

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE PETITION OF A. B. ABRAHAM.

No. 1.

Auckland,
31st August, 1861.

SIR,—

I do myself the honor of enclosing a printed copy of the Report of the Committee of Private Grievances on the Petition of Augustus Brown Abraham, with remarks upon certain paragraphs which appear to require explanation from me.

I have, &c.,
FRED. A. CARRINGTON.

The Hon. Wm. Fox,
Colonial Secretary

Enclosure in No. 1.

NOTE 1.

"The 27th Clause of the Petition.".....(Page 4. Par. No. 3.)

I most unequivocally state that I did threaten to memorialize the Colonial Government and the Imperial Parliament. The threat was not regarded as absurd at the time I made it—for the Colonial Government and Parliament did not know the injustice the Bill inflicted on Waitara claimants. Is it absurd to suppose that were a town laid out on the contemplated site at Waitara, that people would be deterred from investing in buildings and other improvements upon land which an honorable and equitable tribunal would compel them to surrender to the rightful owners?

NOTE 2.

*"Mr. Carrington will, I have no doubt, confirm my statement on this subject.....
(Page 4. Par. 6.)*

I do.

NOTE 3.

"Every one, therefore, who accepted.".....(Page 6. Par. 4.)

Before I agreed to accept "the supplementary or compensation land orders" offered by the New Zealand Company, in their circular of the 6th October, 1849, I called at the New Zealand House, and was there informed that by accepting the said proffered compensation I should in no way invalidate my claim to the land I had formerly selected and taken possession of at Waitara. On the contrary, I was assured that I might retain my holding until the land was acquired from the Natives. At subsequent periods, I was also assured by the Chairman of the said Company that every effort on their part would be made to obtain the Waitara land for the purpose of handing it over to the several claimants.

NOTE 4.

"There is only one other point.".....(Page 6. Par. 7.)

My letter, addressed to Mr. Abraham on the 31st January, 1861, I believe to be strictly correct. The amended Bill of 1858, as it was first framed, gave to New Plymouth land claimants one acre of town land, or $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres of suburban land or 50 acres of rural land for every 50 acres which they formerly selected. The only means *I have at hand* to prove this statement is that, in my letter addressed to the Hon. C. W. Richmond on the 2nd August, 1858, I state that "I am willing to abide by the conditions of *clause 8 of the amended Act*, substituting for $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres of suburban land $37\frac{1}{2}$ acres, for 50 acres of rural land, 75 acres." It was the *amended Act of 1858* from which I quoted the quantity of acres proposed to be given and not from the *Scrip Act of 1856*.

NOTE 5.

"Mr. Carrington admits that it was "after asking Mr. Richmond to give him a copy of the Bill as it now stood.".....(Page 6. Par. 7.)

The quotation—"After asking Mr. Richmond to give him a copy of the Bill *as it now stood*"—would lead Members to believe that, when I asked Mr. Richmond to give me a copy of the Bill, it was worded precisely *as it now is*. This is not the fact. And, first, I would