

clerk one evening told me of a telegram which came from Wellington. I do not remember the month. I said I knew that, three hours before Mr. Wilson got it. We were both rather in liquor. I forget what it was about. I knew nothing of it before; I was only joking. I may have mentioned it to other parties.

GEORGE EDWARD READ, sworn :

I reside at Gisborne. I recollect Judge Rogan often staying with me. No conversation has ever taken place at my house about cases coming before the Court but once; and then, when I mentioned some business that was before the Court, he got very angry, and said he was not there to talk business, and would leave my house if I entered upon such subjects. He has never favoured me. His leanings are towards Maoris in cases where I was concerned on the other side. I have no mortgage over Waingaromia, but I have securities over other properties of Mr. Cooper's.

CHRISTOPHER MOORE WILSON, sworn :

*In answer to Mr. J. A. Wilson.*] I have been clerk to Mr. J. A. Wilson. I remember 12th April last; I took a telegram to the post office, addressed by you to the Native Minister. I did not see you receive a reply. On the morning of Good Friday, 14th, you took the reply out of your pocket, and I filed it. I think it was marked as received the evening before (13th), about 7 o'clock. Mr. Cooper told me, I think on the evening of the 13th, about 5 o'clock, that he heard Wilson was going to Wellington, but the Government did not want to see him. The telegram from the Native Minister was to ask Mr. Wilson to write instead of going. I had not communicated to any one the contents of the telegram I took to the office on the 12th. On the morning of the 13th March, McKay said he heard you were going to Wellington. He told me afterwards that Cooper had told him. Cooper seemed to know what was going on. He told me he did not want to know from me what was going on, as he knew from Wellington.

*Cross-examined.*] I do not know that I was drinking at that time. I remember distinctly about the telegram. If any one swears that I was drunk on the evening of the 13th, I cannot say whether it was true or not.

The Commission adjourned at half-past 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER, 1876.

WI MAHIKA, sworn :

I live at Waerengahika, and belong to the Itamakaki tribe. I know Waingaromia No. 2, also Pita te Huhu. We belong to the same tribe, Ngaitamatea *hapu*. I am a chief of that *hapu*, one of the principal. I remember the Court at Tolago in April. I went there for the purpose of passing that land through the Court with Pita and others. It was my intention at that time to sell to Mr. Cooper. I was called on by the Court—I and Panapa. Panapa told the Court our claim and Pita's were joined together. Hone, Pita's son, stood up and consented. Panapa belongs to the same *hapu* as myself; our claims to this land are equal. [Evidence ruled inadmissible as to any misconduct of Judge towards this witness at any other Court than the one in April, because no such charge has been stated; Mr. Wilson stating that the witness would state that he felt aggrieved at having been refused a hearing. The same remark applies to another witness, Nepia Tokitahi.] Rutene Kuhu-kuhu is son of Pirika. They have a right to the Parariki portion of Waingaromia No. 2.

*Cross-examined.*] I have not been admitted by the Court as an owner. I heard so.

HENARE POTAE, sworn :

I am chief of the Aetangahauti and Whenuaarua, from other side of river at Gisborne to the Mawhai towards East Cape. I am the principal chief of this generation of those tribes. Our boundary includes Waingaromia No. 2; proper names are Parariki and Tauwhareparae. Mr. Wilson was the first person to negotiate and pay money on the lands, in October, 1874. I should have known if any one else had been previously negotiating for it. I am the principal owner of Parariki and Tauwhareparae. After payment of money by Mr. Wilson, he sent out, with the consent of the chiefs, to have the land explored. After the explorations public meetings were held at Uawa. We received £1,000 at that meeting. It was upon Tauwhareparae and Huiarua. Parariki and Arakihi were a separate transaction—they were sales. All these things were done in a most public manner. The chiefs who had claims to the land, and the people, were there; they shared in the money then and subsequently. I am not aware of any objection to the transaction, or any interference. I have not heard of any opposition by Pita te Hehu. He had a survey going on, but we thought it was Waingaromia only. The survey was over before we knew its extent. There was some talk of interfering with the survey, but I said, "Let the Court decide." I heard that Pita had sold to Mr. Cooper at the Court at Makaraka. I saw the notice from Captain Porter about the Court, in July, 1875. I did not come. I wrote a letter in reply. Wi Peiwhairangi and Henare Ruru came. I did not come because of illness. Wished the investigation to be had when the surveys were completed. We applied to the Government to have the land protected by Proclamation. I wrote the letter. There was no objection on the part of the Natives. I have not heard whether Pita had any objection. I never offered a sum of money to the Assessor. His evidence (as read) is not true on that subject. I do not know of any offer of the kind to Mr. Rogan. I might have said so when I was tipsy. I remember the Court at Uawa in April last. When I appeared in Waingaromia No. 2, I was the first man to get up and speak. I asked not to go on with the investigation under the name of Waingaromia No. 2. The Court did not consent. I proposed that the Parariki and Tauwhareparae portions should be heard under those names, and Waingaromia No. 2 is a new name. The Court did not consent. I expressed myself in an angry manner, and so did Mr. Rogan. I said in an angry manner that I would not go on with the investigation. I did say Mr.