

## THE COOK ISLANDS LAND TITLES COURT.

SIR,—

Registrar's Office, Rarotonga, 7th April, 1910.

I have the honour to report on the work of the Cook Islands Land Titles Court for the year ending the 31st March, 1910.

The work for the year has consisted mostly in perfecting orders and plans in respect of titles investigated by the Court during the preceding year at Rarotonga and Aitutaki. All the Aitutaki titles and plans have been completed, and also many of the Rarotonga titles and plans, and are available for issue on payment of fees. The balance of the Rarotonga orders for title, and also those for Mauke and Rakahanga, are in the hands of the Survey Department for indorsement of plans.

During the year the Court held sittings on twelve days—namely, nine days at Rarotonga and three days at Mangaia. The number of orders made was fifty, and the adoptions registered numbered eleven. The Court fees imposed during the year amounted to £56 2s.

Notices to pay fees were served on all persons in Rarotonga whose fees were in arrear over two years; with the result that a large amount of outstanding fees was got in. The fees collected during the year and paid into the Treasury amounted to £745 10s. 6d. The following table shows the fees collected and paid into the Treasury since the inception of the Court:—

|         | £      | s. | d. |
|---------|--------|----|----|
| 1902-3  | 16     | 19 | 0  |
| 1903-4  | 131    | 10 | 6  |
| 1904-5  | 307    | 2  | 6  |
| 1905-6  | 330    | 6  | 2  |
| 1906-7  | 451    | 16 | 9  |
| 1907-8  | 621    | 14 | 11 |
| 1908-9  | 576    | 16 | 1  |
| 1909-10 | 745    | 10 | 6  |
| Total   | £3,181 | 16 | 5  |

The fees outstanding on the 31st March, 1910, amounted to £858 19s. 6d., as compared with £1,548 8s. on the 31st March, 1909. The following are details of fees now outstanding:—

|           | £    | s. | d. |
|-----------|------|----|----|
| Rarotonga | 589  | 11 | 0  |
| Aitutaki  | 67   | 5  | 0  |
| Mauke     | 167  | 15 | 0  |
| Rakahanga | 21   | 3  | 6  |
| Mangaia   | 5    | 10 | 0  |
| Mitiaro   | 5    | 5  | 0  |
| Atiu      | 1    | 15 | 0  |
| Manihiki  | 0    | 15 | 0  |
|           | £858 | 19 | 6  |

I have, &amp;c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

E. BLAINE, Registrar.

## THE HIGH COURT OF THE COOK ISLANDS.

SIR,—

Registrar's Office, Rarotonga, 4th April, 1910.

I have the honour to report on the work of the Court for the year ending 31st March, 1910, as follows:—

The number of cases heard by the Court in its criminal jurisdiction was 229, as set out hereunder:—

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Adultery and illegal cohabitation   | 13  |
| Drunkenness from bush-beer drinking | 72  |
| Assault                             | 34  |
| Theft                               | 26  |
| Trespass                            | 19  |
| Wandering animals                   | 16  |
| Breaches of Customs law             | 2   |
| Miscellaneous petty offences        | 47  |
| Total                               | 229 |

The seventy-two cases of drunkenness from bush-beer drinking involved the appearance of 258 defendants before the Court.

In its civil jurisdiction the Court heard forty cases, namely:—

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Debt                       | 15 |
| Divorce                    | 12 |
| Breach of contract         | 3  |
| Slander                    | 1  |
| Probate and administration | 3  |
| Miscellaneous              | 6  |
|                            | 40 |