

RANAPIA MOKENA: SON OF MOKENA HOU

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RANAPIA MOKENA: SON OF MOKENA HOU

Abstract: *Little is known of the early life of Ranapia Mokena. He owned land close to Thames and acquired interests in other blocks, which provided him with some income, but he was never wealthy, as indicated by his being sued for a series of small debts. He invested in a small way in mining at both Thames and Te Aroha, and even worked in one claim. His life was most notable for being a deacon in the Church of England.*

Ranapia was another example of a rangatira who supported the Crown, as was illustrated by his becoming a member of the Thames Native Rifle Volunteers. Childless, in his old age he brought up a niece's daughter.

BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE

Ranapia Mokena was the second child of Mokena Hou and Rina.¹ If his death certificate was correct, he was born in 1842, and the age given when he was treated for bronchitis in 1886 confirmed this date.² If the age he gave when he married in 1881 was correct, he was born in 1850; perhaps he did not want to be known as being older than his wife, Raima Te Hemoata, who was 31.³ Few details of his early life were recorded. In 1916, he recalled that 'Hou died at Moehau at Tangiaro. I was one of those who went to Motiti with Hou',⁴ his father's uncle.⁵ His father included him as one of those who had cultivated at Te Aroha before 1869.⁶ He also lived for a time at Waiotahi, part of the future Thames.⁷

LAND

¹ Maori Land Court, Waikato Minute Book no. 13, p. 221.

² Death Certificate of Ranapia Mokena, 25 December 1918, 1918/9922, BDM; Medical Return for District of Thames for Quarter to 31 March 1886, Maori Affairs Department, MA 1, 21/19, ANZ-W.

³ Church of England, Coromandel Register of Maori Marriages 1881-1961, no. 10, Register 1099, Anglican Archives, Auckland.

⁴ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 65, p. 38.

⁵ See paper on Mokena Hou.

⁶ Maori Land Court, Auckland Minute Book no. 2, p. 340.

⁷ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 24, p. 65.

In the 1870s, Ranapia's wooden house and land at Kaitawa and Warahoe entitled him to be included in Thames electoral rolls.⁸ Warahoe was between Kirikiri and Matatoki and separate from Kaitawa, which was between Kauaeranga and Te Totara.⁹ In 1873 he was listed as an owner of Waihekau, near Waitoa.¹⁰ In 1884 he became an owner of Maurihoro and Ohinemuri No. 20C.¹¹ The following year he attempted to become an owner of Ohinemuri No. 10, but was unsuccessful because neither his mother nor grandmother had lived on or cultivated it.¹² In the early 1890s he became an owner of Kaikaho No. 4, Kairere, and Awaiti no. 1.¹³

When included in a list of owners of Te Hopai in 1890, he was 'one of those objected to – asks that his name be struck out – saying he has no right on the land'. It was.¹⁴ Six years later, when his brother Rewi¹⁵ and others sought to succeed Mokena Hou in Te Kapua, 'Te Ranapia Mokena says deceased is not the owner, and asks that case be dismissed'. Once again, it was.¹⁶ Such scrupulous behaviour was rare in the land court. Rather less scrupulous, but in keeping with Maori custom that land should remain within the family, after Akuhata Mokena's widow died he sought to succeed her in Aroha Block IX Section 18, known as Tunakahoia. He argued that the 40 acres his father had given to her should revert to the Mokena family (which held 707 acres in this section) because she had no children. The court dismissed his case because there was no proof that Mokena had wanted the land returned to his family on her death.¹⁷

One of the owners of Morgantown, he was 'very nice over the matter, and consented without the slightest demur' when requested in 1889 to

⁸ Thames Electoral Roll August 1873-September 1874, Auckland Provincial Government Papers, ACFM 8183, 3015/73, ANZ-A; *Thames Electoral Roll, 1879*, p. 67.

⁹ See map in Caroline Phillips, *Waihou Journeys: The archaeology of 400 years of Maori settlement* (Auckland, 2000), p. 24.

¹⁰ Maori Land Court, Waikato Minute Book no. 2, p. 114.

¹¹ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 16, pp. 38, 406.

¹² Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 19, pp. 17-19.

¹³ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Books, no. 28, p. 339; no. 35, p. 264; no. 36A, p. 30.

¹⁴ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 26, pp. 40-41.

¹⁵ See paper on his life.

¹⁶ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 39, p. 63.

¹⁷ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 54, pp. 1-2.

reduce the annual rents on business sites by £2.¹⁸ Two years later, the government sought to purchase his interest but could only obtain that of his wife.¹⁹

In 1893, as one of 13 owners of Kuaotunu No. 3, he protested that ‘the lease he signed was never anything more than a timber cutting and carrying lease and if the Timber Company have anything more than that it is a Robbery’. He was told that the Kauri Timber Company did indeed have greater rights than merely to cut timber.²⁰

Ranapia successfully appeared in 1896 on behalf of his wife when she wished to become an owner of Paipairahi.²¹ She was already an owner of Kuaotunu No. 6, of 950 acres.²² She had put him into Kairere for acting as her clerk.²³ After she died, leaving no children but having two brothers at Whitianga, he successfully applied to succeed her in Otakawa No. 1.²⁴

In 1891, he transferred his interest in Aroha Block XII Section 48, 400 acres owned by the Mokena family and their wives, to his nephew Akuhata Lipsey.²⁵ Having inherited an interest from his brother Akuhata in 1900, he sold this shortly afterwards. He and his sister Eta, who also sold her interest, declared that they had received £55 10s, and still owned 50 acres in Karamu B, in Waitoa, one share in Morgantown worth £200, ten acres in the Orahiaopou Block in Piako and a share in three other Piako blocks, Otakawa, Houkotuku, and Te Awaiti.²⁶ Because he had no children, in 1900 he applied to include his niece Ani Edwards in Aroha Block IX Section 15.²⁷ After his death, his successors in Aroha Block IX Section 31A were the children of Ani and his brother Rewi.²⁸ His last land dealing was in 1910,

¹⁸ R.S. Bush to A.J. Cadman, 29 August 1889, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 1, 1902/37, ANZ-W.

¹⁹ G.T. Wilkinson to Under-Secretary, Native Department, 15 May 1891, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 1, 1902/37, ANZ-W.

²⁰ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 31, pp. 206, 207.

²¹ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 39, pp. 65, 91.

²² Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 39, pp. 116-117.

²³ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 52, p. 235.

²⁴ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 50, pp. 290, 309.

²⁵ See paper on his life.

²⁶ Aroha Block XII Section 48, Block Files, H1093, Maori Land Court, Hamilton.

²⁷ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 52, p. 289.

²⁸ Aroha Block IX Section 31, Block Files, H984, Maori Land Court, Hamilton.

when he transferred Karioi No. 1 to another Maori and received Koukourahi No. 2B in exchange.²⁹

FINANCES

In 1876 and 1878, Ranapia received a total of £31 11s for selling some of his interests in the Aroha Block.³⁰ In the latter year, with 46 others, he sold Waihekau No. 4 for £264.³¹ In 1879 he received £10 for part of his interest in Ohinemuri and 15 years later £1 11s 5d for his interest in Ohinemuri 20B.³² From selling his ninth share in the Te Aroha Domain Extension in 1889, he received £25 11s 1d.³³ In that year, he consented to reduce the rent on Morgantown business sites from £5 to £3 a year when asked; he was 'very nice over the matter, and consented without the slightest demur'.³⁴ In 1894, he was willing to sell a quarter of his share in Morgantown for £62 10s. He told the native agent, 'If I desire later on to sell the other 3 quarters I will sell them. Do not be grasping and expect me to sell all just now. By & bye perhaps I will do so'.³⁵ He continued to receive regular income from his interest in Morgantown; for instance, between August 1900 and January 1902 receiving £35 1s 3d.³⁶

Not having any source of income apart from his land, Ranapia had occasional financial difficulties. In 1878 a Thames storekeeper sued for £3 1s, but settled out of court.³⁷ A Thames draper sued for £2 9s 6d in 1882.³⁸

²⁹ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 60, pp. 111-112.

³⁰ Register of Payments to Individuals for Purchase of Land 1873-1800, Te Aroha, entries for 28 November 1876, 13 June 1878, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 7/7, ANZ-W.

³¹ Maori Affairs Department, Hamilton, box 3, no. 142, BACS A806, ANZ-A.

³² 'Statement of the Facts and Circumstances Affecting the Ohinemuri Block', Appendix H, Lands and Survey Department, LS 36/25a, ANZ-W.

³³ Register of Payments to Individuals for Purchase of Land 1873-1880, p. 273, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 7/7, ANZ-W.

³⁴ R.S. Bush to A.J. Cadman, 29 August 1889, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 1, 1902/37, ANZ-W.

³⁵ Ranapia Mokena to G.T. Wilkinson, 8 August 1894, Maori Affairs Department, MA-MLP 1, 1902/37, ANZ-W.

³⁶ Waihi Warden's Court, Te Aroha Receiver of Gold Revenue Letterbook 1900-1903, pp. 19, 52, 77, 120, 169, 187, 322, 343, 357, 367, BAFV 13699/1a, ANZ-A.

³⁷ Thames Magistrate's Court, Complaint Book 1875-1880, hearing of 29 August 1878, BACL 13737/15b, ANZ-A.

The following year he was sued for £6 4s 10d by the estate of a bankrupt Te Aroha storekeeper, which he paid in full.³⁹ In the 1890s, a grocer and a blacksmith, both of Thames, sued for 13s 8d and £3 9s respectively.⁴⁰ In 1900 a Thames merchant sued for £5 5s 9d and in the following year a Thames grocer sued for £5 18s 6d.⁴¹

In 1904 he admitted a debt of £6 8s to another Te Aroha storekeeper.⁴² Two years later he was ordered to pay £4 14s 7d plus costs to a Te Aroha chemist, who had sued for £5 15s 1d, as £4 6s 9d of the total debt of £10 2s 1d had been paid.⁴³ To ensure that justice was done, the bill was presented in Maori and an interpreter was employed at the hearing. As the final amount was the accumulation of many small ones, which may have been typical of how many Maori and probably also many Pakeha became indebted, the details of the purchases and loans of cash are given in full:

		s d
<u>1903</u>		
Dec 31 Cash loan to Niece – Annie Barrett	1	.
<u>1904</u>		
Jan 2 Cash loan to self 1/6	1	6
15 1 pr Nickel Specs 7/6 Case for same 6d	8	.
23 Cash to Annie 2/-	2	.
Mch 23 Comb 1/- <u>Apl 4</u> loan 6d <u>29</u> Fullers Earth 1/-	2	6
May 21 1 Jack Knife 5/6 <u>June 11</u> Chest Balm 1/6	7	.
June 14 Spectacle Case 6d <u>22</u> Medicine glass 1/-	1	6
July 24 Nail brush 6d <u>Aug 18</u> Mixture 1310 2/-	2	6
Aug 18 Cash 1/- <u>27</u> Cash 2/6 <u>29</u> Cash 1/6	5	.
Sep 9 Cash 9d <u>10</u> Cash 1/- <u>13</u> Cash 1/- Soother 6d	3	3
16 Cash 2/- <u>19</u> Medicine glass 6d <u>25</u> Cash 1/-	3	6
28 Loan Cash 6d <u>29</u> Cash 1/- letter cards 5d	1	11
30 Cash 2/- <u>Oct 1</u> Cash 1/6 <u>4</u> Cash 1/- <u>7</u> Cash 2/-	6	6

³⁸ Thames Magistrate's Court, Civil Record Book 1881-1883, 261/1882, BACL 13735/2a, ANZ-A.

³⁹ Te Aroha Magistrate's Court, Civil Record Book 1881-1884, 161/1883, BCDG 11221/1a, ANZ-A.

⁴⁰ Thames Magistrate's Court, Plaint Book 1888-1895, hearings of 19 March 1890, 12 March 1894, BACL 13737/2a, ANZ-A.

⁴¹ Thames Magistrate's Court, Plaint Book 1895-1910, 129/1900, 41/1901, BACL 13737/2b, ANZ-A.

⁴² Te Aroha Magistrate's Court, Civil Record Book 1896-1907, 34/1904, BCDG 11221/2a, ANZ-A.

⁴³ Te Aroha Magistrate's Court, Civil Record Book 1896-1907, 43/1906, BCDG 11221/2a, ANZ-A.

Oct 8 Cash 6d <u>10</u> Cash 3d <u>14</u> Cash to Annie 1/-	1	9
20 Cash Annie 2/6 <u>21</u> Cash 2/7 <u>27</u> Cash 2/6	7	7
31 Cash 2/- <u>Nov 1</u> Cash 6d <u>2</u> Pills & box 1/-	3	6
Nov 5 Cash Annie 1/- <u>8</u> Mixture 1383 2/- Cash 1/-	4	.
12 Cash 1/6 <u>14</u> Cash 2/- <u>16</u> Cash 10/- <u>19</u> Cash Annie 2/6	16	.
19 Cash 1/6 <u>24</u> Cash 7/6 <u>Dec 3</u> Cash 3d	9	3
Dec 3 Walmsley Cleaning pad 1/- <u>6</u> Cash 3/-	4	.
9 Cash 1/4 <u>10</u> Gilt Specs <u>NO 15</u> 5/6 <u>12</u> Cash 1/-		7
10		
15 Cash 1/- <u>16</u> Cash 1/6 Lotion for relative 2/-	4	6
16 Cash again 1/6 <u>19</u> Cash 10/- <u>21</u> Herald 1d		11
7		
21 Aluminium Comb 1/- <u>29</u> Annie's Medicine 1/-	2	.
31 A's medicine repeated 1/-	1	.
<u>1905</u>		
Jan 4 Mixture 2/- <u>6</u> Cash 3/- <u>7</u> Cash 1/- <u>10</u> Cash 1/-	7	.
13 Cash 1/4 <u>14</u> Dusting Powder 1/- <u>16</u> Cash 2/-	4	4
18 Cash 1/6 <u>21</u> Cash 2/- <u>24</u> Cash 1/- <u>27</u> Cash 2/-	6	6
31 Cash 2/- <u>Feb 4</u> Cash 3d <u>6</u> Cash 1d <u>7</u> Cash 3/-	5	4
Feb 11 Cash 4/- <u>16</u> Cash 1/- <u>18</u> Cash 1/3 <u>25</u> Cash 1/4	7	7
Mch 7 Cash 6d <u>11</u> Cash 3d <u>12</u> Cash 2/2 <u>27</u> Cash 1/3	4	2
30 Cash 1/- <u>28</u> Cash 6d <u>Apl 7</u> Embrocation 1/-	2	6
Apl 8 Cash 1/- <u>9</u> Cash 2/6 <u>18</u> Cash Annie 1/- <u>20</u> Cash 4d		4
10		
22 Cash Annie 2/- <u>26</u> Cash 11/-	13	.
May 6 Cash 1/- <u>8</u> Cash 2/- <u>9</u> Cash 2/- <u>20</u> Cash 2d		5
2		
21 Cash 1/- <u>29</u> Cash 8d <u>June 1</u> Cash 3d		1
11		
June 6 Cash 1/6 <u>9</u> Sulphur 6d <u>10</u> Cash 9d <u>12</u> Cash 2/3		5
.		
16 Cash 6d <u>20</u> Cash 4d <u>23</u> Cash 1/2 <u>26</u> Cash 3d		2
3		
30 Cash 6d <u>July 1</u> Cash to Annie Barrett 2/-		2
6		
July 5 Cash 2/- <u>24</u> 1 glass Ear Syringe 1/6		3
6		
Sep 17 Mixt R47 2/- <u>18</u> 1 hand mirror celluloid 1/3		3
3		
23 Ginger 6d <u>25</u> Stamp 1d <u>26</u> 1/2 bottle R47 1/-		1
7		
Oct 6 Soap 6d <u>7</u> R47 mixt. repeated 2/-		2
6 ⁴⁴		

⁴⁴ Te Aroha Magistrate's Court, Plaints 1906, 43/06, BBAV 11572/3a, ANZ-A.

In this list of small debts he had received cash totalling £7 15s 3d, and his niece Annie Barrett (the relationship has not been traced) received 15s. This continual need for small amounts of ready cash does not accord with the family tradition about his financial state. He was recalled as being

a Maori agent in matters connected with Land Court cases,⁴⁵ who took his payment in interests in land. He died without having made a will, even though his estate was estimated to be worth £16,500, including his many land interests in blocks throughout the Thames Valley and Coromandel Peninsula.⁴⁶

INVESTMENTS IN MINING

Another possible source of income was gold mining. In August 1867 he was one of the very first to obtain a miner's right at Thames, no. 91.⁴⁷ He did some mining, being a member of a party of five Maori who obtained seven days protection for their claim at Collarbone in March 1868 'on a/c of one of their relatives being dead'.⁴⁸ Later that year, he and his father and elder brother, along with three other Maori, obtained three months protection for their Dinner Time claim, at Karaka, because they had 'no payable gold'.⁴⁹ Shortly before Te Aroha was opened for mining, he along with his younger brother Rewi worked on the Prospectors' Claim.⁵⁰ He took out one miner's right on opening day and another almost two weeks later, providing the latter for another man to work one of his two shares in the only claim of which he was an owner, the Waihou, in which he held a quarter of the interest.⁵¹ This claim contained no gold. He had a half share

⁴⁵ For examples, see Ranapia Mokena to Native Land Court, Auckland, 19 October 1883, 1 November 1883, Maori Land Court, 1883/3926, BBOP 4309, ANZ-A.

⁴⁶ Brian Malcolm, *Te Mokena* (privately published, n.d. [?1990]), p. 32; copy held by Michael Barker, Te Aroha.

⁴⁷ Thames Warden's Court, Miner's Right no. 91, issued 23 August 1867, Miners' Rights Register 1867-1868, BACL 14358/1a, ANZ-A.

⁴⁸ Thames Warden's Court, Registrations 1868, no. 250, BACL 14358/2a, ANZ-A.

⁴⁹ Thames Warden's Court, Application for Protection of Shortland Claims 1868, no. 94, BACL 13819/1a, ANZ-A.

⁵⁰ *Thames Advertiser*, 15 November 1880, p. 3.

⁵¹ Te Aroha Warden's Court, Miner's Right no. 306, issued 25 November 1880, Miners' Rights Butt Book 1880, BBAV 11533/1a; Miner's Right no. 703, issued 7 December 1880,

in the Union Jack No. 2, an unsuccessful mine at Waiorongomai, which he managed to sell for £10.⁵²

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Between 1849 and 1865, Rev Thomas Lanfear of the Church Missionary Society was based at Hauraki.⁵³ Maori transliterated his surname as Ranapia.⁵⁴ Stationed at Parawai,⁵⁵ he had sufficiently impressed some Maori that they named themselves or their children after him. One was Ranapia Mokena, son of a devout Anglican, and another was Te Ranapia, otherwise Charles Lanfear.⁵⁶

In May 1894, at the internment of the Ngati Maru rangatira and former member of parliament, Hoani Nahi, the burial service was conducted by Ranapia Mokena,⁵⁷ despite his not holding any official position in the church. He must have been studying theology, for the following year the Anglican journal announced that on 6 January 1895 'Lanfear Morgan Hape, a native of Puriri, was made a deacon in *S. Mary's Cathedral*'.⁵⁸ Three years later he was an honorary assistant to Rev W. Hoete Makete at Thames, but being 'more or less an invalid' he was 'not to be relied on for active duty'.⁵⁹ Despite his infirmity, between 1901 and 1909 he officiated at all Maori baptisms, marriages, and burials at Te Aroha and Paeroa.⁶⁰ In 1902, he and his sister Ema were the only Maori communicants at Te Aroha.⁶¹

Miners' Rights Butt Book 1880, BBAV 11533/1f; Register of Te Aroha Claims 1880-1888, folio 190, BBAV 11567/1a, ANZ-A.

⁵² Te Aroha Warden's Court, Transfers and Assignments 1882, no. 501, BBAV 11581/2a, ANZ-A.

⁵³ *Mission and Moko: Aspects of the work of the Church Missionary Society in New Zealand 1814-1882*, ed. Robert Glen (Christchurch, c. 1992), p. 204.

⁵⁴ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 40, p. 60.

⁵⁵ *Thames Advertiser*, 23 January 1875, p. 2.

⁵⁶ Police Court, Ohinemuri, *Thames Advertiser*, 10 December 1875, p. 3.

⁵⁷ *Thames Advertiser*, 26 May 1894, p. 2.

⁵⁸ *Church Gazette*, February 1895, p. 24.

⁵⁹ *Church Gazette*, January 1898, Supplement, p. xxxi.

⁶⁰ Church of England, Piako Register of Maori Baptisms, 1901-1909, Marriages, 1901-1909, Burials 1902-1910, Anglican Diocesan Archives, Hamilton.

⁶¹ Church of England, Register of Baptisms in Waikato District 1837-1902, Maori: 1902, Anglican Archives, Auckland.

A RANGATIRA

Ranapia was one of many prominent Maori who attended the large meeting held at Kerepehi in 1870 to discuss Aperahama Te Reiroa's debts.⁶² Three years later, he was again mentioned, flatteringly, in the press. 'An intelligent native named Ranapia Mokena' arrived at Thames from Te Aroha to inform the authorities that 'friendly Ngatimaru' had been ordered to leave the Aroha Block by a leading rangatira, Tutuki, a supporter of Tawhiao, whom he had asked for assistance. Ranapia had 'started from Aroha just as the messenger was dispatched to the king. He says that he thought trouble might arise and he thought it was his duty to acquaint the government with the position of affairs'.⁶³ His support for the government was reflected in his enrolling in the Thames Native Rifles Volunteers in 1878.⁶⁴ He was one of the 73 principal men of Hauraki who petitioned, successfully, in 1869 for the rehearing of the Aroha Block.⁶⁵ He conducting the survey of the land Ngati Rahiri claimed at Waitawheta, near the Ohinemuri goldfield.⁶⁶ With another rangatira he allocated interests amongst hapu after Ngati Rahiri was granted the Aroha Block.⁶⁷

MARRIAGE

In November 1881, in an Anglican ceremony, Ranapia married a widow, Raima Hemoata or Raima Te Hemoata; both their ages were recorded as 31.⁶⁸ Her first husband has not been traced. A short whakapapa recorded that she was the third of four children of Noa Weri, who was the child of Te Riponga i Waho and Rangiwhiwhi, his second wife.⁶⁹

⁶² *Thames Advertiser*, 1 October 1870, p. 2; for details, see chapter on Aihe Pepene.

⁶³ *Thames Advertiser*, 29 September 1873, p. 2.

⁶⁴ Thames Native Rifles Volunteers, Capitation Roll, May 1879, Army Department, ARM 41, 1883/3ac, ANZ-W.

⁶⁵ Petition, April 1869, Legislative Department, LE 1, 1869/133, ANZ-W.

⁶⁶ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 12, p. 355.

⁶⁷ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 52, p. 305.

⁶⁸ Church of England, Coromandel Register of Maori Marriages 1881-1961, no. 10, Register 1099, Anglican Archives, Auckland.

⁶⁹ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Book no. 39, p. 66.

They had no children, but clearly wanted some. In March 1902 he was the officiating minister at the baptism of Marera Ani Parete, the daughter of A. M. Parete and Ani Parete, on the day she was born.⁷⁰ The mother must have been his niece, Annie Barrett, who charged loans of cash to Ranapia between 1904 and 1905.⁷¹ For unrecorded reasons, Ranapia and his wife brought up Marera, being recorded as her guardian when she enrolled at the Te Aroha school in 1909.⁷² Having 'left for home' in July 1911, she re-enrolled the following April, but cannot have attended, for in June he was fined 2s for failing to send her to school;⁷³ She left school in June 1913 because of illness, being re-admitted in November before leaving for Paeroa at the end of the year.⁷⁴

DEATHS

Ranapia's health clearly was poor during the last decades of his life. He was cured of a serious attack of bronchitis in 1886, but 12 years later was described as 'more or less an invalid'.⁷⁵ He died, at Tui Pa on Christmas Day in 1918 at a reported age of 76, of 'natural causes'.⁷⁶ His wife had predeceased him by almost 18 years, dying in February 1901.⁷⁷

CONCLUSION

⁷⁰ Church of England, Piako Register of Maori Baptisms, 1901-1909, no. 10, Anglican Diocesan Archives, Hamilton; Te Aroha School, Register of Admissions no. 4 (1904-1918), no. 2278, Primary School Archives, Te Aroha [her birth was not registered].

⁷¹ Te Aroha Warden's Court, Plaints 1906, 43/1906, BBAV 11572/3a, ANZ-A.

⁷² Te Aroha School, Register of Admissions no. 4 (1904-1918), no. 2278, Primary School Archives, Te Aroha.

⁷³ Te Aroha School, Register of Admissions no. 4 (1904-1918), nos. 2278, 2710, Primary School Archives, Te Aroha; Te Aroha Magistrate's Court, Criminal Record Book 1907-1913, 49/1912, BCDG 11220/2a, ANZ-A.

⁷⁴ Te Aroha School, Register of Admissions no. 4 (1904-1918), nos. 2710, 2926, Primary School Archives, Te Aroha.

⁷⁵ Medical Return for District of Thames for Quarter to 31 March 1886, Maori Affairs Department, MA 21/19, ANZ-W; *Church Gazette*, January 1898, Supplement, p. xxxi.

⁷⁶ Death Certificate of Ranapia Mokena, 25 December 1918, 1918/9922, BDM.

⁷⁷ Maori Land Court, Hauraki Minute Books no. 50, p. 235; no. 53, p. 83.

Ranapia led a quiet life, his most notable involvement in the community being working amongst Maori as a deacon in the Anglican Church. Like other rangatira, he acquired interests in land, which seem to have been his only source of income judging by his being sued for very small amounts of money. He was another 'friendly' rangatira, as illustrated by his joining the Thames Native Rifles Volunteers.