

149. Where does the Native whose name is here—302 on the roll—live? Does he not live some two miles from your place?—Yes.

150. Did you not say in the Court that these Natives all lived about two hundred yards from your house?—No.

151. Did you not say at the Court, "I saw those persons in consequence of the first interview I had with Major Pitt; they (meaning the Natives) live about 200 yards from my house"?—Yes.

152. *Mr. Shaw.*] There are four Herewinis mentioned. I suppose Herewini is a family name, and the other names are distinctive?—Yes.

153. You say positively it was not until these Maoris began to talk about what they had received that you spoke about the matter. After it became known, then you told a large number of people?—Yes; I was asked whether it was true, and I said, "Yes, it is."

The Committee adjourned.

THURSDAY, 27TH JULY, 1876.

THOMAS JOSEPH HENSHAW examined on oath.

154. *Mr. Shaw.*] What is your name?—Thomas Joseph Henshaw.

155. You live at Tauranga?—Yes.

156. About the end of last year did you see Captain Read?—Yes, Sir.

157. It was in December, I think?—Yes; in December.

158. What are you?—At present, I am keeping a private family hotel at Tauranga.

159. At that time, I believe Captain Read was a candidate for the East Coast District in the House of Representatives?—Yes.

160. Where was it you saw him?—At Gisborne.

161. Had you any conversation with him then?—Yes; I had had frequent conversations with him.

162. Did you offer your services to him in any capacity?—Yes; I did offer my services as his canvassing agent to go to Tauranga.

163. You acted as his agent in what respect?—As canvassing agent for him.

164. In connection with the election?—Yes, Sir.

165. When did you receive that offer?—He employed me, and said I was to go to Tauranga.

166. Did you take steps to go there?—Yes. How do you mean?

167. Did you take steps to go? Did you put yourself in the way of getting to the place where you were to act as his canvassing agent?—Yes, I did.

168. Were you to act generally in connection with the election, or how?—Captain Read simply told me to go up and use my influence, and to do all I could to secure him votes; in fact, to act as his canvassing agent.

169. Did he give you any money?—Yes; £20 previous to my starting. It was a cheque for £20 which he gave me.

170. And did you get to Tauranga?—I went to Napier first, and from there to Tauranga.

171. Did you get any more money there?—Yes; I telegraphed to Captain Read for money, and he sent me £25 more at Tauranga, to liquidate my expenses.

172. To whom did that money come?—Through the Telegraph Department to me. I got it from Mr. Sheath, the Postmaster.

173. Did you see Major Pitt there at all?—Yes; he arrived the day after I did.

174. At this time, when you were engaged by Captain Read to go there as his agent, did you know that there was any committee at Gisborne?—Well, if there was a committee, I did not know anything at all about it. Captain Read was the only person to whom I spoke on the subject.

175. Did you know, of your own knowledge, that there was a committee there?—Not before I started.

176. How soon after your arrival was it that you saw Major Pitt?—I will not be positive in swearing as to the date. I think it was the following night I met him, in the *Times* office.

177. And you say that, so far as you know, there was no committee when you left Gisborne?—I had nothing to do with any committee before I left Gisborne.

178. Had you any conversation with Major Pitt?—Yes, I had.

179. What did he say to you on that occasion?—He told me that he had come up as agent for Captain Read, by way of Opotiki. I came the other route from Napier.

180. Were these the exact words he used?—Yes; that he had come up as agent for Captain Read.

181. Did you continue to act at the election at all?—Yes, I continued to act, but under Major Pitt's surveillance or jurisdiction, as it were.

182. Did you look to him as the head agent?—Yes.

183. Did you incur any expenses?—I did, Sir.

184. Were they paid to you?—Major Pitt paid them.

185. Did you go to Gisborne after the election?—I did.

186. Did you see Captain Read there?—I did, Sir.

187. Did you say anything to him?—Yes, Sir, I spoke to him about——I scarcely understand your question.

188. What did you talk to him about?—I asked him for my expenses for having acted as his agent. We had a long conversation.

189. Did you find any fault with him?—I found fault with him for not paying me for my work, or not giving me what I was justly entitled to.