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Superintendent's Office,
8th October, 1862.

THE following copy of a letter from A. Fitzgibbon, Esq., Civil Engineer, respecting the plans for a Pier or Jetty and containing the recommendation by which the Provincial Government will be guided in awarding the premium, is published for general information.

CHARLES BROWN,
Superintendent.

The Dun Mountain Copper
Mining Company, (Limited),
Nelson, New Zealand, 30th Sept., 1862.
To Wm. Northcroft, Esq.,
Provincial Secretary, Taranaki.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th inst., together with the accompanying plans, &c., for a Jetty at New Plymouth.

In compliance with the desire expressed in your letter that I would examine the plans referred to, and report to you upon the same, with a view to aiding your Government in awarding the premium promised in the Superintendent's advertisement of the 21st of June; I beg to say that I have carefully gone into the merits of the several designs sent to me.

The information necessary for enabling me to determine which of the designs is the best, and most suited for the requirements specified in the Superintendent's advertisement, is not so full as I could have wished; but fortunately I have been able to gather much of what I desired to know from Mr. J. C. Richmond, whose knowledge of your roadstead is of course known to you.

This enables me to avoid the delay which else would have arisen by my referring to you for the additional information which I wished to have.

Of the 5 designs sent to me I am decidedly of opinion that that signed "Taranaki" is the best, and for the following reasons:—

1st. The site selected is in my opinion the best. This opinion is based upon the information which I have been able to collect from the several plans and accompanying papers, as well as from other sources. The direction of the line of proposed Jetty might be better if placed due North.

2nd. The proposal to divert the channel of the Huatoki river at its outfall, so that it may run alongside the proposed Jetty is a good one, and is provided for only in the plans signed "Taranaki."

3rd. Upon an open beach such as that at New Plymouth, the shelter which could be afforded to boats loading or discharging cargo, by an open-piled Jetty would be very slight indeed.

Moreover it is not at all clear that piles would be secure in that particular position, the rock being most probably at no great depth below the sandy bottom, and the sand overlaying the rock being liable to shift in heavy gales.

I therefore consider "Taranaki's" idea of having a solid Jetty, instead of an open one as proposed by the other competitors the better proposition of the two.

All things being considered my recommendation is that "Taranaki" be awarded the premium.

In conclusion I beg to say that the drawings sent in by all of the competitors—with the exception of those signed "Publico," reflect much credit upon the designers.

I have, &c.,

A. FITZGIBBON,

C. E.

LINES OF ROAD.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 8th October, 1862.

THE subject of Roads being now under the consideration of the Provincial Council, it is requested that the owners or occupiers of sections not having practicable lines of Road to them will at once forward an application upon the subject to this Office; and it is likewise requested that claims for compensation on account of lines of Road being taken through private lands may be forwarded to this Office before the 31st Decemher next, after which date no claims will be admitted.

CHARLES BROWN,
Superintendent.