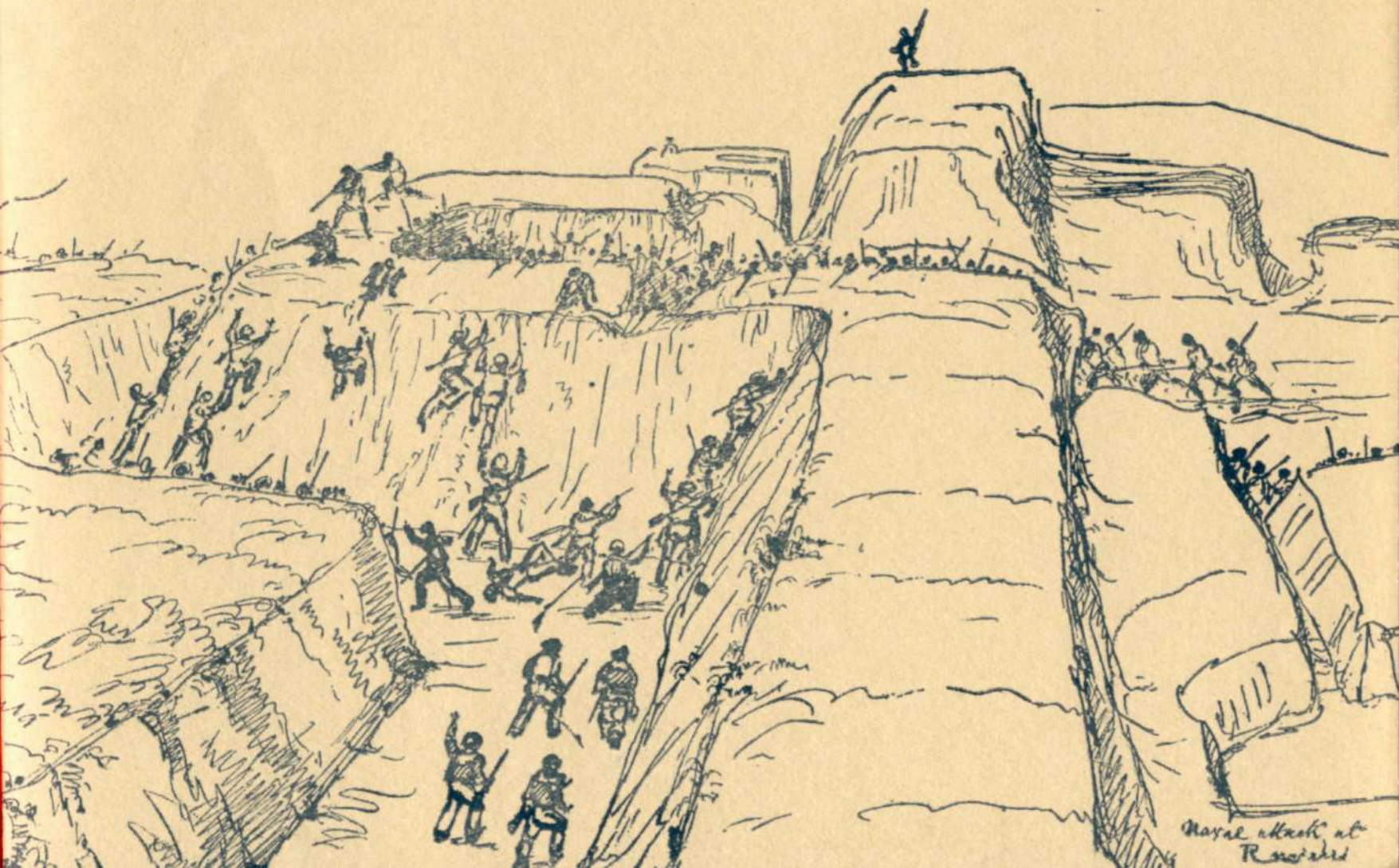


The Wars in New Zealand



Naval attack at
Rangiora

Cover: HEAPHY *Naval Attack at Rangiriri* 26

The Wars in New Zealand

FOREWORD

The Maori Wars in New Zealand are well known through historical accounts but perhaps not so familiar through illustration. This exhibition has therefore been arranged to provide some pictorial evidence. It does not pretend to be comprehensive but to indicate the importance of these illustrative documents. Although the pictures here have not necessarily been selected for their artistic merit, it is not surprising to see a number of well-known New Zealand artists amongst those represented.

We are most grateful to the lenders both public and private for their generosity. We also must thank Professor Sinclair for his introduction and Mr L. M. Lennard for reading the text.

Mr Colin McCahon and Mr Hamish Keith have prepared the catalogue.

P. A. TOMORY
July 1961

Auckland City Art Gallery 1961

INTRODUCTION

NO OFFICIAL WAR ARTISTS or photographers were appointed during the Maori wars, but there were plenty of unofficial artists, ready to dash off a sketch or watercolour during the many tedious hours of military inactivity, who have left us a vivid visual impression of the North Island a century ago. We see the wars through European eyes (the Maoris called the wars *te riri pakeha*, the white man's war) and mainly through the eyes of soldiers. They are not insensitive to the Maoris' situation, but they are unlikely to see in their foe the 'noble savage'. Perhaps Von Tempsky's 'friendly' scout and his wife are the only specimens of this literary race in the present exhibition. Yet blood and death are somehow romanticised in many of these pictures. Hand-to-hand combat, red coats, blue jackets and grass mats, the intricate tracery of fern trees and bush, a hint of the rare, valued kindnesses of battle, and of course the romantic watercolour tradition itself—all combine to create an impression of an individual and manly struggle far removed in spirit from modern mechanical extermination.

The visitor might wonder why Maori versus Pakeha has found so small a place in popular New Zealand novels and perhaps none in children's games. 'Forest Ranger and Hau-hau Chief', 'Bowie Knife and Mere' would seem themes to rival the Wild West. That Maoris and Pakehas have not replaced cowboys and Indians may be a result of several circumstances. There is the fact that the European New Zealanders developed a conscience. Historians and novelists and

newspaper editors have become reluctant to portray the Maoris as villains, though indeed the fighting was often as savage as the contemporary fighting in North America, and there was no reluctance in the eighteen-sixties to call the Hauhaus murderers. Soon after the wars there arose the practice of emphasising the chivalry and bravery of the Maori. Rewi Maniapoto's famous refusal to surrender at the battle of Orakau became one of the few episodes in the wars to enter local European tradition. Equally important was the fact that the New Zealand Europeans did not, for many years, develop a national self-consciousness: they remained content to take their games, their literature and their legends, from abroad, from Britain – or even the United States. Perhaps, too, the European New Zealand developed a conscience because, whereas the average nineteenth century American never saw an Indian, in the North Island, the Europeans had to live with the Maoris. Evangelical Christianity also was influential, as everywhere in our life – in this case by emphasising the equality of all men and races. There was plenty of reason for a bad conscience: the settlers could scarcely be unaware that they had dispossessed the Maoris. Most of the campaigns of the Maori wars began, at least in part, over questions of land ownership.

This was least true in the case of the first campaign, during Hone Heke's and Kawiti's rebellion at the Bay of Islands in 1844-46. There, before 1840, Maori society and culture were dominant; the Europeans lived on Maori sufferance. The Maoris had little reason to fear the small settlements of Europeans, and many to value their presence. The Maoris were able to absorb many elements of European culture without fear of being swamped, but their own world was changing rapidly for all that. In the fierce inter-tribal wars of the eighteen-twenties and thirties many more Maoris were killed than died in the later wars with the Europeans.

Guns and disease led to a rapid fall in population; Chris-

tianity undermined the religious foundations of Maori life. After British annexation in 1840, many Europeans left for Auckland, shipping declined, and a severe depression set in at the Bay of Islands, as in Auckland. The Government investigated previous Maori sales of land to settlers, and banned further sales except to the Crown.

Hone Heke's and Kawiti's rebellion might be regarded as a protest against poverty, against these sudden changes, which the *Kawana* (Governor) had apparently caused. Hone Heke cut down the flagstaff, the symbol of British sovereignty. But it is significant that many Maoris were excited by rumours that the Government intended to confiscate their lands.

Further south, the Maoris saw large numbers of Pakeha suddenly disembarking and settling on land the great part of which the owners denied having sold to the New Zealand Company. In 1843 Captain Arthur Wakefield and several other settlers were killed at Wairau when they tried to arrest Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihaeata and to survey disputed land. There was fighting in the Hutt Valley and at Wanganui, which is illustrated in this exhibition, and trouble near New Plymouth, in each case arising from disputed land purchases.

Governor Grey and tribes loyal to the Queen put down these early revolts and there was no more fighting between the races for a dozen years. But all over the North Island, in the late eighteen-forties and early fifties, many Maoris tried to resist the advancing tide of settlers by refusing to sell land. There was fighting in Taranaki and elsewhere between Maoris who wished to sell land and the majority who tried to stop sales. In 1858 the Waikato and Taupo tribes, soon supported by those in Taranaki, elected a king, Potatau I, one of whose duties was to prevent further alienation of land.

As immigration increased, the settlers' need for land increased at the same time as Maori determination not to

sell it. To both peoples the land represented the future, the possibility of wealth and independence; to the Maoris, it was also their country. The Government grew desperate, and in 1860 tried to purchase land in Taranaki which most of the owners refused to sell. The racial wars broke out again, in a year's campaign which is not illustrated in this exhibition. Grey returned and failed to turn a truce into a peace. In 1863 Maoris attacked a party of troops in Taranaki, and soon afterwards Grey invaded the Waikato.

The Maori guerrilla attacks between the Waikato and Auckland are illustrated by a watercolour by J. B. C. Hoyte, as is one of the British positions facing the Waikato, in a drawing by the colonial vc, Charles Heaphy. Other pictures show the scenes of some of the major battles of 1863-65, including Rangiriri and Gate Pa. A number illustrate incidents in the lives of the Forest Rangers, a colonial force formed by William Jackson and Gustavus Von Tempsky, an ex-Prussian officer who had seen action against Indians in Central America. This colonial force specialised in bush fighting, which is shown in a melodramatic representation of an action near Waiari pa.

By 1865 the resistance of the 'King' Maoris was broken. But the fighting went on in a hundred skirmishes, pursuits, sieges and battles. In 1863 the Government confiscated large areas of 'rebel' land, making no distinction between tribes, some of whom had fought the British only because they were attacked. The Maoris became more bitter, the fighting more implacable, mainly because of the rise of a group of religious fanatics, the Hauhau, who believed themselves impervious to bullets, and of the appearance of a talented guerrilla leader, Te Kooti, who established his own brand of Christianity, Ringatu. But for the faithful help of some leading Maori tribes, the fighting might have gone on longer than it did. But it died down with the end of the eighteen-sixties. Apart from the 'King Country', where the Maoris remained in splen-

did isolation for nearly a generation, rejecting European government and European surveyors, the way was clear for Julius Vogel, for overseas loans, for railways and soon for dairy farmers.

KEITH SINCLAIR

THE CATALOGUE

All sizes are given in inches, height preceding width

1845

COLONEL CYPRIAN BRIDGE (1808-c1883) arrived in New Zealand in April 1845, as major in charge of the reinforcements of the 58th Regiment. He commanded the 58th in Colonel Despard's offensive against Heke at Ohaewai. According to Cowan, Bridge returned to England with the 58th and was appointed to the command of the regiment. However, C. Tolley, in an unpublished biographical sketch, says that Bridge became resident magistrate in the Bay of Islands, and retired in 1860 as colonel. His name appears on the official Army List up to 1881 and on an unofficially published list up to 1885.

1

BRIDGE

HMS NORTH STAR DESTROYING POMARE'S PA (Illustrated)

Watercolour 7½ x 10½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

2

BRIDGE

POMARE'S NEW PA, JUNE 1846

Watercolour 6½ x 9½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

On the 27th of April 1845 an expedition of 470 officers and men under Lieut-Colonel Hulme, of the 96th Regiment and Major Cyprian Bridge, of the 58th sailed from Auckland with the object of re-establishing the Queen's sovereignty at Kororareka and carrying the war into the enemy's country.

After hoisting the flag on Kororareka Beach, Hulme's force destroyed Pomare's Pa at Otuihu and took Pomare prisoner.

3

LANCE-SERGEANT J. WILLIAMS, 58th Regiment

OKAIHAU: THE BATTLE OF PUKUTUTU

Watercolour 9½ x 12½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

Hone Heke's pa, named Puketutu, was two miles from Tamati Waka Nene's fort and quite close to Lake Omapere. The fort was usually but erroneously referred to as Okaihau.

4

BRIDGE

BATTLE OF PUKUTUTU PA

Watercolour 7½ x 10½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

On the morning of the 8th of May, Lieut-Colonel Hulme advanced his force. By 9 am he had placed his red-coat reserve behind a low ridge within 300 yards of Heke's pa, and ordered three assault parties to take up their positions. As the troops moved forward with fixed bayonets, fire was opened upon them from two faces of the pa.

5

BRIDGE

LANDING OF TROOPS AT KAPOTAI

Watercolour 7½ x 10½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

6

BRIDGE

THE ATTACK ON KAPOTAI PA, WAIKARE

Watercolour 7½ x 10½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

7

WILLIAMS

WAIKARE (Illustrated)

Watercolour 8 x 12½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

Major Bridge, who had been left in command at the Bay, after Hulme's return to Auckland with the wounded, organised a boat expedition and early on the 15th of May attacked the pa of the Kapotai tribe on one of the head creeks of the Waikare inlet. He burned the pa, while the friendly Maoris, under Tamati Waka Nene, fought the Kapotai in the bush.

8

BRIDGE

THE OHAEAWAI STOCKADE

Watercolour 6½ x 9½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

After the battle of Puketutu, Heke was given a respite of some months which he employed in recruiting war-parties and gathering supplies of food and ammunition. Heke and the chief Kawiti had fortified a formidable position at Ohaeawai.

In the middle of June a force, under Colonel Despard, arrived at the Bay of Islands and marched on Ohaeawai. On the 24th June, Despard, after reconnoitring the enemy position, prepared for a siege and opened fire on the pa with heavy field-pieces. After a long and bloody siege Despard finally retreated to Waimate on the 2nd of July. This was the second defeat the Imperial troops had suffered at Heke's hands.

9

BRIDGE

VIEW OF THE PAH OF OUR NATIVE ALLY, THE CHIEF PUKUTUTU AT THE HEAD OF THE KAWAKAWA RIVER — DEC 1845

Watercolour 7½ x 11½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

10

BRIDGE

VIEW OF THE ENCAMPMENT OF THE TROOPS UNDER COL.
DESPARD, 99TH REGT., NEAR PUKETUTU PAH ON THE KAWAKAWA
RIVER DEC. 1845

Watercolour $7\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{3}{8}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington
The Kawakawa river was the site of the British No. 2 camp.

11

BRIDGE

REDCOATS BY PALISADE

Watercolour $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

1846

12

WILLIAMS

RUAPEKAPEKA

Watercolour $8 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

13

BRIDGE

RUAPEKAPEKA

Watercolour $7\frac{3}{8} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GEORGE HYDE PAGE was born in 1823. He was gazetted an ensign in the 58th Regiment in 1841, and promoted lieutenant in 1843. He came to New Zealand in 1845 and was present at the attack on Ohaeawai and in 1846 commanded at Boulcott's farm where fifty men were in garrison. Page served in the Crimea with the 41st Regiment, and was promoted major-general in 1882 and lieutenant-general in 1885.

14

PAGE

RUAPEKAPEKA

Watercolour $11\frac{1}{2} \times 19\frac{1}{4}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

On the 8th of December 1845, Colonel Despard, with more than 1,100 troops and friendly Maoris, began the advance against Ruapekapeka, the forest stronghold of Kawiti. The expedition reached the enemy pa and made its final camp on the 31st of December. The enemy was engaged by a party of friendly Maoris on the 1st of January 1846, and on the 10th of the same month a heavy bombardment opened up on the fort, breaching the wall. Despard desired to launch an assault against Kawiti immediately but was dissuaded by Sir George Grey. On the following day there was no answering fire from the defenders and it was discovered that they were sheltering in the rear of the pa. The British troops rushed the pa and in the bush a heavy engagement ensued; later the enemy fled to the shelter of inaccessible back country.

15

PAGE

THE GRAVES AT BOULCOTT'S FARM

Watercolour $11\frac{3}{8} \times 17\frac{1}{8}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

In the early morning fog on the 16th of March 1846, a party of Maoris under Rangihaeata's orders, and led by Topine Te Mamaku made a desperate assault on Boulcott's farm, the most advanced post of the Regular troops in the Hutt Valley. Stationed at this outpost were Lieutenant G. H. Page and fifty men of the 58th Regiment.

The Maoris attacked at dawn and in the initial assault the entire British picket was shot or tomahawked, as they attempted to alarm the camp. Conspicuous for his gallantry

in this engagement was a young bugler, William Allen. When the first shot, fired by the British sentry, was heard, Allen leaped up and, seizing his bugle, ran outside the picket tent to sound the alarm. In the act of sounding the call he was attacked by a Maori who tomahawked him in the right shoulder, nearly severing his arm, and felled him to the ground. 'Struggling to rise, the brave lad took the bugle in his left hand and again attempted to warn his comrades, but a second blow with the tomahawk, this time to the head, killed him.'

By this time the camp was thoroughly alarmed and the Maoris, who had evidently calculated on complete surprise, met strong opposition from Lieutenant Page and his men, and after about an hour and a half were driven across the river.

16

PAGE

THE FIGHT AT BATTLE HILL

Watercolour 14½ x 18½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

The scene of the hostilities against Te Rangihaeata shifted northwards and in August 1846 it was discovered that he had taken up a strong position at Horokiri (Horokiwi), twenty-three miles north of Wellington. The last major engagement of the Hutt Campaign began on the 3rd of August with the advance of British troops on Horokiri. The militia sheltered for the night at a recent camp of the enemy and found, suspended from the roof of one of the whares, the bugle of William Allen. The battle began on the 6th of August and under cover of darkness and rain on the 13th, Te Rangihaeata and his forces quietly abandoned their position and retired northwards. The pursuit was delayed some days by bad weather but there was one sharp engagement inland at Wainui Hill; this battle is possibly the subject of Lieut Page's watercolour.

1847

MAJOR CHARLES HEAPHY, VC, was born in London in 1822, the son of Thomas Heaphy, who was attached to the Duke of Wellington's staff as an artist. As a youth, Heaphy studied for five years in the schools of the Royal Academy, gaining both bronze and silver medals. He worked for the London and Birmingham Railway for eighteen months and in 1839 was appointed artist and draughtsman to the New Zealand Company and left with the first expedition in the *Tory* (April 1839), arriving in August of that year.

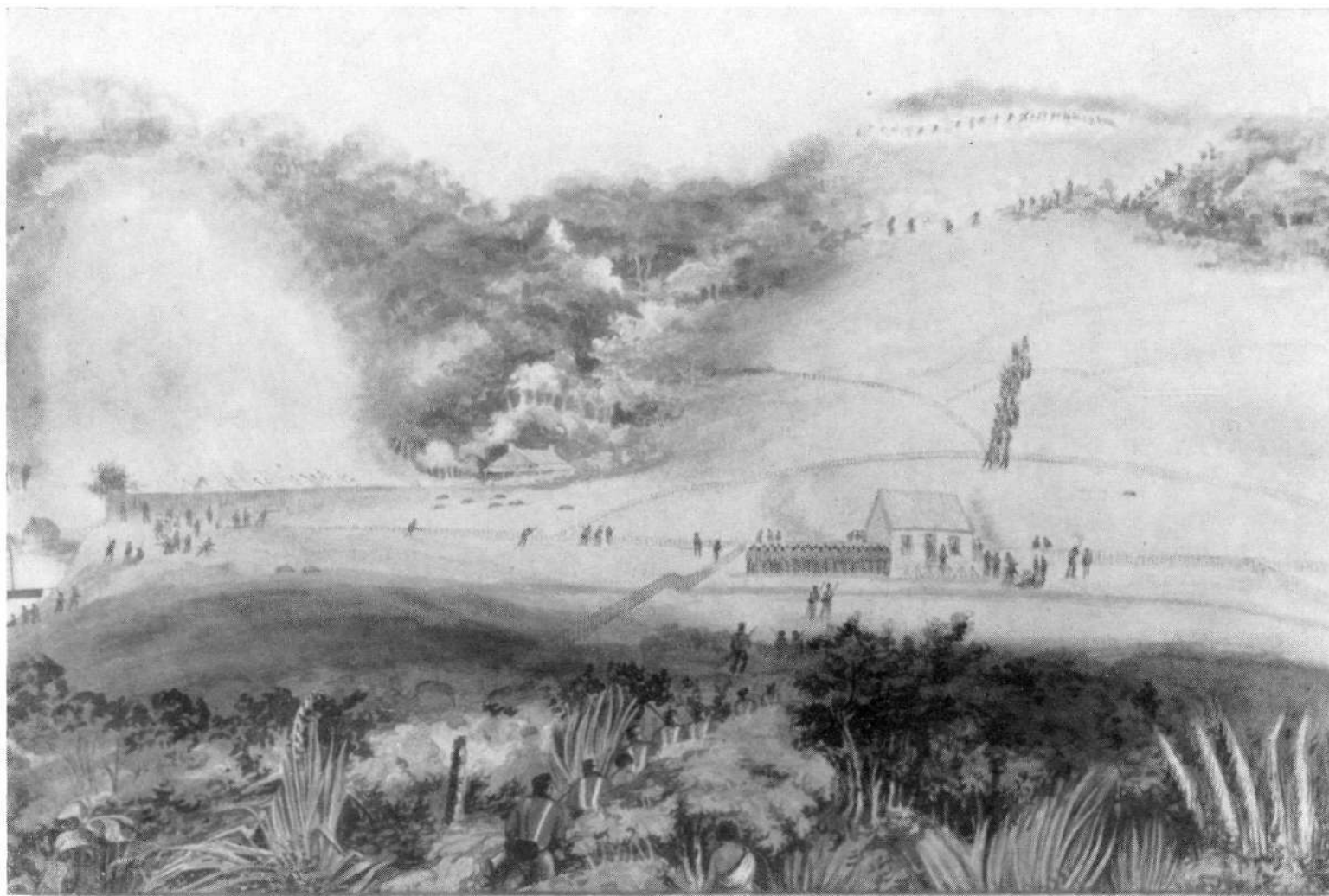
His next years were spent sketching and writing descriptive matter for the Company's publications, studying, surveying and exploring. In 1841 he accompanied the expedition to fix the site of Nelson, and in 1842 returned to England and published his *Residence in Various Parts of New Zealand*.

On his return to New Zealand he took up land in the Nelson settlement, but withdrew on account of the hostility of the natives. Heaphy took part in several explorations from Nelson, to the headwaters of the Buller and down the West Coast. In 1848 he was appointed draughtsman in Auckland. In 1852 he was located at the Coromandel Goldfields, being the first Goldfields Commissioner in New Zealand. He returned to Auckland in 1853 and was appointed District Surveyor at Mahurangi; in 1858 was District Surveyor for Auckland, and in 1859 assisted Hochstetter in his geological survey of Auckland. In the same year Heaphy joined the Auckland City Volunteer Company of which he became lieutenant, and afterwards captain of the Parnell Company. In July 1863, when the Waikato War broke out, Heaphy became immediately involved, later being promoted to major and being recommended for the Victoria Cross, which he received in 1867.

When the war ended, Heaphy became Chief Surveyor in Auckland, and in 1867 was elected MHR for Parnell, which he represented until 1870, resigning to become Commissioner



BRIDGE HMS North Star Destroying Pomare's Pa 1



WILLIAMS *Waikare 7*

of Native Reserves. In 1878 he was appointed a Judge of the Native Land Court, retiring in 1880. Heaphy died in Brisbane on the 3rd of August 1881.

17

HEAPHY

VIEW OF WANGANUI SHOWING THE RUTLAND STOCKADE

Watercolour 9½ x 26½

Lent by Mr K. Webster, London

The fortification which came to be called the Rutland Stockade was constructed on a sandy hill about 70 feet above the level of the river, near the northern end of the small settlement of Wanganui. This height, the most commanding ground in the town, was the terminal of a gentle ridge which extended westward to the long hill whose forested slopes were given the name of St John's Wood.

18

PAGE

THE BATTLE OF ST JOHN'S WOOD

Watercolour 15½ x 20

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

The battle of St John's Wood was the most important action in the tedious Wanganui campaign. After a harassing month of blockade, both settler and Maori were tiring of the inconclusive war. The soldiers in the town, through the extreme caution of their commander, would not go out and fight the enemy, while the Maori could not attack them in the stockades.

Towards the end of July, when the potato-planting season was approaching, the Maori decided to attempt a full-scale attack upon the town before returning home to tend their crops.

On the 20th of July the Maoris, numbering about 400, appeared on the low hills inland from the town and advanced in skirmishing order. The majority of the enemy took up

positions at St John's Wood, about a mile distant from the Rutland Stockade.

Some of the more daring warriors finally provoked the soldiers to action and two detachments of troops were sent out against them. The skirmish was lively but inconclusive, and on the 24th of July the attacking Maoris finally retired, ending the first Wanganui war.

1863

19

J. WYLD

SEAT OF WAR IN NEW ZEALAND

Hand coloured map 17½ x 24

Published by James Wyld, London

Lent by Mr K. Webster, London

JOHN BARR CLARK HOYTE was born in England in 1835, coming to New Zealand about 1860. In 1869 he became drawing master of the new Auckland College and Grammar School. Probably in 1876 he left Auckland for Dunedin, and in 1879 left for Australia, where he lived until his death in Sydney in 1913.

20

HOYTE

THE GREAT SOUTH ROAD NEAR SHEPPARD'S BUSH. SCENE OF THE ATTACK ON THE ESCORT, 17TH JULY 1863

Watercolour 8¼ x 12½

Auckland City Art Gallery

This attack was the first of a series of surprise attacks on British convoys and pickets along the Great South Road. On the 17th of July a war party of Kingites led by Hori Ngakapa and some other chiefs, laid an ambush on the forest road about a mile and a half from the Sheppard's Bush Redoubt. A convoy of six carts, escorted by fifty men of the 18th Royal Irish Regiment was passing along the road from the Queen's Redoubt to Drury.

The escort was marching at ease, unsuspecting of danger, when heavy fire was opened from both sides of the road. The first volley killed and wounded several soldiers, and some of the cart horses were hit. The natives attempted to cut off the rearguard of about a dozen men from the main body, but the party charged with the bayonet and fought their way through. The convoy was set under way again and the soldiers resumed their march, doing their best to keep off the Maoris until reinforcements arrived. Earlier in July this area had been the scene of the first casualties of the war in Auckland when a settler named Meredith and his son were killed while working at Sheppard's Bush.

21

HEAPHY

WAIKATO RIVER LOOKING TOWARDS THE HEADS FROM ALEXANDRA REDOUBT

Pencil drawing 8½ x 11½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

The Alexandra Redoubt, on the right bank of the Lower Waikato, was built in July 1863 by a detachment of the 65th Regiment. The position, on a bluff about 300 feet above the river, was commanding and of great strategic importance.

MAJOR GUSTAVUS FERDINAND VON TEMPSKY, born at Liegnitz in 1828, arrived in New Zealand in 1859, where he led a special corps for bush fighting until his death from a Hauhau bullet in 1868 at Te Ngutu-O-Te-Manu. His body, with other pakeha killed, was burned on a pyre with Hauhau rites. Von Tempsky, it was said at the time, 'had done more than any other officer to raise the morale of the colonial soldier.'

22

VON TEMPSKY

ENCAMPMENT OF THE FOREST RANGERS

Watercolour 9½ x 13½

Von Tempsky is on the far left and next to him stands Asst Surgeon William G. Manley, who later was awarded the VC for his service at Gate Pa and became surgeon-general.

Lent by Mr R. G. H. Manley, Auckland

The Forest Rangers were first formed in August 1863 as a company of sixty men under the command of Lieut William Jackson. Towards the end of the year a second company was formed under Captain Von Tempsky. The pay at first was 10s a day, but it was later reduced to 4s 6d a day and rations, and a double tot of rum on account of the rough character of the work.

The Rangers' arms were a breech-loading Calisher and Terry carbine, a Colt revolver and in Von Tempsky's company, a bowie knife with a blade ten or twelve inches long.

In the early expeditions the work of the Rangers was carried out in the forest hills of Wairoa, above Papakura and Hunua and the ranges trending to the Thames Gulf and the Manga-tawhiri headwaters.

23

VON TEMPSKY

TWO MEN OF THE 65TH REGIMENT GUARDING THE BODY OF AN OFFICER KILLED IN AN ENGAGEMENT. (NATIVE CAMP FIRES ON THE RIGHT)

Watercolour 9½ x 6½

Lent by the Auckland Museum

24

VON TEMPSKY

THE SCOUT, TE MAHUKI, A FRIENDLY NATIVE OF THE WANGANUI TRIBE WHO, WITH HIS WIFE, SERVED ON THE BRITISH SIDE

Watercolour 9½ x 13½

Lent by the Auckland Museum

COLONEL ARTHUR MORROW was born in 1842, probably in Ireland. He was educated for the Royal Marines, but came to

New Zealand in 1861 with his father and served as a volunteer through the Waikato war, retiring as a colonel. Morrow died in 1937.

25

MORROW

GALLOWAY REDOUBT, WAIROA

Wash drawing 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{8}$

Lent by the Auckland Museum

26

HEAPHY

NAVAL ATTACK AT RANGIRIRI

Wash drawing 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 11 (cover)

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

27

HEAPHY

EARTHWORKS OF RANGIRIRI PA

Wash drawing 10 x 13 $\frac{1}{8}$

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

The battle for Rangiriri was fought on the 20th of November 1863. A strong force of soldiers and sailors under General Cameron assaulted the pa after an artillery bombardment. The first assault was successful and the defenders were driven into the central citadel of the pa, a particularly strong earthwork. The main body of troops, soldiers from the 65th and 14th Regiments, attempted to storm the central redoubt, but failed owing to the shortness of the scaling ladders. Despite heavy losses, the Maoris in the main earthworks were now fighting with desperate determination, firing at close range as quickly as they could load their guns.

Late in the afternoon a detachment of the Royal Artillery, armed with revolvers and swords, was ordered to make a further attempt on the redoubt, but they too were driven back with heavy losses.

Cameron's resolve to take the pa was strengthened by this

reverse, and he ordered yet another futile attempt. This time a party of ninety sailors were directed to make a frontal attack. The sailors, with rifle and cutlass, dashed at the works and endeavoured to swarm up the straight-scarped parapet, but once more the stormers were thrown back, and dead and dying men lay strewn in the ditch and over the ground in front of it.

A few further attempts were made but with no more success, and the following day the Maoris were forced, through lack of powder and shot, to surrender.

28

VON TEMPSKY

A FORTIFIED PA

Watercolour 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 9 $\frac{7}{8}$

Lent by the Auckland Museum

1864

29

VON TEMPSKY

"WAIARI: FOREST RANGERS UNDER MAJOR VON TEMPSKY NOBLY ENGAGED WITH THE NATIVES WHO WERE DEFEATED"

Watercolour 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{4}$

Lent by the Auckland Museum

During the advance on the Waipa a bathing party of men from the 40th Regiment was attacked by a strong force of Maoris a short distance from the old Waiari pa. British reinforcements were rushed to the scene, among them Von Tempsky and his Rangers who, with their usual eagerness, sped to the scene as soon as news of the fighting reached them. Of this fight Von Tempsky wrote: 'A ditch of the breastwork of an ancient pa sloped down to the river; it was densely covered with scrub, as was the bank of the river. My men bounded down into it like tigers. On our hands and knees we had to creep, revolver in hand, looking for our invisible foes. The thumping of double-barrelled guns around

us announced soon that we were in the midst of the nest. I had in all about thirty men. Some were stationed on top of the bank, others in the very river, and the rest crawling through the scrub. There were some strange meetings in that scrub. Muzzle to muzzle, the shot of despair, the repeating cracks of revolvers and carbine thuds, and the brown bodies of Maoris made their appearance gradually, either rolling down the hill or being dragged out of the scrub.'

It was at this engagement that Charles Heaphy won the VC – the only one to be awarded to a colonial soldier in the Maori wars. While trying to rescue a wounded soldier he raised the man's head in his arms and in doing so received a volley from thick cover, at close range, five bullets grazing and contusing him.

MAJOR-GENERAL HORATIO GORDON ROBLEY (1840-1930) was born at Madeira. Robley arrived in Auckland on the 4th of January 1864. Moving to Tauranga with the 68th in April he was involved in the reverse at the Gate Pa and the following victory at Te Ranga. In 1865 he returned to England. Retiring from the army with the rank of major-general in 1887, he lived in London until his death in 1930.

The drawings listed here form only a very small part of Robley's output whilst in New Zealand, many such drawings being made for the English illustrated papers. Later he made illustrations for Maning's *Old New Zealand*, some of which were used in the 1922 edition. In 1896 his book *Moko: or Maori Tattooing* was published, and in 1915 *Pounamu: Notes on New Zealand Greenstone*.

30

ROBLEY

WAR DANCE

Watercolour 9¼ x 16¼

This is one of many versions of this subject and is inscribed on the reverse *original praised by Tawa*.

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington.

31

ROBLEY

VIEW FROM REDOUBT SHOWING MAKETU PA. MAJOR COLVILLE'S WHARE IN FOREGROUND

Watercolour 8 x 11¼

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

Maketu was the ancestral home of the Arawa tribe, and towards the end of 1863 the tribes of the East Coast intended to travel through here to the support of the Waikato Kingites. The reports of this invasion grew so alarming that the Arawa, who had been digging kauri-gum in North Auckland, hurried home to defend their land.

After much fighting at Ngauhu and Wai-iti, the Arawa drove the enemy to the sea-coast, where they (the East Coast tribes) declared their intention of invading Maketu.

Towards the end of April they marched on Maketu, and their advance-guard surprised two officers, Major Colville and Ensign Way, who were out duck shooting on the Waihi Lagoon. These two officers had a narrow escape.

32

ROBLEY

TAURANGA HARBOUR WITH THE CAMP OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 43RD AND 68TH REGIMENTS

Watercolour 8½ x 13½

Inscribed on reverse: *Here was found a Chief buried and a beautiful mere before cemetery was enlarged for our fallen. Natives saw the weapon and claimed it from the authorities. Old Maunganui cemetery on far right; Fort Monmouth, right of centre; Fort Dunbar, towards left.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington



ROBLEY *Scene in the pits, Gate Pa 39*



VON TEMPSKY *British Military Encampment at Otapawa* 52

33

ROBLEY

BUILDING A REDOUBT AT THE WAIROA

Watercolour 9 x 13½

Inscribed on reverse: *Filling in the pits of the] shaped pa, Wairoa, Tauranga—and with men building a redoubt in Layers—in the distance is much burnt land after fires—lit by Maoris in Retreat from this abandoned pa—1864.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

34

ROBLEY

RAMIERA TE HIAHIA, GUIDE, TAURANGA FORCE

Watercolour 7½ x 5¼

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

In January 1864 the Government decided to send a military force to Tauranga. This district was an important source of supply of both food and munitions to the disaffected tribes of the Waikato. The Ngai-te-Rangi and other local tribes were hostile to the Government and had sent men to fight at South Auckland.

When the force was landed, most of the Ngai-te-Rangi were with Tamehana on the Upper Waikato. When the news reached them they hurried home to prepare fortifications to withstand the British.

The majority of the tribe constructed a stronghold at Waoku and when this was finished the chief, Rawiri Tuaia, wrote a letter to the British general at Tauranga, informing him that he and his people had built a pa and constructed a road to it from the harbour for the convenience of the British troops. To this courtly challenge, Rawiri received no reply and, tired of waiting, decided to move nearer the troops and take the offensive. Eventually, in April, they occupied and fortified a position on a ridge about two miles from the Tauranga landing. This place was called 'The Gate' by the European

settlers and Rawiri's fort came to be known as 'Gate Pa'.

35

ROBLEY

WELL TATTOOED MAORI SHOT 29TH APRIL 1864

Watercolour 4¼ x 4¼

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

36

ROBLEY

MORNING BREAKING, DAY OF GATE PA ATTACK, 29 APRIL 1864.

INFANTRY IN REAR OF THE GATE PA

Watercolour 5½ x 9¼

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

37

ROBLEY

ATTACK ON THE MAORI TRENCHES AT GATE PA BY LIEUT. ROBLEY'S COMPANY OF THE 68TH REGIMENT

Watercolour 6½ x 9¼

From inscription on reverse: *Both parties reserve their fire to about 10 yards, natives firing very high from their pits 4 foot deep. A great many ran out as the pits were rushed but they were well manned and tomahawk and butt end used after firing.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

38

ROBLEY

PLAN OF THE GATE PA AND BREACH EARLY ON THE 30TH APRIL 1864

Pen and wash 10½ x 16½

Lent by the Auckland Museum

39

ROBLEY

SCENE IN THE PITS, GATE PA, EARLY 30TH APRIL 1864

Watercolour 7 x 10½ (illustrated)

Inscribed on reverse: *Sketch just as sentries were put on the Gate Pah April 30 1864. Dead and wounded not yet taken away. Interior of earthworks about the centre of pah.*
Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

40

ROBLEY

REAR OF THE FENCE, GATE PA, MORNING AFTER THE ASSAULT,
30 APRIL 1864

Watercolour $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{3}{8}$

Inscribed on reverse: *Sketch showing slight fence — earthworks absent about the centre 30th April 1864. Sketch taken with 68th — Sentries just on — Removal of dead and wounded. Fallen flag staff in rear.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

41

ROBLEY

SCENE IN THE PITS, GATE PA

Watercolour $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

42

ROBLEY

REWETI AND ANOTHER NATIVE WOUNDED AT THE GATE PA

Watercolour $6\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{8}$

Inscribed on reverse: *Gate Pa 30th April 1864 — sketched on the spot — Reweti and another Maori wounded and left in the pits, their faithful dogs with them — one growling as I took pencil sketch. Gave both these some brandy from flask. G.R.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

43

ROBLEY

REDOUBT ON THE SITE OF THE GATE PA

Watercolour $6\frac{1}{8} \times 11$

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

After their defeat at Gate Pa the Ngai-te-Rangi retreated under cover of darkness, making their way skilfully through the lines of the 68th, and travelled inland to the Waoku pa, where they dispersed.

44

ROBLEY

HENARE TARATO A APRIL 29, 1864

Watercolour $9\frac{3}{8} \times 7\frac{1}{8}$

Inscribed on reverse: *Henare Taratoa — A chief of the Ngai-terangi Tribe, had been a pupil of Bishop Selwyn at St. Johns College, Auckland. In 1864 when war broke out he joined his people and was a defender of the Gate Pa — view of palisade and the flagstaff in rear of work — he drew up the humane order for the protection of unarmed or wounded men, and the respectful treatment of the dead — This is commemorated on a monument in Tauranga cemetery — The windows presented to the Chapel Lichfield Cathedral by officers and men who had served in the war all represent military scenes from the Old and New Testaments. One medallion has a special meaning depicting David in the act of pouring out the longed for water of Bethlehem poured for him by three of his mighty men at the risk of their own lives — 2 Saml. XXIII, 16, and is meant to commemorate the similar heroic action of this Maori getting water for our wounded — Cowan pp. 430, 431, relates this particular incident, but states that a woman, Heni Pore, performed this heroic action.*

Taratoa was killed at Te Ranga.

Lent by the Auckland Museum

45

ROBLEY

HORI NGATAI, ORATOR, AT THE SURRENDER OF THE NGAITE-RANGI AFTER TE RANGA

Watercolour $11\frac{1}{8} \times 7\frac{3}{8}$

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

46

ROBLEY

SURRENDER OF THE TAURANGA NATIVES AT TE PAPA

Watercolour 8½ x 11½

Inscribed on reverse: *Negotiations at Te Papa. The Tauranga natives gave up their arms were praised for their conduct during the war ¼ of lands only taken. The four swords upright at edge of lawn at table were of officers killed. Military were confined to camp during palaver of chiefs, N.B. Robley at far left with haversack.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

In June the Kingites resolved to force another trial of strength with the Queen's troops and a position was taken up at Te Ranga, about three miles inland from the Ga Pa.

On the 21st of June a reconnoitring column under Colonel Greer found the Maoris hard at work on their entrenchments. They were not given time to finish the formidable pa they contemplated, Colonel Greer deciding to attack at once. A bloody battle ensued and the Maori dead were numbered at least 120. Soon after their defeat at Te Ranga the greater number of the Ngai-te-Rangi surrendered to the British forces at Te Papa, Tauranga, and handed in their arms.

1865

47

ROBLEY

TAURANGA IN 1865

Watercolour 8½ x 13½

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

48

E. WEARING (active in N.Z. c. 1865)

ON THE WAITOTARA RIVER

Watercolour 6½ x 9½

Auckland City Art Galley

49

WEARING (?)

PICKET AT NUKUMARU

Watercolour 6½ x 9½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

50

VON TEMPSKY

"BRITISH CAMP SURPRISED BY MAORIS WHO WERE DRIVEN OFF WITH HEAVY LOSSES"

Watercolour 8½ x 11½

Lent by the Auckland Museum

At the beginning of 1865 Lieut-General Cameron took the field in the Wanganui district, under instructions to take possession of the Waitotara Block and to operate against the hostile tribes from the Kai-iwi to Taranaki. Marching from Wanganui with about 2,000 Imperial troops and two field guns, Cameron pitched his first camp, on the 24th of January, at Nukumarua, in the South Waitotara district. The position, on a practically open plain dotted with small lakes, was fifteen miles from Wanganui.

The camp was suddenly attacked in daylight by a strong force of Maoris, supported by a large body in cover. The first volley from the toe toe and flax laid low about a dozen men, and the warriors charged into the camp with gun and tomahawk. Sixteen men were killed and thirty-two wounded in this sharp encounter. A party of mounted men under Major Mitchell charged with the sword and forced the Maoris back into cover. The native loss was rather more than the British, but the Hauhau had the satisfaction of surprising a British camp in broad daylight and, as the sequel proved, of giving General Cameron such a dislike of the bush that for the rest of the campaign he kept as close as possible to the sea coast.

ROBLEY

G. MAIR AND G. ROBLEY AT THE MATATA PA

Watercolour 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{8}$

Inscribed on reverse: *Pa on the Awa-a-te-Atua River, captured by natives under Capt. G. Mair 1865. Hauhau flagstaff.*

Lent by the Dominion Museum, Wellington

In the earlier campaigns the missionaries had been respected, and often had been free to come and go among the combatants, but the Hauhau no longer regarded them as tapu. March 1865 saw the worst atrocity of the Paimarire war, the murder of the Rev Carl Volkner, at Opotiki, by Kereopa and his band of fanatics.

Volkner was captured by the Maoris on his return to Opotiki in the schooner Eclipse. On the afternoon of the 2nd of March, he was taken out of his prison hut and marched into his church, where Kereopa, standing by the altar, announced that he must die that day by hanging. The missionary was hanged from a large willow tree about a hundred yards from the church and when his body was cut down it was decapitated by Heremita. Kereopa had taken from the church vestry the white-metal communion chalice. This he filled with Volkner's blood as it spouted forth, and he carried it with the head to the church, followed in procession by all the people.

Many of the men most actively concerned in the murder of Volkner took refuge in the natural fortresses provided by the almost impassable swamps of the Rangitaiki, on the east side of the Matata settlement near the mouth of the Awa-a-te-Atua. The Government despatched Major W. G. Mair to organise a force of Arawa to engage the Hauhau and, if possible, apprehend those principally responsible for the murder at Opotiki. During this campaign Mair and his Maori force captured Matata Pa (Awa-a-te-Atua). Kereopa was captured by Major Ropata in the Urewera six years later.

VON TEMPSKY

A BRITISH MILITARY ENCAMPMENT, AT OTAPAWA (?) (Illustrated)

Watercolour 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 14

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

After the attack at Te Putatu on the 7th of January 1866 the Hauhau were driven inland to the heart of the rebel country. Here, on the right bank of the Tangahoe River, they constructed Otapawa pa, the strongest fortification built during the Taranaki campaign.

On the morning of 14th January, General Chute with a force of 500 men attacked Otapawa. Fire was opened with a field-gun facing the pa, and several shells exploded within the palisades. No Maoris appeared, and it was thought by some of the troops that the place was deserted. However, there were over 200 Hauhau manning the trenches, waiting for the soldiers to come within close range. The order was given to advance to the assault and as the troops reached point-blank range the whole front of the palisades blazed and a heavy volley came ripping through their ranks, followed by another volley as the soldiers rushed upon the stockades with their bayonets at the charge. The attackers were soon in the fort and despatching any natives who remained to dispute possession.

On the right flank of the pa, where the ground was steep and wooded, Von Tempsky and his Rangers had engaged some Hauhau who had fired on the Imperial troops as they advanced to the assault.

Te Ua, the founder of Hauhau and its principal prophet, was at Otapawa early in 1866, when a ruru flew from the forest at dusk and perched on the ridge-pole of the house at which he sat. Te Ua called to it and recited an incantation, and the bird flew back to the bush. Te Ua then announced to the people that his owl-god had appeared to him and warned

him to return to his home on the coast. He left Otapawa next morning, only a few days before the pa was taken. Such incidents served to confirm the popular belief in the Pai-marire prophet's great personal mana and his supernatural attributes.

53

WEARING

ON THE WAINGONGORO RIVER, HAWERA

Watercolour 6½ x 9½

Auckland City Art Gallery

When the Government in 1866 came to the decision to occupy the confiscated lands between the Waingongoro and the Wai-totara, the West Coast portion of the Expeditionary Force at Opotiki was recalled and in June went into camp at Patea.

Major Thomas McDonnell was appointed to the command of the force and shifted camp to Manawapou, a convenient position for operation against the South Taranaki tribes and for covering survey-parties engaged in the work of laying out township-sites and farm sections in the occupied country. McDonnell opened negotiations for peace with the Ngati-Ruanui and Tangahoe, but their attitude indicated that they intended to resist the confiscation of their lands. This was soon made plain in the usual way by ambushes and attacks on small parties and on convoys.

54

VON TEMPSKY

THE AMBUSCADE IN TARANAKI, 1866

Watercolour 8½ x 11

Lent by the Auckland Museum

On the 23rd of September a cart convoy escorted by three troopers of the Wanganui Yeomanry Cavalry left the post at Round Bush, near Hawera, for the redoubt at Waihi. The cart was loaded with fresh meat and bread, and contained also an invalided Wanganui Ranger, Michael Emerson; it was driven by Private George Tuffin. Two of the troopers, William

Wallace and Haggerty, rode ahead, and the third, Michael Noonan, was rearguard. When about half-way between Hawera and Waihi the little convoy was ambushed by a party of twenty Maoris. A volley was suddenly delivered at Haggerty, whose horse received six bullets and fell dead. Haggerty was thrown on the track with a wound in the leg, and instantly there was a rush of Hauhaus from the fern and a flash of tomahawks as they despatched him. Wallace was the target for the second volley, but by a miracle he escaped. The Maoris then shot the shaft horse in the team and a wounded Hauhau rode the leader away. Tuffin, who was unarmed, jumped out of the cart and ran for his life; he reached the Waihi Redoubt unhurt. Emerson, who was suffering great pain, got out and appealed to the troopers not to let the Hauhaus get him. 'It's all right, Mick,' shouted Wallace. 'We won't leave you.' Emerson was unable to mount a horse, but hobbled along between the two cavalry men, who kept the Hauhaus off with their carbines and revolvers until a party of Rangers, volunteers and Wanganui natives came doubling up from Waihi.

1867

55

H. ATCHERLEY (1st Waikato Regiment)

ATTACK ON NATIVE POSITIONS IN THE WAIMANA GORGE

Watercolour 5½ x 8½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

In 1867 an expedition in pursuit of the Hauhaus was organised by Lieut-Colonel St John. His advance guard of Opotiki Volunteer Rangers marched up the Waiotahi Valley and crossed into the Waimana Gorge. They delivered an attack on a village about two miles up the river from Waimana and met fierce resistance, one of their number being wounded. The rebel leader Tamaikowha occupied a strong position commanding a place about half a mile from the village, where

the only practicable way of crossing was by swimming. The troops were therefore obliged to withdraw.

CHARLES DECIMUS BARRAUD was born in Surrey in 1822, coming to New Zealand in 1849. He was a competent artist in watercolour, painting a great deal during his life in Wellington.

In 1873 he visited England, where he published (1877) a portfolio of lithographs entitled *New Zealand: Graphic and Descriptive*. He died on the 26th of December 1897.

56

BARRAUD

A MAORI SOLDIER

Watercolour 10½ x 7½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

WILLIAM MATTHEW HODGKINS was born in Liverpool in 1833. He left England for Melbourne in 1858 and in 1860 to New Zealand. Hodgkins was eminent amongst watercolour painters in New Zealand, ranking with John Gully and J. C. Richmond. He died on the 9th of January, 1898.

57

HODGKINS

AN OLD TROOPER

Pencil and wash 15 x 9½

Lent by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington

SOME SOURCES

The following sources have been used extensively throughout the catalogue:

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