

division of reserved men, and remain near the beach for the protection of the boats, and to secure your retreat. You will give the most positive orders to the men not to separate for a moment from their respective officers and divisions.

A quantity of tobacco will be furnished you by Purser Speiden for the release of Anderson, in the event of his being given up conditionally by the natives. Should a demand be made by the natives for his release, you will comply with it, using great precaution in so doing to secure the man; after which you will land, and burn the large town-house only, and return to the ship. Should you meet him being brought off in a canoe, with the stipulations above referred to, you will reward the persons bringing him off, and return to the ship without landing. Should Anderson, however, not be forthcoming soon after reaching the town, you will fire it, being careful not to pass its boundaries to the injury of any other village.

It is hardly necessary to say to you that women and children can have taken no part in the seizure of Anderson; and should the men of the town retreat before you, you will recollect it may arise from two causes: one may be fear, the other to decoy you into pursuit, where they may be prepared with a reinforcement. In either case, you will not follow them beyond the limits of the town; but as soon as the work of destruction is completed, embark to the schooner with your party, direct Mr. Knox to get under way, and run out to the anchorage near the ship. If there is no wind, let your boats take him in tow.

I trust much to your discretion and prompt action on the present occasion, and that the officers and men placed under your command may not be subjected to any unnecessary hazard or exposure.

With a sincere desire that Anderson, if living, may be obtained, and for the safety and success of your party,

I am, &c.,

WM. L. HUDSON,
Commanding U. S. Ship Peacock.

TO LIEUTENANT WM. M. WALKER,
U. S. Ship Peacock.

U. S. Ship Peacock,
Off Drummond's Island,
April 9th, 1841.

SIR,—

In obedience to your order, I proceeded this morning with the boats under my command to the town of Utiroa, where the natives armed and equipped to the number of about six hundred, in three divisions,