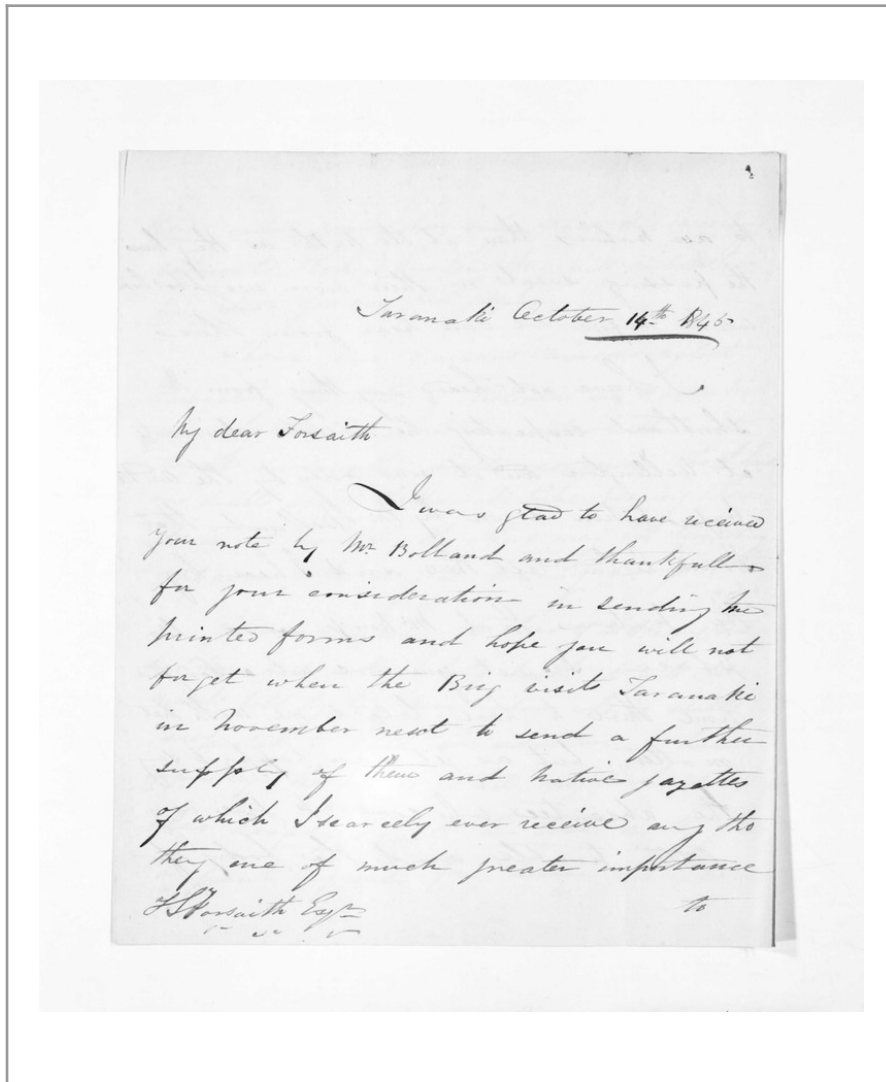


4 pages written 14 Oct 1845 by Sir Donald McLean in Taranaki Region to Thomas Spencer Forsaith



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to our natives than at the north as they know  
the passing events in their own neighbourhood  
weeks before we can hear from them

I have not heard anything from Mr  
Shottland respecting the absentee claimants  
at Wellington and it was only by the auction  
papers taken down by Mr. Woodland that  
I saw he had left them and I hear by  
the natives that Mr Kemp is in his  
place. I regret you were not a longer  
time there to have helped me with that  
matter, but as yet I am happy to say  
the absentees who come up give very  
little trouble and the body of

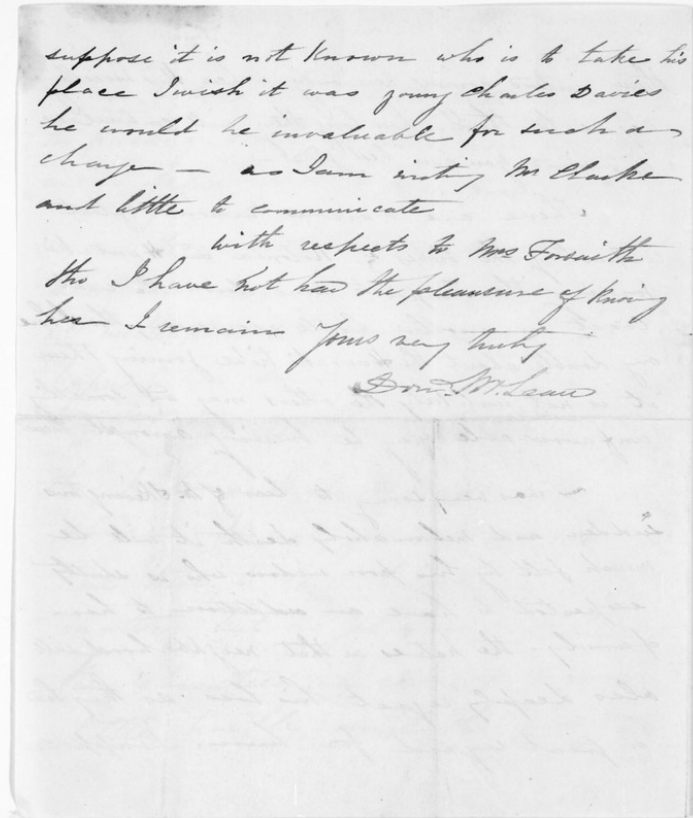
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them intend coming here only when His Excellency  
requests them - how long they will continue in  
this mind you can best judge -

There are various rumours afloat  
respecting the tribes of Rotomua and Hauraki  
joining the Tairāpiti to come down the west  
Coast on another hostile excursion, tho I have  
my doubts about the Hauraki tribe joining them  
it is not unlikely the others may and something  
unfavourable may be brewing amongst them.

I was very sorry to hear of Mr. King's  
sudden and melancholy death it will be  
much felt by his poor widow who is shortly  
expected to have an addition to her  
family - the natives in that neighborhood will  
also deeply regret his loss as they had  
a great regard for him. I suppose

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suppose it is not known who is to take his  
place I wish it was young Charles Davies  
he would be invaluable for such a  
charge - as I am visiting Mr Clarke  
and little to communicate  
with respects to Mrs Forsaith  
tho I have not had the pleasure of seeing  
her I remain yours very truly  
Sir Donald McLean