

That however inconvenient such Real Property Law may be to the Colonists, or detrimental to the Aborigines themselves, it cannot be forcibly abolished without glaring injustice, and the almost certain risk of an internecine war between the two Races, throughout the Colony;

That War, at all times a calamity, would, under such circumstances be also—a crime ;

That, as to the Block before referred to, it appears, in the highest degree objectionable that the District Land Purchase Commissioner should, directly or indirectly, decide on the title of owners,—Tribal or individual, absent or present, dissenting or consenting ;—in short, should, virtually, decide on the validity of his own alleged Purchase, and, finally, in order to enforce his own *ex parte* decision, should, in effect, have and exercise the dread power of declaring War—thus resting in one subordinate Officer, Ministerial, Judicial, and Dictatorial functions ;

Further, it would seem that Teira's allegation of his own absolute interest—the allegation of one who has received British gold, and who believes that he will be backed by British bayonets—the allegation of one who shows himself ready, for the sake of lucre, to destroy his own Tribe, and his own Race, and to plunge the whole Colony into unspeakable calamity—is to be accepted as final and conclusive—so as to downweigh the unanimous testimony of the great majority of the Tribe, who, unseduced by money, and unintimidated by power, are prepared to seal that testimony with their own life-blood ;

Are such men, who would, under the circumstances, be only defending those immemorial rights confirmed to them by our beloved and illustrious Queen—are such men to be branded as Traitors—to be hunted down and exterminated like wolves ?

* * * * *

Here, at present, there is, (from various reasons, too numerous to mention,) a dead silence—no voice is raised at this, the eleventh hour. Your Petitioner has, therefore, attempted a feeble cry ; but do not, let me beseech your Excellency, despise the cause on account of the feebleness, the informality, or the temerity of its advocate ; for the cause is a good and noble one—it is not the cause of this or that individual, of this or that section of Colonial society ; but—of Humanity and of Justice :

And now may He who has the hearts of Kings in His rule and governance, ever enlighten your Excellency's Councils ; and, for the sake of That Blessed One, who died that we might live, do not hastily and coldly dismiss this Appeal, which is hasty, of necessity,—informal, weak, and presumptuous, no doubt, but still as sincere and unworldly as if it were spoken with your Petitioner's dying breath.

WILLIAM TURNER.

N.B.—Posted 22nd February, 1860.

Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

*MEMORANDUM OF THE BISHOP OF NEW ZEALAND TO HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR GORE BROWNE,
WRITTEN BY REQUEST, AFTER A LONG CONVERSATION ON THE TARANAKI QUESTION.

Auckland, 2nd February, 1861.

I respond cordially to Your Excellency's wish that there may be no difference in our private relations.

In public matters also I am most anxious to “minimize” the grounds of difference.

This may, I think, be done most securely by seeing laid down before us a clear line of action for the future.

We all unite in the desire to maintain the Queen's sovereignty, and to enforce obedience to the Law.

If the British Government is prepared to carry out its own duties in this respect, I am at all times ready to assist with any influence which I may possess.

What I may desire may be briefly summed up as follows:—

1. That the rights of the New Zealanders, as British subjects, be recognised as identical (*rite tahi*) with our own.

2. That among these, their proprietary right to the soil of New Zealand (wherever the Native Title has not been extinguished) be fully recognized.

3. That all Native customs affecting this proprietary right (whether convenient or inconvenient) be recognized, till they can be peaceably adjusted to our own system, with the free consent of the proprietors.

4. That all questions on the subject of the Native Title to land be submitted to a Tribunal having a status as permanent as that of the Supreme Court, and established with the concurrence of the Crown, the General Assembly, and the Native Conference.

5. That the first action of the Tribunal be confined to the adjudication of cases submitted to them by the voluntary consent of all parties; and that the question of enforcing, if necessary, the decisions of the Tribunal be brought before the General Assembly and the Native Conference, after a space of years has been allowed for the action of the Tribunal in voluntary cases.

6. That the Sovereignty of the Crown be asserted, in its clearest and highest character, by calling upon the Natives to assist the Governor in suppressing Civil War, in apprehending and

* This Memorandum was originally written by the Bishop for private circulation only.