

opened upon my party from the surrounding bush, by which Ensign Powys, who commanded the advanced guard, and four men were wounded. I at once returned the enemy's fire, keeping my men as much under cover as possible; but finding myself greatly outnumbered I ordered my party to retire steadily towards the redoubt.

Learning, however, that 100 men of the 57th Regiment, under Captain Shortt, were advancing by the bush road towards the same spot, I advanced my men again, and (the enemy's fire being much weakened by Captain Shortt's attack on their right,) drove them back from their position on the edge of the bush, which I then occupied—the natives still keeping up a heavy fire, which was returned by my men.

As the latter part of the operations was carried on under your own immediate supervision I will omit further details, but must beg to bring to your prominent notice the admirable conduct of the whole of the force under my command; and more

especially I would wish to mention Ensign Douglass and Ensign Down, the latter officer having greatly distinguished himself by taking out a small party and bringing in a wounded man; also Ensign Powys, who behaved very well when in charge of the advance guard before he was wounded.

As the conduct of the parties of volunteers under Captain Atkinson and Captain Webster was brought under your immediate notice, I think it hardly necessary to state how satisfied I was with the valuable assistance they afforded me.

I regret to state that one man of the force under my command was mortally wounded, four dangerously, one officer and three men severely, and one slightly.

I have, &c.,

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

Colonel Warre, C.B.,
Commanding Troops.

57TH REGIMENT.

RETURN of Officers and Men Wounded, 2d October 1863, near Pontoko, New Plymouth.

Regimental Number.	Rank and Name.	Nature of Wound.	Remarks.
	Ensign Powys	Severe ...	Gunshot wound of chest, over heart, penetrating muscles only.
2669	Corporal Edward Rea ..	Dangerous ...	Gunshot wound through left groin, coming through small of back on same side.
1979	Serjeant Samuel Harvey ...	Severe ...	Gunshot wound of left thigh, muscles penetrated.
2848	Drummer Dudley Stagpoole	Slight ...	Gunshot wound of right side of head, superficial.
266	Private William Reeves ...	Dangerous ...	Gunshot wound through left groin, penetrating.
3125	„ Patrick Burke ...	Dangerous ...	Gunshot wound through left lung (right through).
2960	„ Thomas Finn ...	Mortal ...	Gunshot wound of right side of head, penetrating brain.
2590	„ Michael Fahey ...	Severe ...	Gunshot wound through left calf of leg.
558	„ Henry Cain ...	Dangerous ...	Gunshot wound left groin, lodging in abdomen.

(Signed) W. A. MACKINNON,
Surgeon, 57th Regiment.

The Assistant Military Secretary,
Queen's Redoubt.

PROVINCE OF TARANAKI.

NOMINAL RETURN of Force engaged with Rebel Natives on the 2d October 1863.

57th Regiment—Major Butler; Captain Shortt; Lieutenant Mills; Lieutenant and Adjutant Thompson; Ensigns Downs, Powys, and Douglass; Surgeon Mackinnon; 7 Sergeants, 5 Drummers, and 150 rank and file.

70th Regiment—Captain Wright; 2 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, and 44 rank and file.

Taranaki Militia and Volunteers—Captains Atkinson, Webster, and Messenger; Lieutenant Jonas; Ensign Brown; Assistant-Surgeon Webber; 5 Sergeants, 2 Drummers, and 84 rank and file.

Royal Engineers—Lieutenant Ferguson.
Staff—Assistant-Surgeons Tomlinson and Bruen.
Total—14 Sergeants, 8 Drummers, and 278 rank and file.

Staff—Colonel Warre, C.B.; Lieutenants C. M. Clarke, Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General, and E. Brutton, Garrison Adjutant.

(Signed) H. J. WARRE, Colonel,
Commanding Troops in Taranaki.

New Plymouth, October, 1863.

Head-Quarters, Queen's Redoubt,
October 6, 1863.

SIR,

I HAVE much pleasure in forwarding, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copy of a letter from Colonel Warre, C.B., Commanding the