

No. 169.—Petition of GEORGE LOPAS and ARTHUR APPLETON.

PETITIONERS pray for redress for alleged injustice received at the hands of Warden Macfarlane at Ross.

I am directed to report that the Goldfields and Mines Committee is of opinion that the allegations contained in this petition should be referred to the Government for inquiry in regard to the administration of justice.

7th September, 1893.

No. 341.—Petition of Hon. J. A. BONAR, M.L.C., and 61 Others.

PETITIONERS pray that a reward may be given to Daniel Calloway and James Cameron, for the discovery of gold on the south side of Hokitika River.

I am directed to report that, after due consideration, the Goldfields and Mines Committee has no recommendation to make.

7th September, 1893.

No. 426.—Petition of JOHN DONNELLY.

PETITIONER prays that he may be granted a reward for the discovery of gold at Donnelly's Creek, near Greymouth, and Waimea Creek, in 1864.

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

15th September, 1893.

No. 446.—Petition of ADAM ROSS.

PETITIONER prays that he may be granted a reward for the discovery of gold near Ross, in 1871.

I am directed to report that, after due consideration, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

15th September, 1893.

REPORT on the MINING ACT AMENDMENT (No. 2) BILL.

THE Goldfields and Mines Committee, to whom was referred the above Bill, have the honour to report that they have duly considered the same, and they recommend that the Bill be allowed to proceed, with the amendments thereon which are shown upon a copy of the Bill attached hereto.

2nd September, 1893.

No. 496.—Petition of WILLIAM DUNN and Others.

PETITIONERS pray that inquiry be made into the terms upon which the Grey Valley Coal-mines are held, and pray that the royalty may not be increased.

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of this Committee, the royalty of 6d. per ton extra should not be charged, and recommends the same to the favourable consideration of the Government.

26th September, 1893.

No. 261.—Petition of the MANIOTOTO COUNTY COUNCIL.

PETITIONERS pray for relief, in consideration of payment for resumption of certain sections of auriferous land.

I am directed to report that this Committee finds the statement of the Mines Department, to the effect that the County requested the resumption of portion of the freehold, is not borne out by the facts, and recommends that the Government refund to the County the £100 claimed by them.

26th September, 1893.

Nos. 298, 299.—Petitions of THOMAS F. BYRNE and Others, and the KUMARA MINERS' ASSOCIATION, referred back to the Committee for reconsideration (Mr. Guinness).

PETITIONERS pray for a reduction in the price of water charged by the Government for the water-races on the Kumara Goldfield.

I am directed to report that, after further consideration, and taking considerable evidence thereon, this Committee is of opinion that, as the reduction of the price of water is a question of policy, affecting not only the petitioners but other miners in the colony, the Committee recommends that the petitions and evidence should be referred to the Government for consideration, and that the Government should invite the miners to furnish the department with the returns from each of the claims supplied with water, so that the question may be equitably considered. (2.) That, where free water is granted to miners, the names of those who obtain such should be exhibited in the Warden's Office, with the amount supplied, and the dates when so supplied.

27th September, 1893.

No. 544.—Petition of S. B. CARPENTER and Others.

PETITIONERS pray that the Waipori River may come under the Mining Act, so as to secure them in the exercise of their mining business.

I am directed to report that, as legislation is now in progress to give the petitioners the desired relief, this Committee recommends that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration.

29th September, 1893.