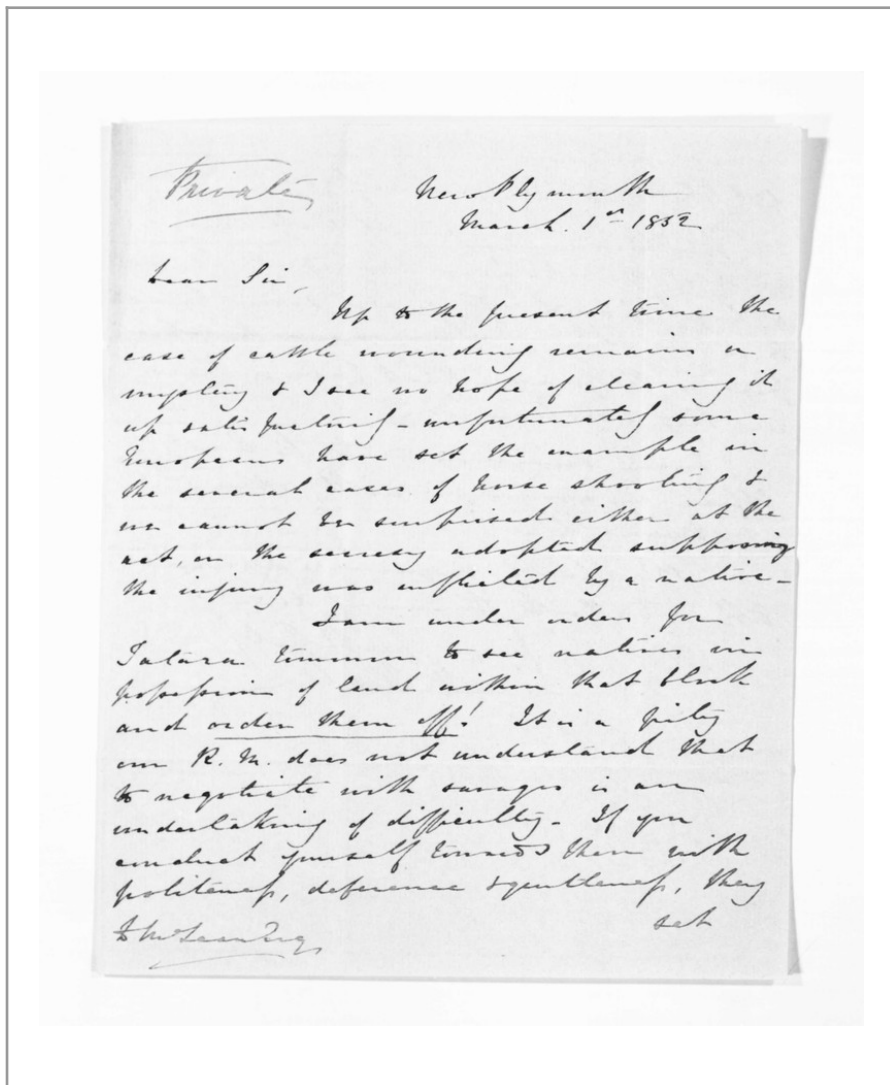


3 pages written 1 Mar 1852 by Henry Halse in New Plymouth District to Sir Donald McLean



Private.  
New Plymouth

March 1st. 1852.

Dear Sir,

Up to the present time the case of cattle wounding remains a mystery and I see no hope of clearing it up satisfactorily - unfortunately some Europeans have set the example in the several cases of horse shooting and we cannot be surprised either at the act, or the secrecy adopted supposing the injury was inflicted by a native.

I am under orders for Tatara tomorrow to see natives in possession of land within that block and order them off! It is a pity our R.M. does not understand that to negotiate with savages is an undertaking of difficulty. If you conduct yourself towards them with politeness, deference and gentleness, they

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set it down to weakness & fear, and  
repay your humanity with insolence,  
and if you behave towards them with  
a high hand, things are soon brought  
to extremities, and you have to repress  
force with force - What force is there  
in this settlement?

I am summoned to Police  
Office in common with others  
v. Merrett -

12 o'clock, inquiry adjourned  
till 10 o'clock tomorrow morning  
Yours faithfully  
H. Halse

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