

REPORT ON PETITION of the CHILDREN of RORU HAURAKI and JAMES W. ROBINSON.

THE petitioners state that they are entitled through their mother, who was an aboriginal native, to a block of land in the Waikato, which has been included in the confiscated boundary, and, as they were in no way connected with the rebellion, they pray that compensation be given them for the land taken.

I am directed to report that, having made inquiry into the petitioners' case, the Committee find that there is not sufficient evidence to enable them to come to a decision. The Committee therefore recommend the Government to make full inquiry into the petitioners' case, in order to ascertain whether they are entitled to any land, and, if so, that such compensation as they are found to be entitled to may be awarded them.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of W. L. BULLER, referred back to the PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE.

IN obedience to the direction of the House, the Committee has taken further evidence in this case, and find that a promise was made by the late Dr. Featherston that he would ask the Council to vote the petitioner an honorarium; but no specific sum was mentioned. This promise was fulfilled by the Government placing a sum of £500 on the Estimates in 1866; but as it met with opposition in the Council it was withdrawn. In 1871 a private member moved that £500 be placed on the Estimates for Mr. Buller in the form of land scrip. The question was dealt with by a motion by the Provincial Treasurer, that the Chairman leave the chair, which was carried by a majority of one. It therefore appears that the statement made by Mr. Pearce, and quoted by petitioner, that it was "not a gratuity that was asked for, but the fulfilment of a promise made by the Superintendent, and sanctioned by the Council," is not substantially correct, as the promise made by the Superintendent was carried out, but the Council on two occasions declined to give effect to it.

I am directed to report that the Committee see no reason to alter the decision already come to the petitioner's case.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of THOMAS OSBORNE.

THE petitioner prays that compensation may be given him for loss of employment in the Government service.

I am directed to report that the Committee cannot recommend the prayer of the petitioner to the favourable consideration of the House.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of 116 RESIDENTS of EAST OXFORD.

THE petitioners pray for increased accommodation at the East Oxford Railway Station.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this petition is a matter for the consideration of the Government.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of 36 SETTLERS in the DISTRICT of WAIPU, COUNTY of WHANGAREI.

THE petitioners pray for the construction of a wharf at Marsden Point, Whangarei Harbour.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this is a matter for the County Council to deal with, but that the Government should give every facility for the construction of the wharf by granting the foreshore.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of 371 INHABITANTS of SOUTH CANTERBURY.

THE petitioners pray that the provision of "The Timaru Harbour Board Act, 1875," which gives the country districts representation in the Harbour Board, be not repealed or altered.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners is a reasonable one; but, as the question is one for the House to deal with, the Committee have no special recommendation to make.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of 46 SETTLERS of TOI TOI DISTRICT.

PETITIONERS pray that a sum of £1,500 be placed on the Estimates for the construction of a jetty, or that an endowment be made in land for that purpose.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this is a matter for the County Council to deal with, but that the Government should give every facility to the construction of the wharf by granting the foreshore.

7th December, 1877.

T. KELLY,
Chairman.