



RAHAPA TE HAUATA

1824	Rahapa Te Hauata was born (circa) 1824 at Rangiaowhia
1847	Rahapa Te Hauata married Thomas Power in the year 1847 at Rangiaowhia. Thomas Power was born at Waterford County Ireland in 1808
1848	Margaret Power was born on 16 August 1848 at Rangiaowhia
1852	Mary Josephine Power was born in the year 1852 at Rangiaowhia
1855	James Hamish Power was born on 24 December 1855 at Rangiaowhia
1861	Catherine Mary Power was born in the year 1861 at Rangiaowhia
1863	Ellen Henderson Power was born in the year 1863 at Rangiaowhia
1863	Thomas Power went to Auckland with three of Rahapa and Thomas's children on 16 July 1863, Margaret (14 yrs), Mary (11 yrs) and James (7 yrs)
1864	Colonial forces invaded Rangiaowhia on 21 February 1864
1864	Thomas Power returned to Rangiaowhia on 6 May 1864
1869	Margaret Power married William West on 27 November 1869 at Rangiaowhia Catholic Church (Presbytery) and were married by Father Vinay
1873	Mary Josephine Power married George Maunder on 5 December 1873 at Rangiaowhia Catholic Church (Presbytery)
1876	James Hamish Power married Pane Louisa Wright from Aohanga on 29 July 1876 at Whareama in the Wairarapa.
1876	Mary Josephine Maunder (nee Power) died on 11 December 1876 giving birth to her son Thomas Maunder. Mary is buried at Rangiaowhia cemetery.
1884	Rahapa Te Hauata Power died in 1884 and was buried on 13 March 1884 (60) at the Rangiaowhia Catholic Church Cemetery by Father Anselm J. Fox
1889	Catherine Mary Power married Thomas Moisley on 7 January 1889 at Te Awamutu Registry office
1889	Ellen Henderson Power married Richard Carroll on 11 June 1889 St Patrick's Cathedral in Auckland
1897	Thomas Power died on 27 April 1897 and is buried at Rangiaowhia
1906	Margaret West (nee Power) died on 29 December 1906 and is buried at Ormondville Cemetery in Southern Hawkes Bay
1914	James Hamish Power died on 31 May 1914 and is buried at Aohanga urupa in Wairarapa
1927	Catherine Mary Moisley (nee Power) died on 15 January 1927 and is buried at Kihikihi cemetery in Waipa
1929	Ellen Henderson Carroll (nee Power) died on 12 February 1929 and is buried at Waikumete cemetery in Auckland

Rangiaowhia

April 20th 1865

To the Governor,

Friend the Governor, salutation to you this is my word to you that you may hear me.

On the 16th July 1863, my husband Thomas Power left here for town with three of our children, leaving me and two, the youngest, behind; we were living comfortably at our home when on the 21st February 1864, a Sunday, the soldiers arrived at Rangiaowhia in the morning. Being in bed with my children, I was awakened by the noise of the guns. I got up, went out and put up a white flag on the top of our wooden house, only a few of the soldiers came to our house this day, but on the following morning, Monday a good many came. They commenced killing our fowls and pigs. I saw a black man amongst them with a stick in his hand killing the fowls, they took away with them a good many of our pigs and fowls on this day. – On Tuesday morning a large number of them came, part of them commenced killing our pigs and fowls, the remainder broke open the house and store, and took away a great quantity of goods. After breakfast others came and took away more goods, after we had repaired the boards of the house and store, broken by the soldiers, we went into the kitchen, not long after, a large number came they again broke open the house and store, which we had just repaired, went in, broke open the boxes, took out our goods and even books including the books of our land and account books. I was then so frightened, almost fainting, my children crying and I not knowing what would happen to us, the soldiers cursing at me and my children and threatening that if I complained against them to the Officers they, the soldiers, would come at night and kill us. I said if they left in peace and would not return, I would not speak against them to the Officers.

After dinner a European named Robert Moore came and a gentleman with him. Moore said “this is the Colonel of the soldiers, he wishes you, and your children “to go to Te Awamutu, the General will take care of you there”, I asked how will my children do for food? Again, I am not strong to carry them there. Moore answered. “If you consent to go the Colonel will send a dray for them – the old blind man, his old lame wife and some of your things”, I then gave my consent to go. The Colonel wrote a note and gave it to me, saying. “If any more of the soldiers come here to trouble you, show them this note. After the Colonel and Moore left, some of the Soldiers came. I showed them the Colonel's note, a few of them remained to read it, whilst the largest number of them rushed into the house to see what they could find.

On Wednesday Bishop Selwyn came to see us, after salutations, he said, “My daughter are you the only persons that now remains in all this settlement?

I answered, “I am.” He then asked me “where were the people gone to”. I answered that the women went after their husbands and the children followed their mothers, and I do not know how far they are gone. He then asked me. “Do the soldiers come to trouble you at night?” I said, no, but they do in the day time. He asked what do they come here for. I answered, they come for our pigs and fowls, and that they broke open our house and fowls, and that they broke open our house and store, and took our goods, but that worse than all they took my children's' clothing. – the Bishop then asked me “were there many goods in the house and store when your husband went to town”? I answered “A great deal of property. – The Bishop then asked me. “Did the Maoris take any of your goods before the soldiers arrived”. I answered; they did not, only what they paid for amounting to £7, seven pounds.

The Bishop then said, you had better come with me to the Colonel, and we will tell him what you have now told me. I said the Colonel and European named Robert Moore were here yesterday, and the Colonel told me that a dray would be sent up to take my children, the old blind man, his old lame wife and some of our things goods to Te Awamutu. The Bishop said. “Do you wish to go down there? I asked Is Hohaia there? He told me he was, but said he the same dangers that is here, is there and another thing, there is no empty house, for they are all full of soldiers, and moreover if you leave here and go to Te Awamutu, the soldiers will then pull down your wooden house and destroy your fences, it is better for you to remain in your own house. The Bishop then asked me if I had any utu. I said “I have utu”. He then wrote on the doors of the house. After he had done with writing, he greeted us with “food life” (communion), and told us that God would protect us.

Now Governor that is all I have to say about coming of the soldiers to Rangiaowhia, and the trouble that they have caused to me and my children at our place. It is not all that, but now, me and my children, five in number, are crying to you, for you are the person in New Zealand to do justice to Europeans and Maoris alike. And now I have to tell you, that all Rangiaowhia is to be given to strange Europeans in our place. Where is then. O Governor, the land for us to cultivate, and grow food on for me and my children? I do not believe that you would let us die for want of land to grow food upon, that is the reason I now cry to you.

But before I finish, I would ask you what is to become of the old blind man Pura and his lame old wife? For I am the only person who has supported them since the soldiers took Rangiaowhia, but now I cannot support them any longer, as the Government has taken my land from me, on which I was born and reared, and which also belonged to my forefathers before me, none of whom I have at any time fought against our Queen's soldiers.

The foregoing is the translation of a letter, written in the Maori language, to His Excellency Sir George Grey, by Father L. Vinay, Roman Catholic Priest at Rangiaowhia, for Mrs Power a Native woman of that place, and signed Tehauata Rahapa Paoa.

*Dale L. Power
20.04.2014*