

is probably familiar to your Lordship in connection with the ploughing and fencing under his directions of land claimed as confiscated by the Crown, but of which the Natives also assert their ownership,—to meet me.

2. I enclose a copy of the memorandum of the Premier offering this advice, and of the letter tendered to me for signature by the Ministers.

3. The letter was despatched by my Aide-de-Camp, Captain Knollys, C.M.G., 26th Cameronians. I enclose a copy of his report to me of his visit to Parihaka, which your Lordship will, I think, find not uninteresting.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

ARTHUR GORDON.

Enclosure 1 in No. 38.

MEMORANDUM for His EXCELLENCY.

MR. HALL presents his respectful compliments to the Governor; and transmits herewith the draft of a letter which Ministers advise should be addressed by His Excellency to the Chief Te Whiti.

2. In doing this, Mr. Hall thinks it right that he should state briefly, for His Excellency's information, the steps that have been taken for the purpose of communicating to Te Whiti—(1) The purport of the Reports of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into any grounds which might exist for discontent among the Natives on the West Coast, and generally into the Native difficulties there; (2) the action taken upon those Reports by Parliament; and (3) the steps which the Government have taken, or are taking, for the purpose of giving effect to the Commissioners' recommendations.

3. Full information upon each of these branches of the question has from time to time been communicated to the friendly Natives on the West Coast, and particularly to a chief of high rank there, named Hone Pihama, who is in frequent communication with Te Whiti, and has lately attended the monthly meetings at Parihaka. The Government have every reason to believe that, through this channel, the substance of the information so given has reached Te Whiti and his followers.

4. The Act of last Session, by which Parliament empowered the Government to give effect to the Commissioners' recommendations, was translated into Maori, and a Government Interpreter was sent to Parihaka to distribute a number of printed copies. He found great difficulty in his attempts to do this, and eventually the copies were thrown back at him by Tohu, who is a sort of brother-prophet, and Te Whiti's principal assistant.

5. At a later period, when the Chief Wiremu Kingi Matakatea was released, with several other Native prisoners, from Dunedin Gaol, the Native Minister addressed to Wiremu Kingi a letter embodying the views of the Government as to the West-Coast difficulties. This letter was printed, and the Government Interpreter was again sent to Parihaka with a number of copies of the document, which he succeeded in distributing to the Natives there.

6. Mr. Parris, an officer of the Native Department, who is not only of high standing, but is well and favourably known to the Natives throughout the West Coast Districts, was instructed to attend the October meeting at Parihaka, and to state that he did so because it was understood that Te Whiti had said that he had no knowledge of the Commissioners' reports and recommendations, and that he desired to be informed as to them. Mr. Parris was further instructed to state to the Natives the purport of the reports and recommendations of the West Coast Settlement Act, and of the Native Minister's letter to Wiremu Kingi; to add, that the Government intended generally to give effect to the intentions expressed in those documents, on the acquiescence of the Natives concerned; and to caution Te Whiti as to the evils that would follow further resistance or obstruction. Owing partly to the inclemency of the weather, but also, no doubt, to indisposition on Te Whiti's part, Mr. Parris did not succeed in giving effect to his instructions. He was, therefore, directed to attend at the November meeting, and to use his best efforts to communicate to the Natives the intentions of the Government. As will be seen from his report, of which a copy is attached, Mr. Parris was refused a hearing by Te Whiti.

7. Te Whiti on this occasion, however, expressed—as he has done on other occasions—his willingness to discuss his troubles, and the best mode of settling them, with the Governor. Under these circumstances, and as it appears to the Government that no reasonable means for arriving at a satisfactory settlement of those difficulties should be left untried, Ministers respectfully suggest that the accompanying invitation should be sent by His Excellency to Te Whiti. They would propose that the delivery of the letter should be, in the first instance, intrusted to Hone Pihama; and that, if he should fail, the Government Interpreter should be sent to Parihaka for the purpose.

8. Mr. Hall thinks it should be added that Sir William Fox, K.C.M.G., the senior member of the Commission already mentioned, has, at the request of the Government, agreed to act under a new instrument, conferring upon him ample powers to carry out the recommendations contained in the reports of the first Commission, and which were sanctioned by Parliament, and that he proposes to commence his work immediately after the new year.

Wellington, December 22nd, 1880.

JOHN HALL.

Sub-Enclosure 1 to Enclosure 1 in No. 38.

FRIEND TE WHITI,—

This is an announcement from me to you, who are living apart in a far-off portion of these Islands, and whom I desire to see brought near to me.

I am come here to assume the Government on behalf of the Queen, and in her name to administer justice to both races of her subjects.