

No. 261.—Petition of J WILSON and Others, of Auckland.

THE petitioners pray that road may be made to Pakiri Block.

No. 257.—Petition of J M. ROBSON and Others, of Ohinemuri.

THE petitioners pray that there may be telegraphic communication through the Township of Paeroa.

I am directed to report the Committee are of opinion that these petitions be referred to the Government for consideration.

19th August, 1881.

No. 182.—Petition of SOPHIA KIDD, of Hinton.

THE petitioner states that in 1870 the Provincial Government of Southland owed Thomas McNalty the sum of £36 8s., and that the said debt was made over to her husband, half of which sum was paid to him; that her husband died in 1872; and that the balance of the above amount has not been paid; and she prays that the amount due may be paid forthwith.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion, from the evidence before them, that there is remaining unpaid a balance of the original sum of £36 8s. due to Thomas McNalty, and transferred to John Kidd, £18 4s.; and the Committee recommend the amount be paid to the petitioner, if, after inquiry, she be found entitled to it.

19th August, 1881.

No. 153.—Petition from J E. BOREL, of Tauranga.

THE petitioner states that he resided at Rangiawhia, Waikato in the year 1863, and, in consequence of the Native rebellion, sustained serious pecuniary loss amounting to £850. He prays that his case may receive favourable consideration.

I am directed to report that the subject-matter of this petition appears to be one for the Government to inquire into and to initiate action, if, on prior inquiry, the claims for loss sustained by individuals during the war of 1863 are entitled to consideration.

19th August, 1881.

No. 275.—Petition of F B. LLOYD and Co., of Christchurch.

THE petitioners state that they are saw-millers, coal and timber merchants, at the South Belt, Christchurch, and are the lessees of No. 4 railway siding; that they have extended their premises to property on the opposite side of the road, and wish to extend the railway siding, which has been refused by the Railway Department; and they pray the House to grant them relief.

I am directed to report that it appears, from the evidence before the Committee, that the department is willing to grant an extension of the siding if the petitioners provide a guarantee that not more than 120 trucks a month are required, and that no compensation be granted in the event of the extension being closed by the department. Under these circumstances the Committee consider the application be granted, subject to the conditions above named.

23rd August, 1881.

No. 120.—Petition of JOHN KELLY, of Auckland.

THE petitioner states that certain lands in the Waitakerei District were granted to him by the Crown; that 1,118 acres of the said land were claimed by one Allan O'Neill, who commenced an action in the Supreme Court to recover possession of the said land, and judgment was given in favour of the said Allan O'Neill on the ground that it had been previously granted to him; that petitioner then petitioned the House in 1871, and the Public Petitions Committee reported "that the amount of compensation should be ascertained by some impartial person to be appointed by the Government;" that the award so made of £10,658 18s. 6d. was referred to the Public Petitions Committee in 1872, and they reported that he was entitled to the sum of £936; he then petitioned the House in 1873, being dissatisfied with the amount awarded to him, when the Public Petitions Committee reported "that they saw no reason to depart from their recommendation to the House during the last session of Parliament;" that he has made constant applications for payment of the money awarded to him by the Commissioner, but without success; that he has been put to great loss of time and money and has suffered great trouble and anxiety of mind. He prays the House will grant him relief.

I am directed to report that the Committee, having made further inquiries into the petitioner's case, can see no reason to alter the decision arrived at by the Committee in 1872—viz., that he be awarded £926 as a final settlement of his claim.

5th September, 1881.

No. 325.—Petition of RICHARD DAVID MANEY, of Hawke's Bay

THE petitioner states that he acquired certain interests in lands known as Waihou Block, Ruakiture Block, Taramarama Block, Tukurangi Block, and Hangaroa Block; that an agreement was entered into between himself and Mr. Ormond, the Government Agent, under which he was to assist the Government in negotiating with the Native proprietors for the lease or purchase of the said lands, and to convey and assign to the Government Agent all his interest and goodwill in the said lands, in consideration of which he was to receive from time to time a commission proportionate to the area so leased or conveyed; the sum of £3,000 being fixed as the aggregate amount to be paid to the petitioner if and when the whole of the lands described in the schedules, and consisting of 342,120 acres, shall have been so leased or conveyed to the Government; the Government shall pay to the petitioner the value of any improvement which may have been made by him upon the said lands, also a sum of