

No. 98.—Petition of SUSANNAH SORENSON.

THE petitioner states that land in the Waikato to which she and her brothers had a claim was confiscated by reason of the rebellion of the tribes of that district; that she did not prefer her claim before the Compensation Court, because of her youth, and the absence of her father. She complains that an inquiry recommended by a Committee of the House last session has not been duly held, and prays for relief.

I am directed to report as follows:—

That such slight evidence as the Committee have been able to obtain in reference to the alleged claims of the petitioner does not lead to the belief that there is much reality in them. The Committee cannot therefore recommend that specific action be taken for her relief.

2nd October, 1878.

[TRANSLATION.]

Te Pukapuka-inoi a SUSANNAH SORENSON.

E ki ana te kai-inoi i tangohia mo te hara o te iwi etahi whenua i whai take ai ratou ko ona tungane, kahore ia i whai kupu ki te aroaro o te Kooti Whakawa mo nga whenua i tangohia notemea he tamaiti rawa ia a i te ngaro hoki tona papa. E ki ana ia i runga i tona ngakau pouri kihai i uiuia etahi mea i whakahaua kia uiuia e tetahi Komiti o te Whare o tera tau a e tono ana ia kia whakaorangia ia.

Kua whakahaua ahau kia ki penei atu ki te Whare:—

I runga i nga kupu ruarua i whakapuakina i te aroaro o te Komiti mo nga tono a te kai-inoi kahore te Komiti e whakaae he tikanga nui kei ana tono no reira i kore ai te Komiti e tohutohu atu kia mahia he tikanga whakaora.

Oketopa 2, 1878.

No. 206.—Petition of WI PARATA.

THE petitioner sets forth that he has lately been a member of the House of Representatives and also a member of the Cabinet; that, acting on behalf of his tribe, he brought a suit in equity, the nature of which is set forth in the petition, against the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Wellington, which proving abortive, he incurred personally costs to the amount of £391 12s. 4d. He prays that, as he brought the suit on public grounds, his costs may be recouped to him from the public funds of the colony.

I am directed to report as follows:—

That a petition was presented to the House of Representatives in 1876, signed by Wi Parata and eighteen other persons, setting forth the grievance, afterwards tested in the Supreme Court, as recited in the present petition. The report of the Native Affairs Committee in that year was as follows:—

“The petitioners pray that land granted by their tribe to the Bishop of New Zealand may be restored to them, the conditions of the grant not having been complied with. I am directed to report as follows: That the educational reserve referred to in the petition is a block of land situated at Porirua, in the Province of Wellington, containing 500 acres, which in the year 1850 was conveyed by Natives of Ngatitoo and Ngatiraukawa Tribes to the Bishop of Wellington in trust for religious and educational purposes. There can be no doubt, from the terms of the grant, that the erection and maintenance of a school at Porirua formed the principal condition of the trust, and it seems equally clear, from the evidence taken by this Committee, that a school has not been erected. Moreover, it does not appear that there is any intention on the part of the trustees to fulfil the condition of the trust. The Committee are not prepared to say that it would now be either wise or expedient to erect a school on this particular piece of land for the purposes indicated in the grant, and still less are they disposed to recommend that legislative action should be taken for the conveyance of the land in question to the petitioners. But your Committee are of opinion that, if many educational reserves are similarly situated to this one, the present position of the religious, charitable, and educational trusts of the colony requires the most serious and careful consideration of the House.

“19th July, 1876.”

“JOHN BRYCE.

The Committee cannot recommend that the petitioner's law expenses should be refunded to him by the colony, as such a course would form a very dangerous precedent.

2nd October, 1878.

[TRANSLATION.]

Te Pukapuka-inoi a WI PARATA.

E ki ana te kai-inoi he mema ia, i mua ake nei, o te Runanga Nui he minita hoki ia, a i timataria e ia tetahi whakawa a ratou ko tona iwi ki te Pihopa o Werengitana, hinga ana taua whakawa a tau ana ki a Wi Parata te utunga o nga moni e £391 12s. 4d. E tono ana ia notemea i timataria e ia tenei mahi whakawa i runga i te tikanga mo te katoa kia utua taua moni i roto i nga moni o te iwi.

Kua whakahaua ahau kia ki penei atu ki te Whare:—

I tukua e Wi Parata me ona hoa 18 tetahi pukapuka-inoi i te tau 1876 ki te Runanga Nui he whakaatu i te mea i whakawakia i muri iho i te Kooti Hupirimi. Ko tenei te kupu a te Komiti o taua tau:—

“E tono ana nga Kai-inoi kia whakahokia ki a ratou tetahi whenua, i tukua e to ratou iwi ki te Pihopa o Niu Tireni, notemea kahore i ea nga tikanga o te karaati.

“Kua whakahaua ahau kia whakapuakina tenei kupu e au:—Ko taua whenua tikanga kura e whaka-huatia ana i roto i te pukapuka-inoi kei Porirua i roto i te Porowini o Werengitana, te nui o taua whenua 500 eka i tukua i te tau 1850 e nga tangata o Ngatitoo o Ngatiraukawa ki te Pihopa o Niu Tireni kia tiakina e ia hei painga mo nga tikanga o te whakapono o te whakaako hoki. Kahore he