

Voucher 41,850, L4 18s., 23rd of September, 1879 (L2 18s. of this sum appears to be part of a sum of L19 paid to Commons for passage of Retireti Tapihana; the L2 is part of cheque No. 754, for L30 refund to J. C. Young).—States that when in Auckland he borrowed L2 from a traveller named Logan, which perhaps Mr. Young repaid. Is unable to give any other explanation of the L2. Never received L2 either from Young or Warbrick, and did not sign any pay-sheet either for that sum or for L4 18s. The signature is not his; it is a forgery. Never received any money from Young or Warbrick except the L5 above referred to. Received L50 from Wilkinson by the hands of Willy Young in Auckland. Went to the Bank of New Zealand with Willy Young, who obtained L50 (remitted by Wilkinson, Hauraki, to J. C. Young) in notes. May have signed a pay-sheet for the amount.

PIRIPi TAPIHANA examined.

Voucher 51,593, L14, 20th of January, 1879 (part of cheque for L28).—The Minister gave them (Hans and himself) L20 in Auckland to be divided between them. He received L10, and L10 was retained by Hans. Did not read the cheque. Hans said it was for L20. Hans, J. C. Young, and himself went to the Bank of New Zealand and cashed the cheque. Never received the remaining L4. Knows nothing about it. Does not remember signing a pay-sheet. The signature to voucher appears to be his, but Warbrick could not have witnessed it, as he was not in Auckland. Did not sign any pay-sheet in Tauranga on his return. Came straight home to Maketu.

As to voucher 74,990, L5, 5th of May (paid to Horne and Reid), received L5 in one note from Young at some store in Tauranga, for which he signed a blank voucher. Does not remember whether he signed one or two. Does not know whether he (Young) borrowed it from the storekeeper. He obtained it from the store and gave it to Philip in the street. Went to Cook's publichouse to sign the voucher. Warbrick was not present.

Voucher 39,928, L50, 26th of August (part of cheque for L125, cashed, and said to be divided between Hans, Retreat, and Philip).—Received L50 from Hans in Young's presence—not Warbrick's—to pay Hans's electioneering expenses prior to the election. Signed a blank pay-sheet for it. Did not know it was to be charged to Patetere, and did not consent to the charge. Admits signature to voucher.

Philip knows nothing about the L200 referred to in Hans's evidence. Received no other L50 than that above referred to.

Read over to and confirmed by Piripi.

STATEMENTS made by HAKARAIA TIPENE, MAIHI POHEPOHE, and TE HURUHURU.

*Statement made by Hakaraia Tipene.*—[Maihi Pohepohe was present, and concurred in this statement.]

Hakaraia says that men who were excluded from the list of grantees by the Court had drawn money on account of Te Puke prior to the decision of the Court. "When the decision was given I said that this money should be returned, in order that it might be given to Waitaha, to whom the land was awarded. Previous to the sitting of the Court, I had warned Mr. Mitchell to pay only to the owners of the land. In consequence, I believe Mitchell did not give money to persons not entitled to receive it. I speak of the time when Sir Donald McLean was Minister. When Mr. Sheehan became Minister, and Mr. Young had the management of affairs, the conduct of the business became confused. I mean that he paid men who had no claim whatever on the land. Rations and a number of erroneous payments were charged against Te Puke. All sums so wrongfully paid I claim. That is how the L4,500 has gone—paid away in money or rations to persons who were not entitled. I paid L200 for survey, of which sum I have reason to believe that L73 is still in the hands of Young. The Government has the land, and I want this L73 back. Mr. Edgecombe and Captain Lloyd were the surveyors. Another statement I have to make is that Rota Rangihora undertook to defray cost of the first survey. The cost of that was L100. I wish this L100 to be charged against Kaikokopu Block, and not against Te Puke, because Rota Rangihora is one of the principal owners of that block. Mr. Goldsmith was the surveyor."

*Wi Hotene te Huruhuru.*

The statement I have to make is in reference to charging rations to our shares in the Te Puke Block. The Government should pay for all rations supplied to us during the hearing of the case of Te Puke in Court, as, in consequence of our being obliged by the Government to attend the Court, we had to neglect our cultivations, and consequently were short of food during the whole year, and suffered therefrom very considerably, having to buy food instead of growing it. I have a word to say as to my share of Otawa. Some men were paid as much as L20, others L13; but the majority received only L12. Why should some men have been paid more and others less? The apportionment was made by Mr. Young. We were charged for meals supplied by Mrs. Robertson. We were charged 15s. for one meal and bed for each of four men. The charge should have been 8s. We supplied three pigs to order of Young, and, instead of being paid for them, they have been charged to me.

THE statements hereunder, by Mr. A. Warbrick, were made to Messrs. J. S. Churton, Audit Inspector, and T. Cooper, solicitor, Auckland, who visited Mount Eden Gaol in conformity with Mr. Warbrick's request, set forth in the letters of which copies are subjoined.

MR. WARBRICK to MR. CHURTON, Assistant Audit Inspector. Mount Eden Gaol, 7th April, 1880.

DEAR SIR,—I take advantage of Mr. O'Brien, the Governor, visiting the Supreme Court this morning, to request you, at your earliest convenience, to visit me in the gaol, in order that I may the more fully explain the reasons which caused me so imprudently not to attend the call of the summons which Mr. Batkin issued against me, and for which I am now suffering. I think, if you could do me the honor of a call, that I should be able satisfactorily to explain matters.—I have, &c., A. WARBRICK.