

I was unable to ascertain at the time what effect our fire had on the natives, though I could see from the marks of blood, &c., on the road, that one, if not more of them had been badly hit, and I have since learned that one native was killed, and three more wounded.

I then withdrew my men by the road leading straight to Bell Block, recrossing the Mungaraka River by the upper ford, near which I was joined by the remainder of my force, under the command of Captain Shortt, 57th Regiment, who, acting under my directions, had left town about a quarter-past three A.M. and proceeded to this place, and whose report I have the honour to append.

I then marched the whole of my force back to New Plymouth, which I reached about eleven A.M.

I would beg to bring to your favourable notice the admirable conduct of the whole of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under my command, more especially the steadiness with which they endured a most fatiguing march of upwards of twenty miles over very bad roads, and for a great portion of the time under heavy rains.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. BUTLER, Major,  
Commanding 57th Regiment.

Colonel Warre, C.B.,  
Commanding Troops, Taranaki.

*New Plymouth*

SIR,

*September 25, 1863.*

I HAVE the honour to report, that according to instructions received from you, I marched, at a quarter past three A.M. this morning, with a party, strength as per margin,\* and arrived at the Numgaraka river a little after daybreak: I divided my men, placing half the number in ambuscade, overlooking the Numgaraka Ford, having a small belt of bush on my right; the other half in support well concealed on some high ground a short distance to my rear, which commanded the whole country.

A few minutes after arrival, I observed natives ascending the hill on the other side of the river, who were immediately fired on by the party under Major Butler, and pursued by him. Hearing natives talking on the other side of the belt of bush to my right, I withdrew my ambuscade, and took my men round by the rear of this belt, as I was informed that it was exceedingly swampy. I came suddenly on a body of natives, who retired firing, into the dense bush, where I did not think it advisable to pursue them, not being aware how many natives were about. On being joined by Major Butler's party, the enemy opened fire at long ranges, from various parts of the bush.

The men behaved well, though it was with some little difficulty that I could restrain their impetuosity and eagerness to pursue.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. A. SHORTT, Captain,  
57th Regiment.

Major Butler,  
Commanding 57th Regiment.

57th Regiment—1 Captain, 1 Subaltern, 2 Serjeants, 31 Rank and File; Militia—2 Captains, 2 Serjeants, 50-Rank and File.

*India Office, December 21, 1863.*

THE Secretary of State for India in Council hereby gives notice, that he has received a Despatch from the Government of India in the Foreign (Judicial) Department, dated 7th November (No. 6), 1863, containing the following Notification:

“NOTIFICATION.

“Foreign Department,

(No. 318), dated the 16th October, 1863.

“In supercession of the Notification dated 12th May last (No. 136), notice is hereby given to the parties named in the margin,\* or their heirs or representatives, that a Commission for the investigation of the claims preferred by them against the late Native Government of Oude, will sit at Calcutta as soon as possible after the 1st December, 1863, before which they should produce such evidence as may exist in support of their claims.”

*Whitehall, December 21, 1863.*

The Queen has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Reverend Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, D.D., to be Dean of the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter, Westminster, void by the resignation of the Very Reverend Richard Chenevix Trench, D.D.

*Whitehall, December 21, 1863.*

The Queen has been pleased to present the Reverend Hugh Fraser to the church and parish of Berriedale, in the presbytery and county of Caithness, vacant by the transportation of the Reverend Hugh Fraser, to the church of Macduff, in the presbytery of Turriff.

*Crown Office, December 19, 1863.*

The Queen has been pleased by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, to constitute and appoint William Shee, one of Her Majesty's Serjeants-at-Law, to be one of the Justices assigned to hold Pleas before the Queen herself.

*Whitehall, December 19, 1863.*

The Queen has been pleased to grant unto Frederick Charles George FitzClarence, of Wingerworth-hall, in the county of Derby, Esquire, commonly called the Honourable Frederick Charles George FitzClarence, sometime a Captain in the 18th (The Prince of Wales's Own Royal Regiment of Hussars), and to Adelaide Augusta Wilhelmina FitzClarence, his wife, commonly called the Honourable Adelaide Augusta Wilhelmina FitzClarence, eldest daughter of Philip Charles Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, and grand-daughter of Sir John Shelley Sidney, late of Penshurst, in the county of Kent, Baronet, and of Henrietta Frances, his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Hunloke, late of Wingerworth-hall aforesaid, Baronet, deceased; Her Royal licence and authority that they may, in compliance with a proviso contained in the last will and testament of Sir Henry John Joseph

\* Captain Frith, Mr. Grant, Major Darrell, Major Webber, Captain Edwardes, Mr. Clark, Mr. Prendergast.