

344. I know nothing of the seventh allegation beyond seeing a deed from Poari Kuramate to Mr. H. S. Taylor at the rate of 15s. per acre, I believe.

345. *Mr. Worgan.*] You have referred to a letter from H. S. Taylor; will you tell me whether this is the letter? [Copy of letter produced, marked, dated 21st March, 1872, and read.]—I believe letter produced to be the letter I referred to. (Copy annexed.)

346. Do you remember any conversation taking place in reference to Colonel McDonnell?—I remember on one or two occasions your suggesting the desirability of Colonel McDonnell being employed as an interpreter in these matters.

347. Will you state object of conversation?—I think you said the object was that it would be disadvantageous to employ an interpreter not connected in some way with the Government.

348. Do you consider, during those conversations, I was appearing in my official or private capacity?—Official capacity, decidedly. I may add to my evidence that I understood from Mr. Bunny that Colonel McDonnell would assist in these matters.

349. *Mr. Perham.*] Did not Mr. Worgan state that the reason he wished Colonel McDonnell to act as interpreter was to keep the matters within their own knowledge as Government officers?—Certainly; and I saw the advantage myself, as I knew a number of private individuals were trying to obtain confiscated lands.

350. Did you understand from Mr. Bunny that Colonel McDonnell was positively instructed to assist in these matters?—I understood that he was instructed to assist, and I had several conversations with him on the subject.

351. Do you remember, on the 27th March last, Mr. Worgan showing you a telegram of that date from Mr. Fitzherbert to him? [Copy of telegram read and annexed, marked C.]—I have no particular recollection of this telegram, as I saw a good deal of correspondence about that time.

352. From your knowledge of the transaction, what do you understand from the wording of the telegram, "I leave the negotiation for leasing to you, trusting to your judgment"?—I certainly understood the matter to be left in the way as stated in the telegram.

HATA RIO being recalled on his former oath, said:

353. *Mr. Booth.*] Hata Rio, in his evidence, stated he sold his land for £400, and that he received £200. To whom does he look for the remainder?—I do not know.

354. Who did you suppose you sold your land to?—Mr. Worgan and I had a conversation.

355. Did you sign a receipt for the whole of the £400? [Mr. Perham at this point objects to this evidence being recalled for the purpose of answering questions which have already been answered. The Commissioner rules that this question has not been answered.]—I did not write any receipt. Mr. Worgan wrote something and I signed it. It was the paper handed into Court yesterday.

356. Have you got anything to represent the £200 still owing to you?—I have nothing to show. If I had any paper I should have handed it in. All I had was handed into Court yesterday.

357. Have you ever made application for the remainder of this £400?—No.

358. *Mr. Perham.*] Whom do you hold liable to pay you the balance?—I do not know. If I had a paper, that would show me to whom to apply.

359. Having sold his land to Mr. Taylor, and having received a portion of the purchase money, to whom does he look for the remainder?—Mr. Worgan spoke to me.

360. Do you expect Mr. Worgan to get the money from Mr. Taylor for him?—It is for Mr. Worgan to speak to Mr. Taylor, as Mr. Worgan made the arrangement. It is not for me.

361. Was not, therefore, Mr. Worgan acting for both of them, as a sort of go-between?—He was.

362. At the time you signed your name to the deed, were you not fully aware that Taylor was the purchaser, and that you had to look to Mr. Taylor through Mr. Worgan for the balance of his purchase money?—It was understood that Mr. Worgan told him he (Mr. Worgan) would get the balance of the money from Mr. Taylor for me. When I sold the land I understood I would get the whole of the purchase money.

363. *The Court.*] Who do you think owes you the money?—I do not know. If I had any paper I should know.

364. Who will you apply to for the paper?—Mr. Worgan, perhaps.

*Direction by the Commissioner.*] You must apply for the paper to whoever owes you the money, and produce it to me to-morrow in Court.

WILLIAM FAIRWEATHER RUSSELL deposed on oath:

I know nothing of the allegations. I had something to do with Hata Rio's land several years ago. Hata Rio owed me £73; he promised to sell me, I think, 400 acres, and the £73 was to be in part payment of the purchase money; the Government were aware of my negotiations with Hata Rio. The Government wrote to him stating that I could take possession of the land when the war was over. I have not those letters; they were either mislaid or lost by Hata Rio or Mr. Edward Broughton; the only letters I had were sent to Mr. Pharazyn, Commissioner of Confiscated Lands, Wanganui. I had then given up all intention or expectation of purchasing the land. I wrote officially to Mr. Pharazyn stating I would give up my claim if he would assist me in recovering my money from Hata Rio, or something to that effect. Mr. Pharazyn referred me to Mr. Worgan. I saw Mr. Worgan on the subject, he promised to send for Hata Rio, who was then up the Coast, asking him to come down and make some arrangement with him. A short time after Hata Rio came to town, he called to see me; he said he intended to sell his lands, and he would pay me. He told me about the 1st or 2nd of April, 1872, that he had sold his land, and that he would pay me on the following day. About the 2nd April, 1872, he told me he had left the money with Mr. Worgan, and that Mr. Worgan would pay me the £73 on the following day. On the 3rd April, 1872, Mr. Worgan paid me £73 on account of Hata Rio.