

826. What is it that you wish to say to the Committee?—I wish that there should be a rehearing granted.

827. Why do you wish for a rehearing?—Because I think there was a wrong judgment given.

828. In what respect?—Because all the people had not assembled at the Court when the judgment was given.

829. Were any names put in that should not have been, or left out that should not have been?—Yes.

830. What names should have been left out, if any?—Some of those who were admitted as claimants. I could not tell you their names, because I have not heard who have been admitted as claimants to these blocks.

831. You know Renata Kawepo?—Yes.

832. Had he a right to be admitted into a share in the Owhaoko Block?—No; I do not think he had any right to be admitted into a share in the Owhaoko Block, because he did not explain the reason why he should be admitted as a claimant.

833. Do you think he had any right to a share in the Kaimanawa Oruamatua Block?—No; I do not think he ought to have been admitted as a claimant there.

834. Then, you think that Renata should not have been made an owner of either of the blocks?—No; I do not think he ought to have been admitted as a claimant to either one of them.

835. *Mr. Seddon.*] Did your tribe agree to let him go into the Owhaoko?—They did admit that he should be a claimant to part of it, on certain grounds.

836. That is, Owhaoko?—Yes.

837. *Mr. Stewart.*] Do you belong to the same tribe as the last witness?—Yes; Hiraka is a brother of mine.

838. *Hon. Sir R. Stout.*] Have you the same father?—There is only one mother, but two different fathers.

839. Did you attend the Court at Napier?—No.

840. Why did you not go there?—I was sick.

841. Did you attend the Court at Hastings?—No.

842. Did you give any authority for any chief to speak for you at the Court at Napier?—I do not know of any instructions being given to anybody.

843. How long does it take you to go from where you live to Napier in the winter?—Two days.

844. Do you remember any *Gazette* that was given to the tribe about the sitting of the Court, and when they started; or do you remember them starting after they received notice in the *Gazette*?—I do not recollect the time that we received the *Gazette*.

845. *The Chairman.*] Is there anything that you particularly wish to say to the Committee about these matters?—No; I have nothing more to say. All I wish to ask is that there may be a rehearing granted. That is what we desire.

TE RETIMANA was examined.

846. *The Chairman.*] What is your name?—Te Retimana.

847. Where do you live?—I live at Martinborough and Patea.

848. Is your father Te Retimana te Raro?—Yes.

849. He is one of the owners of Owhaoko?—Yes.

850. Do you appear here on your father's account?—Yes, I came on behalf of my father. Did not Hiraka produce a letter to that effect? [Letter produced by Hiraka was here read, to the effect that he was authorized to appear before the Committee on behalf of Te Retimana te Raro.]

851. Is that letter signed by Te Retimana himself?—Yes.

852. Who wrote that letter?—A man of the name of Charley, who is special clerk to Te Retimana.

853. Then, we understand that Hiraka makes his statement for your father and himself?—Yes.

854. Hiraka knows all about it, I suppose?—Yes; he is well acquainted with the matter.

855. Can you tell us anything more than Hiraka can tell us?—If I heard what Hiraka said to the Committee, I should be able to say.

856. Do you know anything yourself about any disputes or complaints with regard to the ownership of Owhaoko or Kaimanawa Oruamatua?—Yes.

857. What do you know about it?—I wish to know whether it is a dispute between Renata and us that you are inquiring about.

858. Is there any dispute between Renata and you?—Yes; there is a dispute between Renata and us.

859. What is it?—The dispute arose through the land being leased to Paki formerly, and the rent that we were to receive for it was £250 a year.

860. Paki is Birch, is he not?—Yes. About two or three years afterwards, Renata said that he thought that we were receiving too little rent for the land, and it was left in his hands to state what amount of rent we ought to receive. The Ngatiwhiti agreed to that. The tribe agreed to that; and it was left to Renata to get a bigger rental for the ground, and that was how it was that Renata became a claimant to it; and after that there was a Court held. Renata asked that there should be a Court held, and we never saw anything of it. By the time that Hiraka's father and those belonging to the tribe arrived, the judgment had been given in the case.

861. Was it at Napier?—Yes. And so our people never knew anything about the case, and that is how the trouble arose between us over these blocks of land. When the division took place at the last Court, Renata gave up his first claims by an ancestor to the land, and brought forward fresh ones when the division was made.

862. *The Chairman.*] Were you at Hastings?—Yes; when the division was made I was present.