

No. 9.—Petition of SIMON FRASER, of Whangarei, Auckland.

PETITIONER states that he discovered a payable goldfield in Otago.

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of the Committee, the petitioner has no claim against the colony.

26th August, 1892.

Nos. 724 (1891), 353, and 264.—Petitions of WILLIAM MEIKLE, Mercury Bay, Auckland, and ALEXANDER PEEBLES, Kuaotunu, Thames.

PETITIONERS pray for reward for discovery of gold at Kuaotunu.

I am directed to report that the above petitions are referred to the Government; but would point out that, from Mr. Northcroft's (Warden) report on the above, it would seem that neither A. Peebles nor W. Meikle were the first discoverers of gold at Kuaotunu.

31st August, 1892.

No. 66.—Petition of H. KOHN, Queen Street, Auckland, and 296 Others.

PETITIONERS pray for:—(1) Repeal of section 15 of "The Gold Duties Abolition Act, 1890;" (2) repeal of section relating to transfer of shares, "Stamp Act, 1882;" and (3) subsidy to be devoted to prospecting.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

31st August, 1892.

No. 100.—Petition of JOHN MILVENA, Farmer, Maerewhenua, Otago.

PETITIONER prays for compensation for land washed away.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

31st August, 1892.

No. 687 (1891).—Petition of CHARLES AUGUSTUS SMITH, Greymouth.

PETITIONER states he discovered a goldfield. He prays for a reward.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

31st August, 1892.

No. 244.—Petition of ANTONIO BROWN.

PETITIONER prays to be allowed to make a claim for compensation for loss sustained by the sluicing of tailings and mining *debris* in the Arahura River, as though it were within the prescribed time.

I am directed to report that the matter be referred to the Government, with the view of adjustment by the Public Trustee.

1st September, 1892.

No. 151.—HENRY GRAHAM, Storekeeper, Arrow, Lake County, and 254 Others.

PETITIONERS, residents of Lake County, pray for a sum of money to construct a road.

I am directed to report that this petition be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

1st September, 1892.

No. 34.—Petition of the GREY COUNTY COUNCIL.

PETITIONERS pray for the refund of £599 8s.

I am directed to report that, as it appears the County of Westland was charged with the proportion of compensation claims payable by the County, and that such charges were subsequently remitted, and the amount which had been recovered was refunded to the County, this Committee recommends that the Grey County be treated in the same way, and that the Government be requested to make provision for the refund of the sum of £599 8s. to the County.

1st September, 1892.

No. 354.—Petition of KAWHENA RANGITU.

PETITIONER prays for reward for the discovery of a goldfield.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

1st September, 1892.

Petition of PATRICK HUNT, Reefton.

PETITIONER prays for reward for discovery of a gold-mine.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

1st September, 1892.

Petition of JAMES ROLLESTON, Hikurangi, near Whangarei.

PETITIONER states that he has lost both time and money in prospecting for coal on Block XVI., Section 2, Hikurangi, and was refused a lease under "The Coal-mines Act, 1886," by the then Commissioner of Crown Lands, Auckland (January, 1891). Petitioner prays for relief.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that Mr. James Rolleston be granted a lease under "The Coal-mines Act, 1891," for the prescribed area, and if he declines to accept such lease the Committee have no further recommendation to make.

7th September, 1892.