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FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1876.

[No. 22.]

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 2nd June, 1876.

I DO hereby notify that

EDWARD ISAACS, Esq.,

has been duly elected a Member of the Auckland Harbour Board, in the place of William Buchanan, Esq., resigned, in pursuance of section 14 of "The Auckland Harbour Board Act, 1871."

G. GREY,
Superintendent.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

By His Honour SIR GEORGE GREY, Knight
Commander of the Most Honourable
Order of the Bath, Superintendent of
the Province of Auckland.

UNDER and in pursuance of the powers in me
vested by section 81 of "The Highways Act,
1874," I do hereby appoint

MR. ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL

to be an AUDITOR for the WAIPAPI Highway District,
in the place of Mr. E. Hamlin, resigned.

Given under my hand, at Auckland, this
first day of June, 1876.

G. GREY,
Superintendent.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION,

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 31st May, 1876.

IT is hereby notified that the Chairman of the
HIKURANGI District Board, under "The High-

ways Act, 1874," has reported in writing to the
Superintendent the Election of Mr. HENRY CARTER
as a MEMBER of that Board in the place of Mr. JOHN
MACDONALD, resigned.

READER WOOD,
Provincial Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 31st May, 1876.

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with the
provisions of "The Highways Act, 1874," that
a certified copy of the Assessment List for the
TAUHOA Highway District has been forwarded to
this Office.

READER WOOD,
Provincial Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 22nd May, 1876.

THE following Correspondence is published by
direction of His Honour the Superintendent.

READER WOOD,
Provincial Secretary.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 22nd March, 1876.

SIR,—

I have the honour to enclose a map of the Coro-
mandel peninsula, showing a road which has recently
been surveyed, and which is marked red, from
Whangapoua to Mercury Bay and Tairua. The road
from Coromandel to Whangapoua is in good order,

but the part from Whangapoua to Mercury Bay is a mere surveyor's line. The cost of opening a road would be £750, and the advantage of the whole district of having a practicable roadway across from Coromandel to Mercury Bay would be very great. I beg to request that you will be good enough to obtain the sanction of His Excellency the Governor to the expenditure of the amount named for this purpose.

I have, &c.,
G. GREY.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
Wellington.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, New Zealand,
9th May, 1876.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the number and date quoted in the margin (No. 601, 22nd March), requesting that His Excellency's sanction may be obtained for the expenditure of the sum of £750 to open up a road from Whangapoua to Mercury Bay.

In reply I have to express my regret that the Government do not at present feel justified in recommending His Excellency to sanction the expenditure.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. C. BOWEN.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Auckland.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 2nd June, 1876.

THE following Correspondence is published by direction of His Honour the Superintendent.

READER WOOD,
Provincial Secretary.

I. Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 18th May, 1876.

MY LORD,—

I beg, as Superintendent of the Province of Auckland, to bring under Your Excellency's notice an act which I am advised is illegal and unjust, but which, I am informed, is about to be committed under the authority of the name and Proclamation of the Queen's Representative in New Zealand, to the injury of Her Majesty's subjects of both races, in order, at their cost, largely to benefit one or two persons.

On the 15th October, 1874, the late Governor of New Zealand issued a Proclamation, in which he solemnly declared that it was necessary that a certain district of land, described in that Proclamation, should be acquired by the public for the following three purposes, namely:—

For mining for gold.
For special settlements.
For the purposes of railway construction.

The Proclamation then went on to declare that, after the issue of the Proclamation, it was not lawful for any person to purchase or acquire from

the Native owners any right, title, or interest, or contract for the purchase or acquisition from the Native owners of any right, title, or interest in the lands specified in the Proclamation.

It is clear that this Proclamation, issued in conformity with the provisions of "The Immigration and Public Works Act Amendment Act, 1874," inflicted a grievous disability on the Native owners of the land. It prohibited them from putting their land publicly into the market for sale, and obtaining the best price for it. It bound them to sell to the Government or not at all; and, in fact, if they were forced or wished to sell, compelled them to take the price the Government chose to give for it.

Nothing prevented such a proceeding on the part of the Government being an act of the grossest oppression but the maxim that private interests must give way to the public good. If this maxim is ever enforced to the injury of some of the Queen's subjects within a certain district, it certainly must be applied with the strictest justice and impartiality to all within those limits. I think I neither err nor exaggerate in stating that, to apply it to the poor and defenceless in a district, and to exempt from its operation the powerful and wealthy in the same district, would be a moral crime of a grave character; and if the powers of the Crown, and the authority of the Queen, should be used for the perpetration of such an offence, then a crime would be also committed against the majesty and justice of the Empire.

Your Excellency will observe that Natives were the lawful and undoubted owners of the land included in the Proclamation, although, the number and names of the Native owners not having been ascertained by the proper Court, no memorial of ownership could be at that time issued to them; and I am informed that the Native claims to these lands were only set down for hearing at Cambridge on the 3rd instant, so that up to that date no memorial of ownership could have issued. I am not aware that one has yet been issued.

Your Excellency will further observe that no provision having been made by law for the sale of any portion of their lands by the Natives interested to any European or other person previously to the issue of such memorial of ownership, therefore no European could have acquired lawful right of ownership in such land up to the present date. Nor do I think they could do so during the currency of the Proclamation.

I now beg to state that on the 30th April, 1875, I for the first time heard that Mr. Mackay, who was then Agent for the General Government, was, with the knowledge of the General Government and of the Native Department, purchasing tracts of land for Mr. Russell from the Natives within the district included in the Proclamation alluded to in this letter.

I at once wrote to the Government, [see enclosures] pointing out that Europeans were, by the Governor's Proclamation, prohibited from purchasing land in that district from the Natives, and that there was also the greatest and most urgent want of land for the public in the same district on which to locate intending settlers from the Thames.

I asked that the Government would be so kind as to furnish me, or direct Mr. Mackay to furnish me, with copies of all papers relating to such transaction, and of the instructions given to Mr. Mackay regarding it.

On the 6th May, 1875, the Government informed me, in reply, that Mr. Mackay was instructed to respect all existing agreements between Natives and Europeans, whether for land or timber, within

proclaimed blocks of land,—that Mr. Russell was buying land at Waiharakeke and Hungahunga before the Government, and previous to the Proclamation under the Immigration and Public Works Act,—that the purchase of Waiharakeke included both the east and west side of the river Waihou.

The Government further stated that as Mr. Mackay considered it highly desirable that the Government should have the east side of the river south of the Aroha block, he proposed to Mr. Russell that he should give up the land on the eastward of the river, and retain that on the western bank,—that the Government afterwards sanctioned the arrangement, and that Mr. Mackay had reported that the greater part of the land which Mr. Russell was to have was swamp, and unfit for the location of small settlers, as it would require a large expenditure of capital in draining it before it would be fit for occupation.

The Government made this statement to me, but they would not furnish me with copies of the papers relating to this subject for which I had asked, nor would they furnish me with copies of papers relating to some of their agreements permitting private persons to take or exchange lands in the Hauraki, Thames, or Piako districts; and they have up to the present date refrained from furnishing copies of these papers to the Superintendent of this Province, as I believe, in violation of the law.

I am now informed, and believe, that an agent of Messrs. Whitaker and Russell is, with the sanction of the Government, completing the purchase of the Waiharakeke and Hungahunga blocks of land, if he has not already completed the transaction.

I venture to suggest to Your Excellency that these proceedings are unlawful, and in breach of the rights of the European and Native inhabitants of this Province. The Government were not, I am convinced, justified in speaking of the dealings of Mr. Russell with the Natives regarding these blocks of land as of a purchase made, or which could have lawfully been made. I am advised that no lawful right whatever has been or could have been acquired in them.

To compel the Natives, on the grounds of public expediency, to sacrifice their private rights to the public good, they being the lawful owners of the whole block, and to protect in the same block alleged inchoate interests unknown to the law, of European subjects of the Queen, is, in my belief, a great injustice, and one which ought not to be permitted. The Natives are required to sacrifice their rights and to lose much. To the European are secured rights which he never lawfully possessed, and to which an immense additional value was given by the land having passed into the hands of the Government, and being certain to receive those improvements and that expenditure which necessarily follow the opening up of a Native district to European occupation. A great injustice is also done to the public at large. They are deprived of lands to which I believe them, under the arrangements made by the Governor's Proclamation, to have been entitled, and which are absolutely necessary for the progress of this Province, and the welfare of its people. The value of the property of the small settlers would be considerably decreased by one great block in the centre of their respective properties being placed in the hands of a single individual; and their labour and the public funds expended in the district will probably go to give a greatly augmented value to the lands of a large absentee proprietor.

Again, the safety of a European population placed in a Native district depends in a great degree upon

its density and organization. To place a number of small farmers in such a district, round a great property reserved for one man, is to weaken them, and imperil their safety, yet at the same time to give a great value to the property so reserved, by placing, as it were, a cordon of men round it. A single individual is thus greatly benefited at the cost of the many.

With great respect I would also venture to point out that, in truth, if this arrangement is carried out, the Governor's Proclamation, under which he compels the Natives to dispose of their property to the Government alone, recites that which is not correct. For if in proclaiming this block of land as being subject to the Crown's right of pre-emption it was intended at the time to take from it two large and valuable properties for a private person, and to compel the Natives to dispose of these blocks to him, it never can be alleged that the rights assumed by the Crown over these Native lands were so assumed solely for any one or all of the three objects named in the Proclamation as those for the promotion of which this act was performed. The Proclamation was alike deceptive to the Natives and to the Europeans. The land was not taken from the Natives for the purposes alleged in the Proclamation, and it was not to be given to the European population for the purposes specified in the Proclamation.

In the issue of that Proclamation a great act of arbitrary power had been exercised, to the injury of some of the Native race, but with a view to the benefit of the public at large. Its justification could alone be the righteous application, for the benefit of all, of that which had been taken from the few. The moment that principle was violated, it became, in my belief, an act of unjustifiable oppression.

Again, the European population, by the proceedings about to be taken, will be greatly wronged in another respect, from the Government assuming to themselves the right of determining whether or not a tract of land is fit for the location of small settlers, and whether, therefore, it is to be given to a reputed capitalist because it would require a large expenditure of capital in draining it before it would be fit for occupation.

Neither law nor public morals justify a Government in coming to a decision of this kind, and in acting upon it. To do so is to subvert and trample upon the rights of the public at large—to assume a power unlawful in itself, and certain to become a precedent pregnant with corruption. Your Excellency will, I feel assured, admit that the Crown's authority should not be used for such a purpose as this, and that no Governor could venture, in defiance of the law, to attach his name to a grant of land which, in breach of all public law and justice, was allowed to be obtained by an individual by the Ministry of the day on such principles.

A Government can by such a proceeding at once make one or more of their followers great capitalists. To promise to give a man a grant of a large and valuable property, on easy terms, is to make him instantaneously an apparent capitalist, for on it he can raise money to pay for the land, to drain it, to perform all the works in relation to it, which the Government should do for the public; and, worse than all, it is to deprive the public of the right of competing on fair terms for that which is the property of all. The effect of such a proceeding is also to entail unnecessary taxes on them, by robbing the revenue of the fair price of the land ascertained, as the law directs, by public competition.

I therefore earnestly request that Your Excellency will cause steps to be taken to prevent any further action going on in this matter, and to prevent the

Queen's name being further used in it until a full and searching enquiry has been made into the whole subject.

I enclose to Your Excellency the copy of a letter I addressed to the Colonial Secretary on the 19th May, 1875, proposing a plan for the settlement of all such cases as that now under consideration. From this you will find that there would be no difficulty in adjusting the claim brought under your notice, by allowing a full and impartial enquiry to be openly made into it, and then by paying a money compensation to the claimants if they were able to substantiate a right to such payment.

Twice during the last Session of the General Assembly I understood the Government to promise that this course should be pursued in reference to any claims of the nature of that now under consideration, but no step in that direction has up to this date been taken in the matter.

I beg to be permitted to quote one paragraph of my letter of the 19th May, 1875, for Your Excellency's perusal:—

“Clearly such rights ought not to be dealt with secretly, in a private room, by one man. To expose him, under such circumstances, to the solicitations of private friends, or of the political supporters of the Government he serves, is a wrong to human nature, to independence of character, to public rights, to the interests of the Native owners, for there is no fair competition for their property, to the mass of Her Majesty's subjects, because their interests are not fairly protected. A consideration of this will, I hope, make you feel that this system should be instantly stopped, and that perhaps upon the whole the proper course would be that an open enquiry should at once be instituted into each past transaction.”

I also enclose an extract from the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Tairua Investigation Committee during the last Session of the General Assembly.

Upon these two extracts I have no hesitation in venturing the opinion that it would have been better not to have entrusted to Mr. Mackay the settlement and adjustment of the claims which Mr. Russell might have, if any, over the block of land included in the Governor's Proclamation of the 15th October, 1874.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient
humble servant,

G. GREY.

His Excellency, the Governor.

ENCLOSURES.

1. Telegrams.

Auckland, 30th April, 1875.

To Hon. Colonial Secretary,
Wellington.

Mr. Mackay, Agent of the General Government, has told me that he is, with the knowledge of the General Government, and of the Native Department, purchasing a tract of land from the Natives near the Te Aroha mountain, for Mr. Thomas Russell.

Europeans are prohibited from purchasing land from the Natives, and there is the greatest want of land at the Thames on which to locate intending settlers.

Would the Government be so kind as to furnish me, or to direct Mr. Mackay to furnish me, with copies of all papers relating to this transaction, and of the instructions to Mr. Mackay regarding it.

G. GREY,
Superintendent.

Government Buildings,
Wellington, 3rd May, 1875.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Auckland.

Your telegram of 30th April has been referred to Sir Donald McLean; an answer will be sent as soon as possible.

CHAS. C. BOWEN,
In the absence of the Colonial Secretary.

Government Buildings,
Wellington, 6th May, 1875.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Auckland.

With reference to your telegram 30th April last, Mr. Mackay was instructed to respect all existing agreements between Natives and Europeans whether for land or timber within proclaimed blocks. Mr. Russell was buying land at Waiharakeke and Hungahunga before the Government, and previous to the Proclamation under the Immigration and Public Works Act. The purchase of Waiharakeke included both the east and west side of the River Waihou. As Mr. Mackay considered it highly desirable that the Government should have the east side of the river south of the Aroha block, Mr. Mackay proposed to Mr. Russell that he should give up the land to the eastward of the river, and retain that on the western bank. The Government afterwards sanctioned this arrangement. Mr. Mackay reports that the greater part of the land which Mr. Russell is to have is swamp, and unfit for the location of small settlers, as it would require a large expenditure of capital in draining it before it would be fit for occupation. Mr. Mackay informs the Government that he has explained this to your Honor.

CHAS. C. BOWEN,
In the absence of the Colonial Secretary.

Auckland, 15th May, 1875.

To Hon. Colonial Secretary,
Wellington.

You have not yet supplied me, or said whether or not you would supply me, with copies of the papers for which I asked in my telegram of the 30th April. Would you be so good as to direct me to be furnished with such copies. It is important that I should get them at once. Might I also have copies of all papers relating to similar agreements, permitting private persons to take or exchange lands in the Hauraki, Thames, or Piako districts? It is right, when the whole future of this Province depends upon lands in those districts being open to all, that I should have the fullest knowledge regarding the questions I have alluded to.

G. GREY.

Government Buildings,
Wellington, May 17th, 1875.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Auckland.

Your telegrams asking for papers will be submitted to Colonial Secretary and Native Minister on their return to Wellington in a few days.

CHAS. C. BOWEN.

2. Letter from Superintendent to Colonial Secretary.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 19th May, 1875.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit, for your consideration, a proposal for modifying certain arrangements authorised by the Minister for Public Works on the 4th March, 1872.

Mr. Mackay, who had apparently been acting as a private agent, was at that time about to be employed by the Government in the purchase of Native lands, and he, in his letter to the Minister for Public Works of the 24th January, 1872, suggested, in reference to the large blocks of land which he was to purchase from the Natives, that in some cases Europeans had claims to the timber on such blocks, and in other cases had made agreements with Natives regarding lands contained in the blocks, some of which leases or agreements might be valid, having been made subsequent to the issue of certificates of title by the Native Land Court, whilst others were invalid and unlawful, the agreements regarding them having been made previous to the issue of certificates of title for the lands comprised in such agreements.

Mr. Mackay admitted that a majority of the leases and agreements he alluded to were neither legal nor valid, yet many of these, he said, had been made by and with the assistance of officers of the Native Department.

The Minister for Public Works, in his letter of the 4th of March, 1872, apparently undertook that the Government would respect all such claims, whether they were legal or equitable, or the contrary, because he was fully aware of the influence which the holders of such claims might exercise in opposition to the sale of the lands by the Natives to the Government.

What I would propose is this: That whenever the Provincial Government takes over from the General Government a block of land purchased from the Natives, it should take it over subject to all agreements and leases with which it may be encumbered. In this case it, of course, would only be bound to respect those agreements and leases which were really legal and valid, and which had not been similarly made to appear to be so, whilst those leases and agreements which were not legal or valid could in no way bind the Provincial Government; but I would suggest that every such case should be referred to the Legislature, or to the Committee which represents that body, or to some Court, that it should be fairly and openly heard, and the amount of compensation to which the holder of it might be entitled, if any, should be ascertained, and be liquidated by a money compensation, voted by the General Legislature.

I propose this, because I think all the reasons that have been alleged for requiring the Province to respect the leases and agreements I allude to would be of no force if they were illegal or invalid in themselves.

For instance, in your telegram of the 6th instant, you make it appear that a reason for recognizing such agreements might be that the land included in them is, as the Government believes, swamp, unfit for the location of small settlers, and which would require a large expenditure of capital in draining it before it would be fit for occupation. But the Government can have no knowledge whether one or more of Her Majesty's subjects really possess capital or not, and lands in which the population of this Province have a direct or contingent interest cannot be lawfully dealt with on any suppositions of this kind. The united capital of a number of small settlers may far exceed that of any one settler, and privileges of

this sort ought not to be recognised, and cannot be maintained against the general rights of the public.

Again, if the agreement or lease was originally illegal, the approval of the Agent of the Government, or of the Minister for Public Works, cannot stamp such lease or agreement with legality. They are mere executive officers to carry out the law, not to make new laws to suit their own views. Any attempts to make such invalid leases or agreements legal can only produce a bad impression upon the public mind, as these attempts would possibly constitute a manifest evasion of that law which it was the duty of those authorities who allowed the evasion to have supported.

To make such unlawful leases legal would also be to reward wrong-doers and law-breakers, by recognizing their illegal acts, and this would be done at the expense of the rest of Her Majesty's subjects, who had faithfully observed the law, and who deserved, in recognition of their conduct, to have been protected in the rights which the law secures to them, rather than to be deprived of those rights in order that privileges of great, possibly of enormous value, may be given to those of their fellow-subjects who had set the law at defiance.

I pass over the statement of the Minister for Public Works that it will be necessary to reward these breakers of the law to prevent them from exercising their influence over the Natives to the detriment of the Government and their fellow-settlers by preventing them from selling lands which the public necessity require should become the property of the community at large. Certainly people who could be guilty of such conduct ought to be punished instead of receiving large rewards.

I think, also, that in each instance of the unlawful leases and agreements to which Mr. Mackay alludes, he should be directed forthwith to supply the Superintendent of this Province with the name of the officer of the Native Department who broke the law by negotiating such unlawful lease or agreement, in order that enquiries may be made as to whose authority this was done by, and why such exclusive privileges were given to some of Her Majesty's subjects, and why—whilst the inhabitants of this country at large were, by carefully framed laws, shut out from dealings with the Natives regarding certain lands—other individuals, who were favoured, were allowed to carry on such dealings, and were even granted the assistance of those officers of the Government to aid them in these transactions, whose duty required them to prevent such dealings from being carried on. The more fair and legal any such transaction may have been, the more reason is there that a full enquiry should be made into it, in order that the blamelessness of the parties concerned in it may be openly and fairly established beyond all future question.

Upon the whole, therefore, I think I am doing that which is, in every respect, for the public interest, in recommending that, whilst all legal and valid agreements and leases should be scrupulously observed, all those regarding which any doubt exists should be strictly investigated, and that only such a money compensation should be given to the respective claimants as a full and impartial enquiry may prove them to be entitled to.

My observations apply equally also to all exchanges of land which the General Government propose to carry out without a full and open enquiry. I do not think that the Government will be justified in taking lands from any of the blocks purchased with public money, and giving them in exchange, at the will of the Native Minister, or any other person, to Europeans or Natives, until a full

and open enquiry has been made into the circumstances of each case. Land is now so essential to the interests of this Province, for the purpose of settling intending immigrants upon, or those of our population who have hitherto been unable to obtain land, that I earnestly request that the recommendations I have made may receive the approval and sanction of the General Government, and that I may be authorized at once to give effect to them.

I would yet add another reason, of a general nature, in favour of the course I recommend.

The rights of property disposed of, under the arrangements made by the Minister for Public Works and Mr. Mackay, must be very great indeed.

The parties interested in these are the public, the Native owners, the European claimants.

Clearly such rights ought not to be dealt with secretly, in a private room, by one man. To expose him, under such circumstances, to the solicitations of private friends, or of the political supporters of the Government he serves, is a wrong to human nature, to independence of character, to public rights, to the interests of the Native owners, for there is no fair competition for their property, and to the mass of Her Majesty's subjects, because their interests are not fairly protected. A consideration of this will, I hope, make you feel that this system should be instantly stopped, and that perhaps upon the whole the proper course would be that an open enquiry should at once be instituted into each past transaction.

I have, &c.,

G. GREY.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Wellington.

3. *Extract from the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Tairua Investigation Committee of the House of Representatives. I. 1. 1875.*

THURSDAY, 12th August, 1875.

MR. JAMES MACKAY examined on oath.

15. *The Chairman.*] In the case of the Hibi and Pirauui blocks, did you purchase these from the Natives on the 21st September, 1872?—I cannot say the exact date when they were purchased. It is probably mentioned in the report of 24th March, 1873. It might possibly be September. I do not recollect the date of these deeds.

16. On the day before the purchase of that block, was a lease of the timber and incidental rights for ninety-nine years given by the Natives to Messrs. Russell, Stone, and Wilson?—Yes.

17. Then the Opango block—did you purchase that on the 24th August, 1872, or about that date?—Yes, about that date.

18. On the 29th of July was the lease of the timber and incidental rights given by the Natives to the same gentlemen?—I believe so.

19. Did you receive any money from them for these timber leases—from Messrs. Russell, Wilson, and Stone, or any of them?—They were originally my own purchases. I bought that timber and transferred it to them.

20. What did you sell to them for?—I got £100 over and above what I had paid to the Natives.

21. What was the sum paid to the Natives?—I paid the Natives £500. They paid the Natives £1,000 more. They carried out my original agreement for the Waiwhakaurunga and Opango blocks. I did not get anything for Hibi and Pirauui; I had not paid any money to signify on Hibi and Pirauui. I transferred to them before I had anything to do with the Government land purchases. I had nothing to do with the Government between 1869 and when I commenced to buy land in 1872.

22. Why was not mention made in the lease that you were the real person that sold to them?—I suppose that nobody had anything to do with my private transactions when I was not purchasing land for the Government. Between the 31st July, 1869, and the time when I undertook to buy for the Government, I had as much right to buy timber as any other of Her Majesty's subjects, and therefore had a right to transfer. I transferred before I had anything to do with purchasing land. I had no personal interest when Mr. Russell and the others acquired the lease.

23. Why was it stated that the Natives were the real sellers?—Because the agreement had only been made, and I had not paid the balance of the purchase money to the Natives. They (Russell and others) were the actual purchasers.

24. *Mr. Rolleston.*] You sold an inchoate agreement to them?—Exactly so.

25. *The Chairman.*] Have you any copy of the agreement?—I did not keep any copy. I handed it to them. I gave over all the documents to the parties. I stated in my report that the timber on Whakairi and Kauaeranga had been purchased by a company. (Whakairi and Waiwhakaurunga are the same).

II. Government House,
Auckland, 19th May, 1876.

SIR,—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Honor's letter dated the 18th instant, in which you prefer grave charges against my Government in regard to the purchase of certain native lands.

2. I have forwarded that letter for the consideration and report of my Constitutional Advisers; but at the same time I beg to remind your Honor that under the system of "Responsible Government" which has been wisely conferred upon this Colony, considerable discretionary powers must necessarily be left in the hands of the Government, their actions being of course controlled in the first instance by the action of Law, and in the next by the pleasure of Parliament. Your Honor must therefore excuse me when I say that it appears to me that the complaint which you prefer would be best decided by recourse to one or other of these alternatives.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
NORMANBY.

His Honor the Superintendent of Auckland,
Auckland, N.Z.

III. Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 23rd May, 1876.

MY LORD,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 19th instant, and, in reply thereto, beg to represent as follows:—

As Superintendent of this Province, I am, by Act of Parliament, responsible to the Crown for the peace, order, and good government thereof. The superior Officer whom the Act of Parliament requires me to obey and to look to for support in my duties is the Governor of New Zealand.

By the same Act of Parliament, and by the Royal Instructions, the Governor is authorised to exercise in this country certain powers belonging to the Crown. He is responsible to the Queen and the British Parliament for the proper use of those powers, and is removable from his office, or punishable by those authorities, and by no other, for any misuse of such powers.

The Governor is not authorised by law or by the Royal Instructions to delegate those powers to any other person. Even to meet such events as his death or absence from the Colony he is not permitted to bequeath or delegate temporarily those powers to any other person. The Crown carefully provides for such cases, and nominates the officer who, in the event of their occurrence, is for a time to exercise such powers for the Crown.

Certainly, therefore, the Governor cannot delegate the powers of the Crown entrusted to him to persons who are in no way responsible to the Queen or the British Parliament for any abuse of such powers.

The so-called "Responsible Ministers" in this Colony are not, in truth, responsible to the Queen or British Parliament for any abuse which they may commit of the powers of the Crown, nor are they responsible to the New Zealand Assembly for any such abuse of the powers of the Crown, for these powers do not belong to the General Assembly, and do not emanate from that body, nor are they conceded to the Ministers by it.

What was conferred upon this Colony by the Queen and Parliament, under the Constitution Act, was the power of governing itself, by the bodies named in that Act. The Government to which Your Excellency apparently alludes, in your letter of the 19th instant, is an Executive Council, called by Your Excellency your "Responsible Government." No such Government has been conferred upon this Colony, nor has the Crown or its Ministers the right to confer or impose such a Government as now exists under that name, and which, in truth, is not a Responsible Government, upon New Zealand.

The Executive Council given to Your Excellency by the Royal Instructions is simply a Council of advice, and you are especially authorised in those Instructions, when you differ in opinion from your Executive Council, to act in opposition to their advice, the responsibility arising from any act done in the Queen's name, under the powers of the Crown, being thus distinctly thrown upon the Governor. A due and wise precaution for the preservation of the rights of the Native race, of the Crown lands, of the Native lands, of other large interests in this Colony, and of its own good name in reference to those matters, necessitated this provision in its Instructions upon the part of the Crown.

The law upon such subjects is also this: When the Queen, conjointly with the Imperial Legislature, has bestowed upon a Colony a Constitution, Her Majesty cannot infringe upon, alter, or vary in any respect whatever that Constitution. Even when letters patent have been formally issued by the Crown, under the great seal of the United Kingdom, which had any one of the above-named effects, such letters patent have by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council been declared null and void. If the Crown cannot perform such acts by letters patent, much less can it do so by Royal Instructions or by Orders from a Secretary of State. The Constitution Act carefully defines the subjects upon which a Secretary of State can issue Orders or Instructions to the Governor, and any Secretary of State has no powers except such as are in those respects conferred upon him by the Constitution Act. If the law says that the Governor is to do certain acts, he is responsible to the Crown and the British Parliament for the manner in which he performs them, and must, I submit, himself do that which the law directs him to do. The act so done must be regarded as his act, and he must incur all responsibility springing from it.

I venture to point out to Your Excellency that, to prevent acts being committed such as I have com-

plained of, the British Parliament provided that there should be in New Zealand in the first instance

Provincial Legislatures,

and then a General Assembly, which was to consist of

The Governor,
The Legislative Council,
The House of Representatives;

and to accomplish the wise intentions of Parliament a complete balance of powers was established between the three bodies composing the General Assembly of New Zealand, which, in fact, if carried out, guaranteed and provided for the preservation of the rights of all persons, and rendered it almost impracticable that acts of oppression such as I, the Superintendent of this Province, complain of could have been committed.

Your Excellency is aware that the Provincial Legislatures have been prevented from meeting, by an Act of the General Assembly, passed in its last Session, to which Your Excellency's assent was given, although I believe the General Assembly had no power to do this, the assent of the Provincial Legislatures to such a proceeding not having been previously obtained. Thus the first and a very great guarantee for the preservation of public rights has for the present disappeared.

It is admitted in Your Excellency's letter of the 19th instant, that the Governor, *quasi* the Governor of the Constitution Act, no longer exists, but that the Minister for the hour has to all intents and purposes become the Governor of New Zealand, even in respect of exercising the rights of the Crown in this country. Then the Legislative Council being nominated by the same Minister, or rather increased to any extent he pleases by members nominated by himself, another of the means provided for the protection of the rights of the Colonists has been swept away; for by the Constitution Act it was provided that these Legislative Councillors should only be such person or persons as Her Majesty might think fit to summon to the Assembly, but that power was, by the 31 and 32 Vict., c. 57, given to the Governor, that is, to the Minister for the time being. Lastly, the principle regarding the Members of the House of Representatives recognised by the Constitution has been altogether departed from, as, in fixing the number of Members for each District, fair regard has not been had to the number of electors within the same, so that the number of Members assigned to any one District should bear to the whole number of the Members of the House of Representatives as nearly as may be the same proportion as the number of electors within such District shall bear to the whole number of electors in New Zealand. I unhesitatingly state that every just and impartial man would admit that at present there is no fair representation of the people of New Zealand in the House of Representatives as now constituted. Indeed, an Act of last Session, introducing new representatives into the House of Assembly, struck a fatal blow at the fair representation of the people of this Colony.

These circumstances would all seem conclusively to shew the great necessity which exists for the Governor to carry out fairly and fully that system of Government which the law requires, and expects him to conform to.

Your Excellency will observe that in the case of the act I have particularly complained of in my letter of the 18th instant, as well as in other acts, it is complained that grievous wrongs have been inflicted on some of the Queen's subjects in this Province by the agency of the Sovereign's Representative. These

acts have been begun, continued, and it is proposed to end them, in the name of the Queen, that name being used for this purpose by absolutely irresponsible persons. My contention is, that the Queen has never, directly or indirectly, nor could Her Majesty lawfully, have allowed her name to be used in this manner for such purposes. All who have observed with unanimous admiration Her Majesty's actions, during the many years of a most illustrious reign, must well know that the Queen would never assent to give her name for the promotion of such purposes or the accomplishment of such objects.

To allow this to be done would indeed cut off all hope from the Queen's subjects. If the persons who unlawfully usurp the powers of the Crown commit in its name a wrongful act, no redress can be obtained in the Courts unless the name of the Crown is afforded to the suitor to give him a right to commence an action against the alleged wrong-doers. The same persons, therefore, who had used the name of the Queen, to commit a wrong, would have the power of refusing her subjects the right of using the name of the Crown in the Courts of the Crown for the purpose of obtaining a remedy for the wrong suffered.

Your Excellency will find, upon enquiry, that in this portion of the British dominions, in which all persons as British subjects are said to possess equal rights, whilst the public at large have been unable to obtain from the Crown land required by pressing necessities, many thousands of acres of Crown land, the property of the entire Empire, have unlawfully, wrongfully, and privately been pretended to be given to persons favoured by those who have usurped the right of using the name of the Crown,—a right, as I maintain, unlawfully yielded and unlawfully taken, so that these wrongs are done in the Queen's name to British subjects and no redress is left open to them.

The heads of the Provincial Governments and the Provincial Legislatures are, equally with all other classes of subjects, injured by these proceedings. They are deprived of rights which the Constitution Act, in the most clear and deliberate language, assures to them, and are thus placed under grievous disabilities without any power of obtaining relief.

I feel it personally so intolerable a burden and so great an indignity thus to be deprived of rights, and to be compelled, as Superintendent, to submit to see from amongst those people, whose interests are entrusted to me, some deprived of legal rights, and others greatly and, as I believe, wrongfully and unlawfully enriched at the cost and to the detriment of good, dutiful, and law-respecting subjects of the Queen, that I find it difficult to repress my indignation; and I feel confident that, if some relief is not in a lawful and constitutional manner afforded, difficulties of a serious nature will occur in this country.

Under such circumstances, if unlawful transactions of this kind, as Your Excellency suggests, were to be left to the pleasure of Parliament alone, our Judges and Courts would be useless. The most unlawful and oppressive acts could be performed by a Government, and then be ratified by a mere party majority in the Assembly. Every trace of liberty, and all security for equal rights and for property, would be swept away. I could not, therefore, as Superintendent of this Province, give my assent to referring questions in which such great interests of its people are involved to a mere party tribunal, instead of to the calm deliberation and justice of the ordinary Courts of Law.

I beg, however, with great gratitude, to acknowledge the consideration which Your Excellency was

so good as to give to my letter of the 18th instant. I feel that in signifying your assent to my appealing to the Courts of the country by the action of law, for the purpose of setting aside the act of which I complained in that letter, Your Excellency has done your utmost in the difficult position in which you are placed to enable the inhabitants of the Province of Auckland to obtain redress; and I will, availing myself of Your Excellency's permission, immediately direct the necessary steps to be taken to obtain a legal decision upon the question at issue, feeling assured that, after the expressions used by Your Excellency on this subject, if any more formal instrument should be required to enable me to use the name of the Crown in the requisite action at law, you will take care that the necessary powers are conceded to me for that purpose, this indeed being nothing more than I believe the Crown invariably does in similar cases.

Your Excellency might still further aid the inhabitants of the Province of Auckland in obtaining that justice to which I feel they are entitled by preventing, as I requested in my former letter, any action in the name and upon behalf of the Crown being taken for confirming or completing the transaction complained of, until the Courts of Law have had an opportunity of pronouncing their opinion upon the question submitted to them.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient
humble servant,

G. GREY.

His Excellency the Governor.

IV.

Government House,
Auckland, 24th May, 1876.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Honor's second letter, dated 23rd of May.

2. Referring to the latter portion of that letter, in which your Honor announces your intention of commencing legal proceedings, I have only to state that if in your position as Superintendent of the Province of Auckland you deem it necessary for the protection of the interests of the Province to take such a step no technical objection such as your Honor refers to will be made to prevent it.

3. I purposely avoid making any reference to the opinions expressed by your Honor upon the subject of the Constitution and Parliament of this country, differing as I do entirely from most of them, it would only entail a controversy which I must decline entering into.

4. I am fully sensible of the responsibility which your Honor states I owe to Her Majesty and the British Parliament, and I am perfectly ready to assume any responsibility which may properly attach to my acts, but with every respect for the experience which your Honor possesses I must claim the right to exercise my own discretion, and must decline to accept the opinions, or to act upon the advice of anyone who is not in the position of one of my Constitutional Advisers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

NORMANBY.

To His Honor the Superintendent
of Auckland.

V. Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 27th May, 1876.

MY LORD,—

I have the honour to express my thanks to Your Excellency for your letter of the 24th instant, and especially for your assurance that, in such legal action as I may take, as Superintendent of this Province, for the protection of the interests of its inhabitants, no technical objection shall be allowed to intervene to prevent me from so doing.

I now further beg Your Excellency's permission to have a like privilege afforded to me, as Superintendent of this Province, in legal steps I propose to take in the Supreme Court for the purpose of endeavouring to obtain redress for the inhabitants of the Province of Auckland for a wrong inflicted on them in the case of a tract of 80,000 acres of land in the Waikato District, which the Government, under the sanction of the Queen's name, have attempted to give to Mr. Russell, in violation of the law and the rights of those of Her Majesty's subjects, European and Native, whose interests the law confides to my care.

The lands I allude to formed part of a large District which had been taken by British troops from the Native owners who had carried on an insurrection against the Government, and had for a long time endangered the safety of the inhabitants of various settlements in the Province of Auckland.

Portions of these lands which belonged to the Natives engaged in the war were subsequently declared confiscated by the Crown. This was done partly to defray the expenses of the war, and to give an example to the Natives of the losses which would result to them, if they engaged in hostile undertakings for the future, but also in great part to secure the safety of the settlements lying near the Waikato river, by the introduction of a sufficient number of settlers able to protect themselves, and to preserve the peace of the country, into districts which, had they remained in the hands of powerful and disaffected natives, would have been a source of constant danger.

Great Britain, having accomplished this, handed over these lands to the General Assembly of New Zealand, the Governor forming an independent and constituent part of that Assembly.

Laws were made by the Assembly, and a code of regulations was lawfully established on the 11th of May, 1871, for guidance in the disposal of these lands, which secured equal rights in them to all the Queen's subjects, and which apparently afforded an absolute guarantee that nothing wrong could be done in regard to them. The regulations provided that all lands disposed of under them should be divided into town land, suburban land, rural land, mineral land; should be sold by public auction; should only be so sold after survey of the lands; should only be so sold after notice of the intended sale had been given to the public in the New Zealand Government Gazette "of not less than one month, nor more than three months," of the day appointed for the sale, of the locality of such lands, of their acreage, of the terms and upset price at which they were to be offered for sale.

The law also required that all lands should be openly offered for sale in the Land Office of the Province in which they were situated, or in such other place as the Government should, by public notice, direct; that one fourth of the purchase money should be paid at the time of the sale, and the remaining three-fourths within three months after such sale.

The custom of the Land Office also required that immediately after the sale a public notice should be published by the Government giving the date of the

sale, the number, locality, and area of each lot sold, the name of each purchaser, the price per acre paid for each lot.

The fullest publicity was thus to be given to each part of the transaction, and the most effectual guarantees appeared to be interposed to prevent any wrong dealings with these lands.

Nevertheless Mr. Russell, was, by an arrangement, privately concluded, I believe, with Sir J. Vogel in April, 1873, put into the possession of the block of 80,000 acres of land I allude to, on the understanding that he was to pay a very small sum per acre, and to make a road; but of the details of this transaction I am not certain. I use the word "privately" advisedly, because when any of these lands were parted with to one or more of the Queen's subjects, this fact was publicly announced in the *Gazette*. The name of the purchaser was stated, the date of the purchase, and the price given; whilst in the instance I am referring to, the agreement was privately made between two persons, the Minister, who was the giver, and the receiver of the boon. The fact of these lands having been parted with was then not notified, and no announcement, official or otherwise, as far as I, as Superintendent of this Province, can learn, was made of this transaction, whilst in carrying it out, every rule laid down by the law and regulations was broken, and I believe that to the present day no money has been paid for the land.

The Government, with the large sums at its disposal for public works, could have rendered that land a fitting and profitable home for at least four hundred families, on a system of deferred payments, could then have located them there, and thus have placed them in a position which would have ensured their prosperity and future well-being. Four hundred male defenders have thus been lost to a district where it is almost certain that their absence will soon be greatly felt and deplored, for there is in its vicinity a large native population in so unsettled a state that, although an expensive police force is maintained there by the Colony, they dare not even attempt to apprehend a native who is at large, and who the other natives admit to have committed an atrocious and unprovoked murder upon a young European within a few miles of the capital of this Province.

Four hundred producing families and a like number of consumers are also lost to the district, together with the trade and commerce which they would have created.

I would now beg Your Excellency to consider what is the result of a design, if it is quietly carried out and successful, of giving to a favoured individual, unlawfully, a block of 80,000 acres of land. It means this, in the first place, that a large number of families in the vicinity, who labour hard for years, must by their labour, their industry, their devotion to their duty, gradually, by the general improvement they by these means effect in the district, and the general value they give to property in it, greatly enhance the value of every acre of the 80,000 acres unlawfully taken from the public.

Again, the taxation in this Colony, which in part goes to public improvements throughout it, such as railroads, roads, bridges, telegraphs, &c, is raised by duties imposed on all the prime necessities of life, and is in fact a revenue raised almost equally on rich and poor, in proportion to the number of the population. Thus the gradually increasing and ultimately almost necessarily larger population in the vicinity of this unlawfully acquired block of 80,000 acres of land, as well as the population of New Zealand generally, are year by year taxed to give a great value to the vast property of those who in my belief originally injured them, by taking from them

that to which they had no more right than themselves.

I pass over the lasting wrong done to the same people by a tract of such vast extent being unlawfully shut up in such few hands—to the shock given to public morals by such unlawful and unjust dealings with public property being perpetrated on such a large scale; but I wish to point out to Your Excellency that the people who have observed the law, and paid highly and fairly for their small estates, and who, as well as their heirs and descendants, are to labour and to be taxed to make others (wrong-doers) and their heirs and descendants wealthy, must also for many generations occupy a very inferior social position to that of the heirs and descendants of those who have wronged them for such vast disparity of property must lead to social elevations and corresponding degradations.

Had this great disparity of property arisen from lawful and legitimate causes, it would have been a very different question, but, as the Superintendent of this Province, I will make any sacrifice in the world to prevent those who have done wrong from advancing themselves and their heirs in this way, and from degrading their fellow-men and their heirs for generations to come.

If the lands, confiscated in the name of the Crown for certain declared reasons and objects, are not dealt with for the purposes prescribed by the law under which they are taken, but are privately allowed to pass, as great estates, into the hands of others of the Queen's subjects of a different race from those from whom they are taken, then in my belief a very great wrong is committed, which reflects discredit on the nation.

I would further venture to maintain, that in such a case that has been done which may form a precedent for the gravest evils.

For if some of the Queen's subjects, under the name of "Responsible Ministers," can use the name of the Crown, to take, for some offence, from another race under the Queen's rule, and consequently under her protection, large tracts of territory, and have again the power, by making use of the name of the Crown, of privately and unlawfully appropriating valuable portions of these lands to themselves, or their friends, a great danger must be created that, under the existence of so vicious a system, lands might at last be taken, in the name of the Crown, rather for some ulterior personal objects than from the sole desire of securing the general safety and welfare; and nothing could be worse for any country, or reflect more discredit on the Crown and Empire, than the introduction of such a system.

I wish to point out that the objection I thus raise here is not to an individual who may have been a Responsible Minister, or a supporter of such Minister, acquiring at any time directly from the Crown, by lawful and legitimate means, a portion of land which had been confiscated; but what I object to is the unlawful or unfair acquisition of such lands by such persons.

An attempt was made during the last Session of the Assembly to prevent the completion of the transaction of conveying to Mr. Russell 80,000 acres of confiscated land which I am bringing under Your Excellency's notice, but it soon became evident that the matter would be dealt with solely as a party question. I therefore felt strongly the impropriety of attempting to settle in a Legislature disturbed by party feelings and party strife a question which could only be justly and calmly settled in the Courts of Law provided for such purpose. And in pursuance of the resolution I formed of submitting the question

to the legal tribunals, I now respectfully solicit your Excellency to comply with the request I have referred to you, with the view of obtaining the powers requisite to enable me to adopt this course, and to recover, if possible, from those who have taken and held possession of this land for more than three years, the losses this Province may show it has sustained, by settlers having been for so long a period shut out from the occupation of the land, and from having been compelled to contribute so largely to the cost of an expensive Police force, which would have been in great part unnecessary if I could have placed fitting settlers on the land.

I now respectfully request that you will be so good as to transmit to the Secretary of State copies of my three letters to Your Excellency. I can assure you that I make this request with no intention of embarrassing Your Excellency, as you have given me all the aid I ask for in prosecuting my duties, but I wish to bring under the notice of the Home Government and the British Parliament the very serious questions which have arisen here, and from which I believe very important results will inevitably spring.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient
humble servant,

G. GREY.

His Excellency the Governor.

VI. Government House,
Auckland, 29th May, 1876.

SIR,—

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Honor's letter dated the 27th inst., and I beg to inform you that I will forward it to Wellington by next mail for the consideration of my responsible Advisers.

2. I shall have no objections to forwarding this correspondence to the Secretary of State as you request, provided your Honor will furnish me with two more copies of your letters, which will be required for that purpose.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
NORMANBY.

To His Honor the Superintendent
of Auckland.

VII. Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 2nd June, 1876.

MY LORD,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 29th ultimo, informing me that you would have no objections to forwarding copies of a correspondence to the Secretary of State, as I requested, provided I would furnish Your Excellency with two more copies of my letters, which would be required for that purpose.

In reply, I transmit, in compliance with Your Excellency's desire, copies of the letters (as noted in the margin) required by you.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,
G. GREY,

His Excellency the Governor.

ADDITIONAL LICENSES TO KILL GAME.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 2nd June, 1876.

ADDITIONAL Licenses to Kill Game have been issued to the undermentioned persons, in accor-

dance with the provisions of "The Protection of Animals Act, 1873."

READER WOOD,
Provincial Secretary.

- 256. John Runciman, Cambridge.
- 257. Duncan Campbell Sheffield, Bombay.
- 258. John McCabe, Shortland.
- 259. H. E. Morrison, Alexandra.
- 260. Thomas Ching, Auckland.
- 261. George Gundry, "
- 262. E. Lake, "
- 263. C. C. Skarrot, Sydney.
- 264. A. Edmonds, Auckland.
- 265. Albert Harcourt, Sydney.
- 266. William Walters, Papakura.
- 267. W. J. Palmer, Auckland.

[Extract from *New Zealand Gazette* No. 28, dated 18th May, 1875, page 355.]

Tenders.

Public Works Office,
Wellington, 12th May, 1876.

THE following lists of successful and unsuccessful Tenderers are published for general information.

EDWARD RICHARDSON,
Minister for Public Works.

* * *
KAWAKAWA RAILWAY.

CONTRACT No. 1.

	<i>Accepted.</i>	£	s.	d.
William Foughy, Grahamstown ...	5,909	12	0	
<i>Declined.</i>				
Alexander Smith, Grahamstown ...	5,894	0	0	
Alexander Sutherland & Co., do. ...	5,990	8	1	
Daniel Fallon, Auckland ...	6,984	8	6	

NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE
NEWMARKET DISTRICT HIGHWAY
BOARD.

THE Assessment List was finally settled on October 6th, 1875. Rates will be received at the Post Office, Newmarket, where the Rate Book may be inspected.

All Rates not paid within Fourteen days from this date will be sued for.

JOHN MCNEILL,
Chairman.

May 19th, 1876.

NATIVE LANDS COURT.

Notice under the Native Land Act, 1873, of Times and Places for Investigating Claims.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the claims on behalf of themselves and others, of the several persons whose names are mentioned in the first column of the Schedule hereunder written, to the several blocks of land, of which the names and localities are mentioned in the second column, the boundaries of which were published in former notices, will be investigated at Ahipara, Mangonui, on the 21st of June, next, and following days.

A. J. DICKEY,
Chief Clerk.

Auckland, May 19th, 1876.

ADJOURNED CLAIMS.

Name of Claimant.	Name and Locality of Block.	Place where Plan will be deposited for public inspection.
Poharama Karanui, Taniora Te Rapa, Wi Tarapunga, Nopera Mumu, Timoti Puhipi, and Hamiora Rungaiterangi	Te Tauroa, near Ahipara	The maps of such of these lands as have been surveyed can be seen at the Court House of the Resident Magistrate, Mangonui.
Patana Te Maru, Nepia Te Morenga, Hetaraka Komene, Aperahama Panarau, Te Waka Rangaunu, Hare Reweti Hukatere, Peri Te Huhu, and Himi Te Kaka	Orohana, near Pukepoto, Ahipara	
Pene Korako, Henare Te Waharoa, Peri Paraihe, Komene Witiarau, Natana Te Wareumu, Te Rutene Tinirau, Aperahama Pukeroa, Hekiera Tamaho, Henare, Himi Te Kaka, Poharama Karanui, and Henare Pukeroa	Te Epakauri, near Herekino, Hokianga	

He Panuitanga i raro i te Ture Whenua Maori, 1873-74, ki nga tangata e whai take ana ki te whenua kia mohiotia ai te wahi me te ra e tu ai te Kooti hei whakawa i o ratou take.

NA, he Panuitanga tenei kia mohiotia ai, ko te take a nga tangata no ratou nga ingoa e mau nei i te rarangi tuatahi i raro nei, ki nga pihi whenua e mau nei i te rarangi tuarua, ka whakawakia a te 21 o nga ra o Hune, 1876, e te Kooti Whakawa Whenua Maori, ki Ahipara, Mangonui. Ko nga tangata katoa e whai tikanga ana mo aua whenua me haere ki reira.

Ka oti te whakawa, ka puta te Tuhinga Whakamaharatanga Take ki te hunga i kitea tona tika e te Kooti: heoiano, he tino whakaotinga tena; ekore rawa e tika kia peke mai tetahi tangata ki muri.

NA TIKI,
Tino Kaituhituhi.

Kooti Whakawa Whenua Maori,
Akarana, Mei 19, 1876.

He whenua enei kihai i oti i era Whakawakanga. Ko nga rohe kei nga Kahiti o mua.

Ko nga ingoa o nga Kaitono.	Nga ingoa o nga whenua me te Takiwa hoki.	Ko te takatoranga o te mapi.
Poharama Karanui, Taniora Te Rapa, Wi Tarapunga, Nopera Mumu, Tinoti Puhipi, Hamiora Rungaiterangi	Te Tauroa, e tata ana ki Ahipara	Ka kitea nga mapi o nga whenua kua oti te ruri ki te Tari o te Kaiwhakawa Tuturu i Mangonui.
Patana Te Maru, Nepia Te Morenga, Hataraka Komene, Aperahama Panarau, Te Waka Rangaunu, Hare Reweti Hukaterere, Peri Te Huhu, Himi Te Kaka	Orohana, e tata ana ki Pukepoto, wahi o Ahipara	
Pene Korako, Henare Te Waharoa, Peri Paraihe, Komene Witirau, Natana Te Wareumu, Te Rutene Tinirau, Aperahama Pukeroa, Hekiera Tamaho, Henare, Himi Te Kaka, Poharama Karanui, Henare Pukeroa	Te Epakauri, e tata ana ki Herekino, Hokianga	

NATIVE LAND COURT OFFICE.

Auckland, May, 19th, 1876.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Crown Grant to the undermentioned persons for the undermentioned Block of Land in the Province of Auckland, has been forwarded by the Honorable Secretary for Crown Lands to the Registrar of Deeds here for delivery to the Grantees.

A. J. DICKEY,
Chief Clerk.

Name of Block.	Grantees.	District.	Area.		
			A.	R.	P.
Rurunui B	Hori Ngakapa Whanaunga and others	Hauraki	4	0	29