

3.—*Minute by the Under-Secretary, 25th September.—(Extract.)*

HON. MR. STAFFORD,—This is Major Kemp's reply: He is evidently annoyed at the directions for the Maoris to come away from Waitotara. I take his telegram to mean this: "I will carry out your instructions, but I warn you there will be trouble." I also attach a telegram from Mr. Worgan, by which it appears that a general impression has got abroad that all confiscated lands are to be returned.

G. S. COOPER.

4.—*Minute by Hon. Mr. Stafford.*

INFORM Major Kemp that the Government is considering how to place the Ngarauru on some of the lands of the tribe, and that it will be done as soon as the session is over.

E. W. STAFFORD.

5.—*Letter from Major Kemp to Hon. Mr. Stafford.*

Putiki, Whanganui, 28th September, 1872.

TO MR. STAFFORD, the head of the Government.

Friend, greeting. This is again my word to you respecting the land on the other side of Waitotara. You are aware of my determination when you and Mr. Richmond paid the £2,500, and that I would not accept any of that money. Secondly, Governor Bowen, as well as yourself, saw how angry I was with Mr. Richmond, and that I said he ought to be deposed on account of his bad work. Mr. Richmond's answer was, "Let the land be put up to auction, so as to ascertain its value, and we will then give you £4,800." My answer was, "This is the land God made for me." And I have been of the same determination ever since, up to this day. It was some time during last April that I gave my consent through the softening of my heart, lest difficulties with the Maoris should increase. 400 acres were then given to me, to which I gave my written consent.

Since then, changes have been made on the part of the Government, for we have heard that they have restored all the lands on the other side of Waingongoro to the Natives: that is to say, to the people who were the cause of all the troubles in this part of the Island.

We have already forwarded an address to Wi Parata, M.H.R. I spoke to Mr. Worgan respecting the agreement to which I signed my name. I said to him, "I am dark with regard to Mr. Parris, for their keeping possession of the other side of Waingongoro, as far as Taranaki, while all the evils have been visited on this part of the country." Mr. Worgan's reply was, "You and I must give this matter due consideration."

Now, Mr. Stafford, you are in a position to act with more deliberation and forethought than any other person in this Island. You must not think that I am asking for land: that is not the case, for I have much land besides this land; but let what is right be right. You, the Government, have restored the lands of those people who were guilty of great offences. Do not take all the land of the man whose offence was small, or that of men who have done nothing wrong. Let my agreement with Mr. Worgan be cancelled, for my signature was not obtained by fair means, but through the trickery and false representations of the Government.

If you do not punish the man that has done evil, then most certainly do not chastise me, the person who has committed no offence, or the person whose offence has been small. There is a proverb of my ancestors to the effect that "it would be necessary for all parties to consent to any arrangement before it can be completed." Do you take this into consideration, and lighten our darkness.

Sufficient from your sincere friend, under the protection of our most gracious Queen,

MEIHA KEEPA TE RANGIHIWINUI.

6.—*Telegram from Major Kemp to Hon. Mr. Stafford.*

Whanganui, 7th October, 1872.

HAVE you received my letter respecting the petition which was sent by us to Wi Parata? Ask him to show you our petition. It was about Waitotara, and the country from thence to Waingongoro.

MEIHA KEEPA.

[NOTE.—There is no record of any answer to the preceding letter and telegram.]

7.—*Letter from Major Kemp to Hon. Mr. McLean.*

Mr. McLEAN.

Putiki, 21st October, 1872.

Greeting. You have possibly seen the letter that I wrote to Mr. Stafford respecting my acquiescence to the 400 acres on the other side of Waitotara, and that I wished to cancel that arrangement, and for this reason: because all the lands on the other side of Waingongoro, as far as Taranaki, were restored to the people who provoked the quarrel, as you are well aware.

Perhaps you are now troubled. My reason for acting in this manner is lest troubles should arise with those whose offence has been small, on their hearing that this land has been returned to those people whose crime has been great. For the members of the Ngarauru Tribe are persistent in returning, though they run the chance of being driven off. They have commenced planting at Waitotara. Some have returned to Whanganui by my invitation, but some of them are returning by stealth. I am now, through the action of the Government, become the protector of this tribe, the Ngarauru; and they accuse me of being the means of keeping them here. What they say to me is this: "What portion of land are we to have? For we accompanied you to Taupo in the expedition against Te Kooti, and went as far as Tapapa, where one of our number was killed; and we thought that this would have been accepted in condonement of our offences." There is also this: Titokowaru and his tribe have returned, and all their land has been restored to them. What Government is it that has acted in this manner;