

of the Crown witnesses came to me to complain again of their unfair treatment, alleging that all the witnesses for the plaintiff had been paid in full. I promised to take the matter up for them, and to urge their claim in the proper quarter. The amount in question is, so far as I can make out, from £150 to £200. I think the Hon. Mr. Hall will recognize that it is a matter affecting the good name of the Government, and ought to be set right without further delay.

I shall be happy, if you require it, to go over the papers and to make out a nominal list of claimants, with the respective amounts due to them.

G. S. Cooper, Esq., Under Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

W. L. BULLER.

#### No. 4.

The UNDER-SECRETARY to Dr. BULLER.

SIR,—

Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 9th January, 1880.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, with reference to the non-payment to witnesses of their expenses in the case of *H. R. Russell v. Publishers of Waka Maori*.

In reply, I am directed to ask if you will have the kindness to furnish the Government with a statement of the sums due and unpaid to witnesses or any other claimants in the *Waka Maori* case.

If you have not the means of supplying the information yourself, perhaps you would kindly assist the Government by indicating how it can be obtained.

I have, &c.,

Dr. Buller, C.M.G., &c., Wellington.

G. S. COOPER.

Dr. BULLER to the UNDER-SECRETARY.

Re *Waka Maori*

SIR,—

Hunter Street, Wellington, 10th January, 1880.

I shall have much pleasure in complying with your request, by furnishing full information as to unpaid witnesses' expenses in the above case.

I shall have occasion to proceed to Hawke's Bay next week, and will then, with Mr. Grindell's assistance, complete the required list and forward it to you.

I have, &c.,

G. S. Cooper, Esq., Under-Secretary, Wellington.

W. L. BULLER.

#### No. 6.

Dr. BULLER to the UNDER-SECRETARY.

SIR,—

Hunter Street, Wellington, 11th May, 1880.

Referring to my letter of 29th December last, in reply to yours of 23rd December (No. 1718), on the subject of the witnesses' expenses in the *Waka Maori* case, and in compliance with the promise conveyed in my letter to you of 10th January last, I beg now to forward a list of the unpaid claims, duly certified to in each case and put in proper form for payment.

At the request of the claimants (for whom I am now acting), each claim is accompanied by an authority for payment to myself as their agent. I should be glad if possible to be able to draw the money in time to pay it over when I return to Hawke's Bay in about three weeks.

I may mention that the witnesses for the defence expressed much dissatisfaction that their allowance was fixed at 10s. per diem, whereas the Natives who were called for the plaintiff received £1 per diem. They deny that any agreement was come to with Mr. Grindell on the subject, but his memorandum to me of the 3rd February, of which I forward a copy, appears to make it pretty clear that the arrangement was so understood. The petty disbursements referred to in Mr. Grindell's memorandum, and amounting in all to £21 11s. 11d., were discharged by the Government at the time; and, as they consist chiefly of railway fares of witnesses to and from their homes, I do not think they are fairly chargeable against the daily allowance.

Mr. Dean's case, about which you wrote to me on the 23rd December, is somewhat different from the rest. An allowance of 10s. per diem would be a very poor compensation for his loss of time, to say nothing of the actual expenses incurred by him. He has stated his own case in a memorandum, a copy of which I have attached to his claim for £30 forwarded herewith.

I would remark also on the claim of Mr. Peter McGrath, that he received at the time, under the head of witnesses' expenses, the sum of £13 10s. He states that this was an allowance made to him by Mr. Grindell for his assistance in looking after the Natives during their detention in Napier, and that his claim should be for thirty-six days at 10s. per diem. I am unable, however, to certify for more than eight days, the further period, as well as I can fix it, during which Mr. McGrath was required to be in Napier when recalled as a witness for the defence.

I have, &c.,

G. S. Cooper, Esq., Under-Secretary, Wellington.

W. L. BULLER.

#### Enclosure 1 in No. 6.

MEMORANDUM by Mr. EDWIN DEAN.

Re *Waka Maori* Case.

My claim is for £30, which will be insufficient to cover my expenses and loss of time. I was in attendance in Napier for eighteen days; during that time my days were at a standstill, and my entire