

No. 28, correspondence on the subject of the erection of barracks for the soldiers at Taranaki.

At five o'clock the Committee adjourned till Thursday, August 23rd, at ten o'clock, a.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 1855.

PRESENT :—

Messrs. Travers	Messrs. Crompton
Hart	Brown
Mackay	Forsyth

Mr. Sewell—Chairman.

Minutes of the Committee read and confirmed.

Dr. Knight attended to give evidence, and produced a balance sheet, showing the surplus revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1855.

The Committee requested Dr. Knight to furnish the Committee with accounts from the 30th June, 1854, to 1st July, 1855, based on the principles agreed to by the Committee.

Mr. McLean attended with a copy of the evidence taken from him by the Committee, which had been furnished him for perusal.

The following questions were then put by the Committee, and answered by Mr. McLean.

1. Q.—Have you read through the evidence given by you on former days? Do you find it correct? A.—I find it correct, except in one or two instances. One is a statement with reference to the liabilities of the Wellington Districts. In that statement I said there was only £1,000. That sum had only reference to a certain class of purchases, in reference to which the final arrangements had not been made with the natives, such as surveys, boundaries, &c.

2. Q.—What do you suppose to be the total liabilities? A.—I am getting up statements of them, which I will furnish.

3. Q.—Is there any other part of this evidence that you do not find correct. With reference to your statement that you were not aware on what the statement in Message 5, referred to in your examination, was founded, have you any qualification to add? A.—I have merely to state that it may have been founded on statements of mine with regard to certain purchases, particularly with reference to the disturbances at Taranaki at that time; but these statements were not intended to apply to purchasing operations generally. I wish to add to my former evidence that I did not know at the time exactly of any disturbances at the Thames, but there were disturbances in the vicinity of Auckland at that time.

4. Q.—Were they about land questions? A.—They were. They arose from a sale of a piece of land in the settlement of Oraki, where one of Te Whero Whero's grandchildren was buried. This disturbance created some excitement among the Waikato and Ngapuhi tribes against the Ngatiwhataua sellers of the land in question. The name of the particular spot is Te Puka-Puka.

The Committee adjourned at Twelve o'clock, till after the rising of the House, and met again at half-past one, p.m.

Discussion ensued.

At a quarter-past four the Committee adjourned till Friday, August 24th, at ten a.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24TH, 1855.

PRESENT :—

Messrs. Travers	Messrs. Crompton
Brown	Hart
Mackay	Forsyth

Mr. Sewell, Chairman.