

acting Brigade-Major, my best thanks are due for their assistance; and to all the other Officers I beg to convey the expression of my warmest approbation.

I regret to say our loss has been severe; that of the rebels could not be correctly ascertained, but it must have been great. Ruku and his son, a son and nephew of Kawiti's, and several other Chiefs, are said to be among the killed.

In consequence of the bad accommodation for our numerous wounded, and no means of procuring proper nourishment for them,—as there was not an ounce of tea or sugar in the camp—I decided on retiring to Kiri Kiri as soon as litters could be made for the wounded; but bad weather again detained me until the morning of the 10th inst. When the force was ready to march on that day, another difficulty arose in getting a sufficient number of natives to transport the wounded—eight men being required for each litter—as Tamati Waka Nene could not leave his pah defenceless. I was reluctantly compelled to order the fighting men to carry their wounded comrades, and half the force was so employed from eleven o'clock, A. M. to nine o'clock, P. M.—but all, seamen and soldiers, performed this unusual duty with a spirit that can scarce be surpassed. The volunteers carried the arms and appointments of the sick and wounded.

I had previously written to Sir Everard Home to send boats up the Kiri Kiri river to receive the wounded, and on the 11th instant the whole of them were conveyed on board the *North Star*, in which vessel every comfort had been prepared for them.

The re-embarkation of the troops was now a matter of necessity, and could not be delayed. The force had been on shore ten days, exposed to very inclement weather; had been for seven days on a half ration, consisting of meat and a small quantity of potatoes—the biscuit, as previously stated, had been spoiled by the rain; and the Medical Officers were unanimous in their opinion, that any further continuance of discomforts would produce much sickness among the troops. On the 11th instant, the force marched to the coast, and re-embarked.

During my absence, and by the directions of Captain Sir Everard Home, Bart., Lieutenant Philpotts, on the 7th instant, with parties of seamen of Her Majesty's ships *North Star* and *Hazard*, burnt five small villages belonging to Heki—broke up two large canoes, and brought off two other large ones; and on the 9th instant, Mr. Lane with a party, broke up two large canoes, and brought off four large and small boats belonging to Europeans, which had been taken away from Kororareka.

In conclusion, I beg to express my sense of the cordial support and able assistance which I have received from Captain Sir Everard Home, in disembarking and re-embarking the force—and to Acting-Commander Johnson, and to all the other Officers—and to all the Seamen and Marines, my thanks for their zeal and assistance.

My best thanks are due to Major Bridge, commanding the 58th Regiment—to Ensign O'Connell, 51st Regiment, acting Brigade-Major, and to all the other Officers for their able support,—and to the Troops employed, for their strict discipline, their conciliatory conduct in their intercourse with the loyal natives, their exemplary cheerfulness under privations of rations, and great exposure to bad weather—and particularly for their exertions on the 11th instant, in carrying one-half of their wounded comrades on litters a distance of about 18 miles, over a bad road, or rather path.

I beg to annex a List of the killed and wounded on the 8th instant.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

W. HULME, Lieut.-Col.,

Commanding the Force at Bay of Islands.

His Excellency

Captain FITZ ROY,
Governor of New Zealand.

List of the killed and wounded in the action near the rebel chief Heke's camp, on the 8th May, 1845.

Her Majesty's Ship North Star.

1 Private of the Royal Marines killed.
Mr. Warrington, (Clerk) slightly wounded.
3 Privates of the Royal Marines severely wounded.
1 Seaman dangerously wounded—since dead.
3 Seamen severely wounded.

Her Majesty's Ship Hazard.

Lieutenant Morgan, slightly wounded.
1 Private Royal Marines severely wounded.
2 Seamen severely wounded.

Her Majesty's 58th Regiment.

8 Rank and File killed.
2 Sergeants and 14 Rank and File severely wounded.
1 Sergeant slightly wounded.

Her Majesty's 96th Regiment.

4 Rank and File killed.
1 Sergeant and 6 rank and file severely wounded.
3 Rank and File slightly wounded.

1 Civilian, servant to Mr. Beckham, Police Magistrate, severely wounded.

TOTAL.

13 killed.
2 Officers, and
37 Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers, wounded.

W. HULME, Lieut.-Col.,
Commanding the Force.