

**Robert Reid Parris reports to the Native Minister**  
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1865 Apr 18 New Plymouth

Sir, I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency's Government that on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant a Native named Anatipa Keupu, together with two women and three children arrived at Waihi from the rebel district of Kirikiringa. Their arrival was reported to me the same day, and on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant (the following day) I rode to Waihi to ascertain if there was any news of importance from the interior.

Anatipa stated that a Native named Hakopa had arrived from the Ngatiruanui district to report their reverses from the Troops, and that the people (Te Iwi) had moved off inland of a place called Tirotiromoana on the Patea river.

Also that an upper Wanganui Native named Ropata had arrived at Ngatimaru with a request for the Natives of that district to go over and join the rebels on the upper Wanganui, as the Pakehas were invading that part, and were already in possession of Pipiriki.

Anatipa further stated that Wm. King was trying to persuade those of his followers who have for some time been living in the Kirikiringa district (having taken offence at his proceedings at Kaipikari in the cases of Firing upon the Waihi women and children whilst getting shell fish at Otupou, and the murder of Heneri Ngakoti, his wife and child) to join him, proposing to retire to a place called Waititanga, the source of the Waitara river, which they refused to do. Anatipa signed the "Declaration of Allegiance" the same day.

On the evening of the same day a Puketapu Native named Manahi arrived at the Horepuriri Pa at the Hua, from the same district, bringing with him his child about three years old, his gun and cartouche box. On being reported to me the next morning I rode out to see him and got him to sign the "Declaration of Allegiance". It is very distressing to see the condition of some of these unfortunate creatures when they first arrive from the rebel districts. The children are almost invariably covered with the horrid disease Hakihaki. In the case of Manahi in addition to his child's suffering from that disease, he himself was suffering from an unhappy state of mind about his wife, which the "Pai Marire's" have taken from him, and given to another man. This I presume to have been the main cause of his coming in, although he states that there is great scarcity of food, and that some of the rebels are restricted to two potatoes each meal (Kinaki) relish for the indigenous food of the bush.