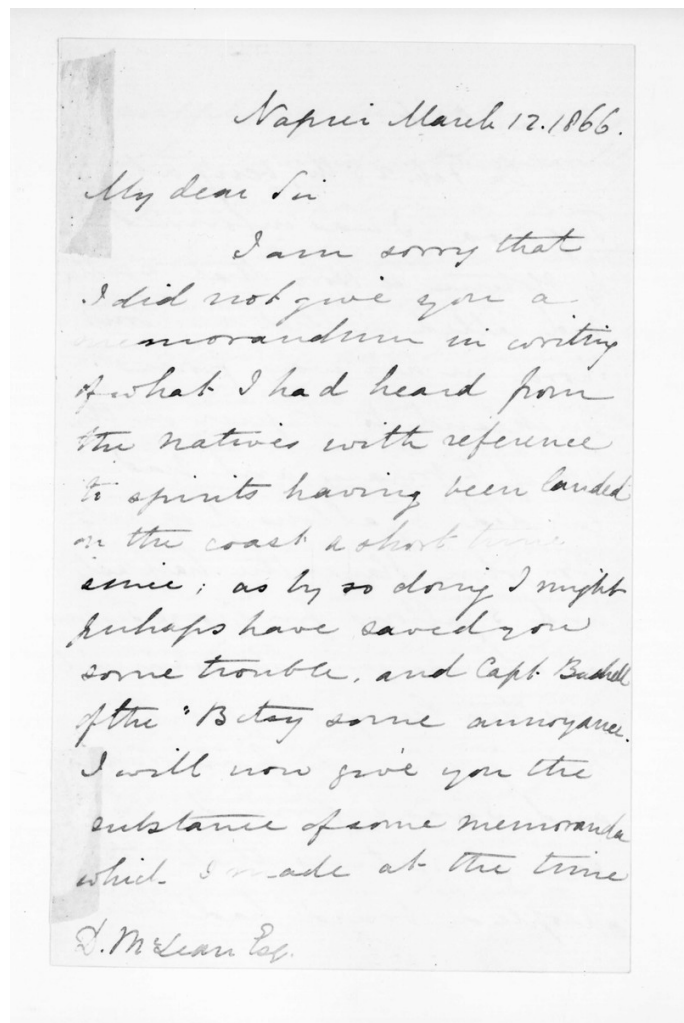


4 pages written 12 Mar 1866 by William Leonard Williams in Napier City to Sir Donald McLean



Napier March 12. 1866.

My dear Sir

I am sorry that I did not give you a memorandum in writing of what I had heard from the natives with reference to spirits having been landed on the coast a short time since; as by so doing I might perhaps have saved you some trouble, and Capt. Baskin of the "B" may some annoyance.

I will now give you the substance of some memoranda which I made at the time

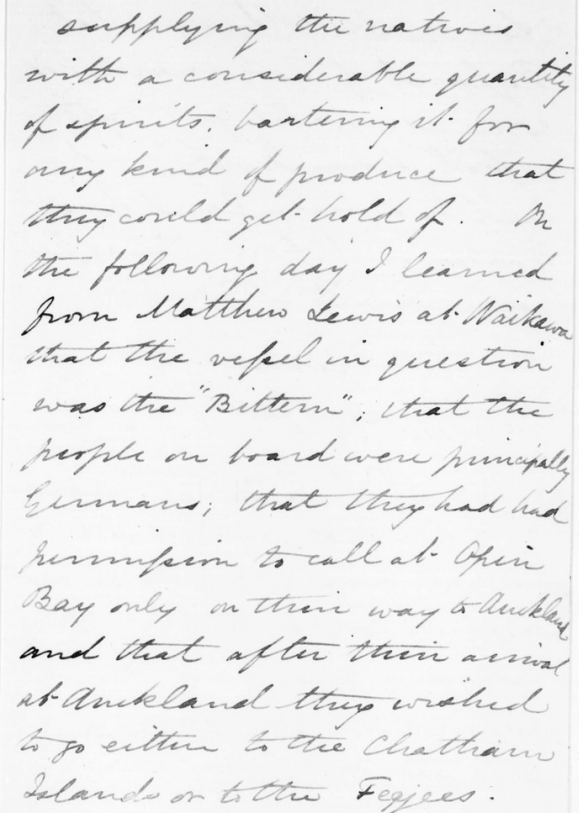
D. McLean Esq.

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I heard it.

On Feb. 25th, being at
Tuparua, I was informed
by Motene De Horo that a cutter
had called in that neighbour-
hood on her way from
Auckland to Napier on the
11th of February, and had
landed 3 gallons of spirits
for John Hayes the half-caste,
and 5 gallons for George Taylor
at Whareponga. The same vessel
was then lying in Open Bay
having returned from Napier
and I was informed by
several natives that the
people on board had been

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supplying the natives
with a considerable quantity
of spirits, bartering it for
any kind of produce that
they could get hold of. On
the following day I learned
from Matthew Lewis at Waikawa
that the vessel in question
was the "Bittern"; that the
people on board were principally
Germans; that they had had
permission to call at Opiri
Bay only on their way to Auckland
and that after their arrival
at Auckland they wished
to go either to the Chatham
Islands or to the Fijees.

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Lewis also told me that
Ryland of Tokomaru had
come as a passenger by this
vessel from Auckland
and had been landed at
Waikawa before the vessel
came on to Napier.

I remain
Yours faithfully
W. L. Williams