

✓  
22 July 1884

Bishop Abraham  
July 22<sup>d</sup> 1884

The Cloze, C123/32  
LICHFIELD.

My dear Mr Chesson -

My feeling about the  
Maori question, & the  
attempt to induce the  
Imperial Government to  
entertain the consideration  
of their grievances is that  
they do not put their appeal  
sufficiently on the right  
ground - I should have  
made the appeal itself  
very short, and have put  
the grievances in a separate  
Schedule -

Then the Minister of the  
Crown would be obliged  
to give a definite answer  
to the one point of the appeal.  
Now he will say that the  
Imperial Government has  
handed over N. 2. affairs  
to an Independent Local  
autonomous Government.  
The appeal should have  
questioned the right of the  
Crown to have done so, or  
to do so still - I should  
have said something of  
this sort - and I should  
carefully stick to this one point  
and say nothing else -



By the Treaty of Waitangi  
In 1841(?) we the Chiefs  
of N.Z. surrendered our  
sovereignty to the Queen  
on the condition that we were  
governed & cared for by her.  
She ruled us through a Governor.  
The Crown, without consulting  
us, transferred its sovereignty,  
virtually & to all <sup>English</sup> intents &  
purposes, to the Colonists of  
New Zealand - altogether a  
different body, a body interested  
in the Colonial progress, not in  
Maori rights -  
We deny the right of the  
Imperial Crown to make a Treaty with  
us, & then hand us over to a  
colonial Government -

We have experienced a change  
injurious to our welfare  
ever since the Crown paper  
is on to the Colony -

We can enumerate in another  
document our grievances -  
but the main point is this  
that the ~~Crown~~ Queen made  
a treaty with us, and sent her  
own Representative to deal  
with us, <sup>& that</sup> a man not <sup>a colonist</sup> ~~connected~~  
~~with the Co~~ and ~~now~~ we deny  
your right to alter the position  
without the consent of the other  
party, namely the Maori people -  
This is the way I should write  
and speak, if I was a Maori -  
your most <sup>that</sup> ~~truly~~ <sup>affectionate</sup>  
C. J. ~~18/1~~