

P A P E R S

RELATING TO

N A T I V E A F F A I R S.

SECTION I.—BAY OF ISLANDS.

No. 1.

CIRCULAR LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS.

Attorney-General's Office,
Auckland, January 9th, 1862.

SIR,—

I call your attention to the provisions of the Jury Ordinance, 1841, and the Jury Amendment Ordinance, 1844. Under these Ordinances, it is the duty of the Police Magistrate in every District, on the 1st February, to call a special meeting of Justices residing within twenty miles of his office, for the purpose of forming a Jury List. The Justices at such meeting, any two being a quorum, are to prepare a List in alphabetical order, of all men qualified and liable to serve as Jurors, setting forth the christian and surname of each, at full length, and his place of abode and calling or business. He is to cause a copy of such list to be affixed upon the principal door of his office, with a notice subjoined that objections thereto will be heard and determined by him at any time within ten days of such meeting. Persons disabled by lunacy, unsoundness of mind, deafness, blindness, or other infirmity, are not liable to serve, and the Magistrate has power to strike the names of such persons out of the list. A copy of the list so corrected is to be transmitted forthwith to the Sheriff of the District.

As regards Aboriginal Natives, it will be your duty to observe the regulations which you will find duly published in the *Gazette*, and which are to the following effect :—

The Resident Magistrate in every District is to ascertain, to the best of his ability, the persons of the aboriginal race who, in his judgment, may from their personal qualifications, appear to be capable to serve on juries.

He is to prepare a list of such persons, and return the same to His Excellency, who will make any and what selections he may please from such list, and will return the list corrected and duly certified to the Magistrate. The list so corrected and certified will be transmitted by the Magistrate to the Sheriff.

I have to beg your careful attention to these instructions, particularly as regards the list of Native Jurors, so that in case it should be necessary to have recourse to Native Jurors for the purpose of administering the law in your District, there should be no failure of justice for want of such lists.

I have, &c.,

FRANCIS D. FENTON,
Assistant Law Officer.

The Resident Magistrate.

No. 2.

CIRCULAR LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS.

Attorney-General's Office,
Auckland, January 9th, 1862.

SIR,—

With reference to my circular of this date, instructing you to form lists of Native Jurors, I have further to instruct you, in forming your judgment as to the capability of Individual Natives, to take every opportunity of obtaining reliable information from persons likely to supply it, such as