

190. Did you say anything about his having appointed Major Pitt?—I asked him how it was that he appeared not to have the same opinion of me as he had prior to my starting, and he said it was owing to information received from Tauranga, or from some other place—I think he said Tauranga—that he found I was not a popular man in Tauranga and the wrong man to send, and that, consequently, he was compelled to send Major Pitt as agent for him. He said that distinctly.

191. Did you see Major Pitt from the time that you were at Tauranga, after the first meeting with him, acting in connection with the election?—Oh, yes; we were acting together all the time.

192. What part did he seem to take in it?—He seemed to be the head agent, and I simply acted under his orders.

193. Did he direct everything as an agent, authoritatively?—Yes. A question arises, what constitutes a head agent? He gave me money to liquidate the expenses, and that sort of thing. In fact, he took everything out of my hands.

194. And you acted under him?—Yes.

195. And Captain Read distinctly told you that he had, from something he had heard about you not being popular at Tauranga, superseded you, and appointed Major Pitt?—He did not say he superseded me. He said he was compelled to send Major Pitt as his agent, after me.

196. *Mr. Barton.*] Now, Mr. Henshaw, I will read over some notes I have taken of your evidence. You say you received £20 on leaving Captain Read; that at Tauranga you telegraphed for £25 more, and got it; that you saw Major Pitt at Edgumbe's office, and learned that he was to be chief agent; that you had nothing to do with any committee, as Captain Read employed you?—That was when I left Gisborne.

197. Yes; I am simply reading my rough notes, and asking you as to their correctness. I understood you to say that you had nothing to do with any committee, and when you came up they did not consider you had anything to do with any committee, because you were employed by Captain Read?—Yes; I knew of no committee at this time.

198. But at any time; did you know at any time after you came to Tauranga?—I knew of no committee until after I had started from Gisborne, and had nothing to do with the committee up to this time.

199. Did you not say, "I had nothing to do with any committee at any time"?—I did not say that.

200. Well, did you have anything to do with any committee at any time?—I had in this way: by applying to the committee for payment, and tendering my account. The chairman, Mr. Wilson, wrote to me a letter in return to my application, saying that as the committee did not employ me, they could not pay me, and referring me to Captain Read for payment.

201. Very well. You say you saw Major Pitt on his arrival, and that he told you he had come up on behalf of Read; and that, afterwards, you acted under him?—Yes.

202. And he paid you all the expenses you had incurred?—Yes.

203. How much?—It was £21 2s. 6d.

204. This was in addition to the £25 and the £20?—Yes.

205. Afterwards, when you spoke to Captain Read at Gisborne, he said it was in consequence of your unpopularity that he had been compelled to send Major Pitt?—Yes.

206. Now, I ask you this. You found Pitt at Tauranga the day of your arrival, and he then said this to you. How could Captain Read, in the course of probably twelve or thirteen hours, or perhaps less, have found out that you were unpopular?—I do not know how he found it out. He told me I had not left many hours before he found it out.

207. He found he had been hasty in appointing you?—Yes.

208. Captain Read was flush of money, I presume, seeing that after he had given you £45, you got another £21 2s. 6d. from him, notwithstanding that he had discovered you were unpopular, and in fact, twelve or thirteen hours after you left, had deemed it necessary to send some one else up because of your unpopularity?—So he told me.

209. Do you mean to say that, after he had sent some one up to supersede you, he allowed you to incur £21 2s. 6d. more in expenses?—Pitt did not supersede me exactly; and as to letting me incur the expenses, that was done by Pitt.

210. Now, is your relation of facts correct?—Yes. Captain Read said that owing to his having received information of my unpopularity shortly after I left, he had therefore sent Pitt up as principal agent.

211. He must have sent him up within two or three hours after you left?—That may be.

212. May I ask you this: Notwithstanding your unpopularity, he did not dismiss you?—Certainly not.

213. Notwithstanding this great unpopularity, they thought it necessary to keep you and use you?—Yes, it seemed so.

214. I want to know this: After you received the £66 2s. 6d.—for that was in all the amount you received—did you get a horse and saddle and bridle?—Yes; Mr. Read had authorized me to get that.

215. And you did receive them?—Yes.

216. Yes; well now after all this, did you not send in a bill for more?—I did; I went back to Gisborne and asked for more money.

217. Did you get it?—No.

218. Did you employ lawyers to sue Captain Read for it?—I did not; I spoke to Mr. Rees.

219. Did you not instruct Messrs. Tyler and Rees to proceed against him?—I did not employ them. I spoke to Mr. Rees, and asked him what I ought to do. I had no money with which to employ him.

220. Did you not instruct them to send Captain Read a letter?—I did not; but I believe they did send him a letter.

221. Did you not read the letter?—I did not.