

PETITION

G—No. 1

OF CERTAIN

I N H A B I T A N T S

OF THE

PROVINCE OF HAWKE'S BAY,

PRAYING FOR

AN ENQUIRY INTO THE WORKING OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER'S COURT

IN THAT PROVINCE.

PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JULY 16TH, 1862,—ORDERED TO BE
PRINTED JULY 17TH, 1862.

To the Honourable the House of Representatives of New Zealand, in Parliament Assembled; the Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Province of Hawke's Bay,

Respectfully Sheweth—

That, at a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Napier, publicly convened and held on Tuesday the 25th of June, 1862, to take into consideration the proceedings in a Court specially holden in Napier by the Civil Commissioner on the 23rd instant, to try an issue raised on an information, Scully *v.* Colenso, for the illegal occupation of Native Lands; it was resolved as follows, videlicet:—

1st. That this Meeting believes the introduction of a Civil Commissioner's Court (from which apparently all other Magistrates are excluded) into a European District, and in a case in which both parties concerned are of the British race, to be an illegal and arbitrary act, as well as utterly distasteful to an English community.

2nd. That the decision given by the Civil Commissioner in the case, Scully *v.* Colenso, is, in our opinion, directly contrary to the weight of evidence produced in support of the prosecution; and that it utterly ignores the reasonable, satisfactory, and full explanation afforded by the defendant.

3rd. That having agreed to the first and second resolutions, this Meeting considers the conduct of the gentleman filling the office of Civil Commissioner deserving of the severest reprobation; and that a Petition be prepared and the signatures of persons concurring therein obtained, praying for inquiry into the late extraordinary proceedings.

In conformity with the foregoing resolutions we, the undersigned, pray for an investigation at the hands of a Select Committee of your Honourable House, as to the mode in which the case adverted to was conducted, and generally into the operation of the Civil Commissioner's Court when Europeans are concerned.

And Your Petitioners will ever pray—

Frederick Sutton,
Henry Williams,
Peter Searles,
Arthur Ford,
William Miller,
B. D. Danvers,
W. H. Frame,
Thomas Jeffares,
Alex. McHardy,
Thomas Atkinson,
Murray Anderson,
J. Smith,
John Buchanan,
Thomas Richardson,
Nathaniel Williams,
E. W. Knowles,
Charles Mogridge,
G. A. Bryan,
Richard Trestrail,
James Wood,
Robert Gilmour,
George Thomas,
J. T. Large,

Henry Evans,
J. H. Sebley,
R. W. B. Strong,
James Quin,
William Lechner,
G. H. Stuart,
John Wood,
James Crawford,
Graham Speedy,
W. W. Yates,
M. Boylan,
Neil Campbell,
J. Rose,
Samuel Fittall,
James Symons,
James Boyle,
George Bowman,
John Elmes,
Robert Sinclair,
William Oliver,
W. F. Palmer,
Duncan Kirkpatrick,
Thomas Shepherd,

PETITION OF INHABITANTS OF HAWKE'S BAY.

John Heslop,
John Marshall,
Edward Barry,
Thomas Shirley, x his mark
John Dinwiddie,
William Couper, jun.
John Slater,
H. J. Cotterill,
John Corry,
W. Fletcher,
Henry Groom,
Henry Smith, x his mark
John Garton,
W. Bull,
R. Winsard,
O. L. W. Bousefield,
Isaac R. Sutton,
W. Smith,
James Doherty,
Henry Parker,
Robert Holt
Martin McNalty,
Daniel M. Munn,
Edward Boddington,
John Brodie,
James Macfie,
James Newton,
Thomas Morrison,
William Reardon,
John Begg,
James Smith,
Amos Goddard,
Richard Farrell,
Thomas Lound,
Robert Hollis,
Joseph Gill,
Edwin Cox,
W. Shilton,
William Thomas,
Archibald Bryson,
H. Fletcher,

J. Johnson,
Thomas Williams,
E. A. E. G. Ekholm,
Charles Clarridge,
R. Goldfinch,
Thomas Barnaby,
C. Anderson,
Robert Donaldson,
Simeon Newbould,
J. J. Kelly,
H. R. Holder,
William Hill,
F. Tuemmel,
Robert Thompson,
David E. Lindsay,
Alex. Blair,
G. E. G. Richardson,
John Christie,
John Garry,
R. W. Parkhouse,
W. Routledge,
H. L. Yates,
G. Faulkner,
Edward G. Wright,
Henry Hore Treely,
John Harding,
Thomas Edwards,
Charles McKenzie,
William Waite,
Thomas Murray,
John Rolfe,
T. B. Harding,
John A. Turner,
John Davis,
F. C. Dean,
J. K. Tatum,
W. G. Shearer,
Henry Thomas,
J. McNeil Boyd,
John Steven,
J. K. Cameron.
