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*War Office, February 8, 1867.*

THE Queen having been graciously pleased, by an instrument under Her Royal Sign Manual, bearing date the 1st of January, 1867, to direct that the decoration of the Victoria Cross may be conferred on persons serving in the Local Forces of New Zealand, who have performed deeds of gallantry during the progress of the operations undertaken against the insurgent native tribes in that Colony,—Her Majesty has accordingly been pleased to signify Her intention to confer this high distinction on the under-mentioned Officer of the Local Forces of that Colony, whose claim to the same has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval; viz. :—

Corps.	Rank and Name.	Act of Bravery for which recommended.
Auckland Militia ...	Major Charles Heaphy	<p>For his gallant conduct at the skirmish on the banks of the Mangapiko River, in New Zealand, on the 11th of February, 1864, in assisting a wounded soldier of the 40th Regiment, who had fallen into a hollow among the thickest of the concealed Maories. Whilst doing so, he became the target for a volley at a few feet distant. Five balls pierced his clothes and cap, and he was wounded in three places. Although hurt, he continued to aid the wounded until the end of the day.</p> <p>Major Heaphy was at the time in charge of a party of soldiers of the 40th and 50th Regiments, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Marshman Havelock, Bart., C.B., V.C., the Senior Officer on the spot, who had moved rapidly down to the place where the troops were hotly engaged and pressed.</p>