

1890.
NEW ZEALAND.

GOLDFIELDS AND MINES COMMITTEE

(REPORTS OF).

MR. GUINNESS, CHAIRMAN.

Presented to the House of Representatives, and ordered to be printed.

ORDER OF REFERENCE.

Extracts from the Journals of the House.

WEDNESDAY, THE 25TH DAY OF JUNE, 1890.

Ordered, "That a Goldfields and Mines Committee, consisting of fifteen members, be appointed, to which shall be referred all matters relating to mining, and all Bills relating to mines; five to be a quorum: the Committee to consist of Mr. Allen, Mr. Brown, Mr. Cadman, Mr. Duncan, Colonel Fraser, Mr. Grimmond, Mr. Guinness, Mr. M. J. S. Mackenzie, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Pyke, Mr. R. H. J. Reeves, Mr. Seddon, Mr. Valentine, Hon. Mr. Larnach, C.M.G., and the mover."—(Hon. Mr. FERGUS.)

No. 96.—Petition of H. ROGERS and 421 other Miners.

THE petitioners pray that the land known as Whangapoua, in the Hauraki Mining District, may be opened for gold-mining purposes.

The Goldfields and Mines Committee, to whom this petition was referred for consideration, have the honour to report that, having heard the statement of Colonel Fraser that the land referred to in the petition is auriferous and in the possession of private owners, they recommend that Government take the necessary steps to have the land resumed under the Mining Act for mining purposes.

23rd July, 1890.

REPORT ON A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE BY MR. R. F. LUKS, OF AUCKLAND.

THE writer recommends Mr. Rudolph Recknagel, Mining Engineer, of Freiberg and Heidelberg, for employment by the Government as an expert in all matters connected with mining and the treatment of refractory ores. He calls attention to the excellent credentials and extensive experience of Mr. Recknagel, and indicates the terms on which Mr. Recknagel is prepared to place his services at the disposal of the Government.

I am directed to request the Government to communicate with Mr. Recknagel, with a view to carrying out the recommendation made by the Goldfields Committee in paragraph 11 of the report of last session—viz., "That the evidence given before the Committee by . . . Mr. Luks, respecting the treatment of refractory ores, should receive the serious attention of the Government without delay."

14th August, 1890.

No. 15.—Petition of SIMON FRASER, of Arch Hill, Auckland.

THE petitioner prays for payment of £1,470, or for a grant of land of that value, in discharge of a debt alleged to be due to him by the Provincial Government of Otago for his services in discovering the West Taieri goldfield.

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of this Committee, the petitioner has no claim against the Government for discovering any goldfield in Otago, and that the Committee see no reason to dissent from the several reports on this matter brought up in previous sessions.

21st August, 1890.

No. 129.—Petition of E. KERSEY COOPER and 498 Others.

THE petitioners pray that section 4 of "The Customs Duties Consolidation Act, 1882," may be repealed.

The Goldfields and Mines Committee have the honour to report that they recommend that effect be given to the prayer of the petition; and that with that object the Government be urgently requested to proceed this session with the Gold Duty Abolition and Mining Property Rating Bill, now before the House.

21st August, 1890.