

No. 441.—Petition of MARY and WILLIAM MURCOTT, of Hampden, Otago.

THE petitioners state that in 1870 W. Murcott purchased from the Crown Section 48, Block I., Otepopo, containing 114 acres; that at the time of such purchase access was gained to said section by means of a road which ran through what was then a bush reserve; that by virtue of "The Special Powers and Contracts Act, 1885," this road has since been Crown-granted to the Borough of Hampden, despite the protests of both petitioners and the County Council of Waitaki; that other settlers, as well as your petitioners, suffer loss by the closing of this road. Petitioners pray that this matter may be inquired into, that the grant of said road may be cancelled, and the land included therein again set apart as a public road.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that the Government should cause an inquiry to be made in the locality, in order that the County Council of Waitaki, the Borough of Hampden, and the petitioners may be heard.

28th August, 1888.

No. 500.—Petition of JESSIE H. REYBURN and Others, Otahuhu.

THE petitioners pray for the repeal of "The Contagious Diseases Act, 1869."

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of the Committee, this petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

28th August, 1888.

[*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, nil; printing (1,300 copies), £9 14s. 6d.]

By Authority: GEORGE DIDSBURY, Government Printer, Wellington, 1888.