I.—2. 6 REPORT ON PETITION of the CHAIRMAN of the WAIKATO COUNTY COUNCIL. THE petitioner states that owing to want of funds, the county is unable to reconstruct certain bridges on the main line of road which are in a dangerous state, and prays that a vote be passed for this I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration. T. KELLY, Chairman. 21st August, 1877. REPORT ON PETITION OF ADAM JOHN McCluskey. THE petitioner states that he was compelled to resign his position in the Otago Constabulary Force, and prays for inquiry. I am directed to report that the Committee have no recommendation to make in the petitioner's T. KELLY, case. 21st August, 1877. Chairman. REPORT ON PETITION OF JAMES MORKANE. THE petitioner states that owing to ill health he applied to be sent before a medical board, but was instead discharged from the service without any compensation. He prays that compensation be awarded him. I am directed to report that the Committee have no recommendation to make in the petitioner's T. KELLY, case. Chairman. 21st August, 1877. REPORT ON PETITION of the INHABITANTS OF PALMERSTON NORTH. THE petitioners pray that a bridge be constructed across the Manawatu River. I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration. T. KELLY, Chairman. 21st August, 1877. REPORT ON PETITION Of the INHABITANTS OF PALMERSTON and FITZHERBERTON. THE petitioners pray that a road be constructed on the south side of the Manawatu River, to connect the Napier, Wellington, and Wairarapa main lines of road with the bridge lately constructed across the said river. I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration. 21st August, 1877. Chairman. REPORT ON PETITIONS OF ROBERT CALDWELL REID and of WILLIAM RYLEY, both of HOKITIKA. THE petitioners state that they entered into a contract with the Government to print one hundred copies in each year, in 1875 and 1876, of the electoral roll of the Totara District. Payment was

refused on the ground that the work had been given to two offices, and that the Government could only pay one of such offices. Petitioners pray for inquiry and relief.

I am directed to report that, as it appears that the contracts were duly entered into, the Com-

mittee recommend the prayer of petitioners to the favourable consideration of the House.

T. KELLY,

21st August, 1877.

Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION OF VINCENT EDWARD RICE.

THE petitioner states that he was in the employ of the late Provincial Government of Auckland, and on being informed that his services were no longer required, he applied for and obtained compensation for loss of office, but on applying for countersignature to the cheque for £252 15s. 6d. allowed as compensation, it was refused on the ground of his appointment to the office of Secretary to the Education Board of Auckland. That by such refusal petitioner suffers serious injury, and prays that steps be taken to remedy the grievance complained of.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that as the petitioner is now in the service of the Education Board, at a salary not less than he received in his former situation, he has no claim for a retiring allowance.

21st August, 1877.

T. KELLY,

Chairman.

REPORT ON PETITION of FREDERICK J. Moss.

THE petitioner states that he was appointed in 1872 Secretary to the Auckland Education Board, and continued to hold that position up to the 13th November, 1876. That on the 15th of December the Board met, and, on the casting vote of the Chairman, Mr. Vincent Rice was appointed Secretary to the Board, and the petitioner to the office of Treasurer, which is inferior in importance and lower in salary. Petitioner prays for inquiry and redress for the injustice inflicted on him.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that Mr. Moss has been harshly dealt with in being removed from the office of Secretary to a lower one; but as it appears that the Education