday in action.

He had seen the midnight muster of the various detachments after their day's work was done, at which, although made quite unexpectedly with only a few hours' notice, and before the men could have been aware that they were called out for actual service by law, there were almost none absent.

That settlers should willingly have made a night march in aid of the civil power, without any preparation and without compulsion, is of itself an action of which the community may justly be proud.

The Lieutenant-Colonel is very happy to say that he has to report very few casualties amongst the force under his orders. But one man has been killed and nine wounded among the European portion, and one killed and five wounded among the native contingents.

4. The Lieutenant-Colonel desires to thank the whole of the officers and men for

the ready and willing assistance they afforded throughout these short operations. He also begs to offer his thanks to the following officers for their zealous conduct and support:—Major Lambert, who took command of the main body of the militia; Captain Kennedy, commanding No. 2 Company, who, though severely wounded, continued on the field till ordered away by the Lieutenant-Colonel; Captain Fitzgerald, Company No. 1, which advanced on the Puketapu road and first came under fire; Captain Buchanan, commanding the Napier Volunteers, by whose well aimed advance on the flank the enemy was compelled to leave his last cover within the pah; Capt. Rhodes, Company No. 3, who, being unable through the distance to march his whole company to the ground on foot, mounted as many as he could and brought up a valuable portion of the force on horseback; Captain Birch, commanding No. 4, whose company was collected with scarcely an absentee from a widely scattered district; Captain Gordon, who raised the volunteer cavalry in a few hours, and performed with it valuable service in seizing the canoes by which the enemy might have escaped, and in pursuing and taking prisoner that detachment of the enemy which endeavoured to escape to the hills after the pah surrendered.

The Lieutenant-Colonel also desires to thank the officers acting as his personal staff—Captain Hamilton Russell and Mr. Agnew Brown, whose zealous assistance was of so much importance to him; Mr. F. E. Hamlin, his interpreter, who performed many very dangerous, almost desperate, services during the day, and was himself wounded; and, lastly, Capt. Withers, District Adjutant, through whose indefatigable exertions it was due that the force was enabled to take the field complete in every respect in a few hours, and who rendered very valuable assistance to the Lieut.-Colonel throughout the day.

The Lieut.-Colonel would have felt great pleasure in noticing many acts of great gallantry which fell under his personal observation. But he feels that in doing so he would omit many which escaped his eye, as all behaved so well, and he therefore thinks it better and less invidious not to single out any individuals except those holding the more prominent positions in the force.

The Lieut.-Colonel desires to thank the native contingent under the chiefs Tareha, Hapuku, Ihaka Whanga, Renata, Kopu and Karaitiana, for the co-operation they and

their followers lent the Europeans on this occasion. The native force was assembled after a few hours' notice, and took the posts assigned to them with the greatest precision. The conduct of the contingent, fighting under the disadvantage of being obliged to conform to European tactics, has been such as to convince every settler in the province of their fidelity to the Queen and Government, and goodwill to their European fellow-subjects, with whom they made common cause. The Lieut.-Colonel must also specially thank the chiefs Ihaka and Kopu for their prompt succour from so distant a part of the province. Mr. Locke, attached to the native contingent, distinguished himself by his gallant conduct in the action and by his unwearied efforts to forward the combinations arranged by the Lieut.-Colonel.

While these operations were in progress, another portion of the Force under the Lieutenant-Colonel performed a valuable service. Major Fraser, whose reputation no praise from the Lieutenant-Colonel can enhance, having been hastily summoned from the Wairoa, marched with a detachment of his corps to Petane soon after the militia left the town. He carried out a tedious march and took post as directed on the direct line of the enemy's operations, thus to intercept fugitives from Oamaru and reinforcements from Titiokura. Happily very few of the enemy did escape from the pah, but an important reinforcement to the enemy was intercepted by Major Fraser, who after making very prompt and excellent arrangements, although just arrived from a long and laborious march, succeeded in killing twelve and taking three of their number.

It affords the Lieut.-Colonel great pleasure to notice this new instance of Major Fraser's zealous and soldierlike qualities, and of the discipline and gallantry of his whole force. Major Fraser mentions particularly the assistance he received from Captain Carr of the Royal Artillery, who being settled in that locality has organised a force of volunteers, with which he reinforced the detachment and followed up the enemy. He also thanks Lieut. George, late of the Colonial Defence Force, who accompanied him as a volunteer and lent him valuable assistance, and Ensign Richardson, and the non-commissioned Officers and men of the military settlers engaged in these operations.

By Order,

E. WITHERS,

Captain & Adjutant.