

C—No. 3.

Paetai Court House,
July 31st, 1857.

Appendix C.

NATIVE CORRESPONDENCE.

Friend the Governor,—

Salutations to you. This is our word to you, we wish to sow our land with grass, and do you give us some seed. We wish to keep sheep, and our land is good, and Mr. Fenton has seen it. We have nine fields (or portions): do you give us 30 bags of good seed, and let it be without sorrel. So send our words to you from us.

Recommended that the writers be informed that grass seed may be purchased in Auckland at 9s per bushel.

T. H. SMITH.
Aug. 13th.

His Excellency the Governor,
Auckland.

From WIREMU WHEORO,
PENE WHAREPU,
KEREIHI KUKUTAI,
And all our Tribes.

Recommended.
E. W. STAFFORD.
Aug. 20, 1857.
Approved—T. G. B.,
Aug. 29.

This letter is dated July 13, and has a Minute on dated August 13, but only reached me on the 29th.—T. G. B., Aug. 29.

Memorandum for the Hon. the Colonial Secretary—The question of the Government making a present of grass seed to Waikato Natives was, as will be seen by other letters (T57, 941, herewith) on the same subject, under consideration just before, and not, I think, altogether decided when the Colonial Treasurer left. The Colonial Treasurer, I presume, kept this application until that decision was made, in order that a similar principle might be applied to these applicants. It will be seen that the writers of this letter do not ask for information as to the market price of grass seed, but solicit a present of "thirty bags of good seed.—W. GIBBORNE, 30th Aug. 1857.

Mr. Baker—Reply to writers in accordance with Minute.—T. H. SMITH, Sept. 7th.

C—No. 4.

Taupiri, Waikato,
August 5th, 1857.

Friend the Governor,—

Salutations to you. This is our word to you, do you listen; we wish to commence rearing sheep, and we have allotted a piece of ground for that purpose; it is an old cultivation, the fern is all dead, and it is in good order. We wish to sow our land with grass and clover, lest it be overrun with sorrel, and other noxious weeds. But we have no seed, therefore O our father, we request you to give us some seed. We wish to sow the land this year, lest the ground be overrun with evil weeds. Mr. Fenton has seen the length and breadth of the land, and he will be able to tell you more about it, as he has heard all we have to say. This is all.

Should His Excellency approve of the suggestion contained in a Minute by the Assistant Native Secretary upon a letter addressed to the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer by Mr. Fenton in connection with this subject, and that gentleman be willing to undertake the necessary arrangements, the writer may be referred to him. The reply to Takerei should express His

From TAKEREI TE RAU.
TANETI PAETURI.

Excellency's satisfaction on hearing that the people of Waikato are turning their attention to sheep farming and the improvement of their waste lands — T. H. SMITH, Aug. 11th.

Approved—T. G. B., Aug. 14.

Mr. Baker—Reply accordingly —T. H. S., Aug. 17.

C—No. 5.

Auckland, August 20, 1857.

Friends,—

Salutations to you. Your letter has been received by the Governor, in which you ask to be supplied with grass and clover seed to sow your land. His Excellency says that he will send word to Mr. Fenton about this matter, and if he is willing to undertake the business, then you two can apply to him.

Friends, His Excellency is very much pleased that the people of Waikato are turning their attention to this work, viz., keeping sheep and sowing the waste lands and old cultivations with grass and clover; this is a very good work in His Excellency's estimation.

From your friend,

To Takerei Te Rau and Taneti Paetuti,
Taupiri, Waikato.

T. H. SMITH.

C—No. 6.

Auckland, September 29, 1857.

Friend the Governor,—

Salutations to you. Do you hearken. Do you give me Fifty Pounds (£50) to purchase grass and clover (seed) to enable us to grow good grasses. These are the names of the men; I now tell them to you, Takerei, Taneti, Pukewhau, Karaka Hika Parati, Te Kereihi, Te Kau Te Kapihana, Te Ponui, Takoki, Ratima, Wiremu Te Wheoro.

It is submitted that Takerei owes the Government £210, and at the rate of his present requirements in land, grass seed, sheep, &c., his professed loyalty is becoming too expensive; more especially as it is pretty evident that it proceeds

From TAKEREI.

from mercenary motives. In this case, however, the Government appear to be more or less pledged to give assistance; I therefore submit that a sum not exceeding £10 may be advanced to Takerei to expend in the purchase of grass seed.—DONALD McLEAN, 1st October, 1857.

Takerei was informed verbally that £10 would be advanced to him, but he never applied for the money; he complained that the sum was insufficient.—T. H. S. As the faith of the Government is pledged in this instance, it is most essential especially with reference to the present Native feeling in the Waikato district, that the promise be adhered to. Takerei's loyalty may be expensive, so is the turbulence and disloyalty of many other Natives—Te Wherowhero to wit. I am not aware that he is more mercenary than others, if the loan and present system pursued for years is to be taken as a criterion. I should like to have the particulars of the £210 debited to him.—E. W. S., October 3, 1857.

Approved—T. G. B., October 6.

TAKEREI—For a horse, Dec. 1853, £80, for plough ditto £10, for a mill Sept. 1856, £160—Total, £250. Repaid on account of first loan, £40. Balance, £210.