

Enclosure in No. 10.

The RESIDENT AGENT, Jackson's Bay Settlement, to the OFFICER in CHARGE of the Settlement.

Government Resident Agent's Office, Jackson's Bay,
15th April, 1878.

SIR,—

I have the honor to forward the enclosure, addressed to the Hon. J. Macandrew, to be forwarded through you to his address at Wellington, containing resolutions passed at a meeting of settlers referred to at length in my previous letter to you. I have nothing further to add to what I then said, but I trust the Government, in dealing with this matter, will not lose sight or the fact that this movement simply means repudiating the adoption of the plans proposed in my previous letter—viz., that a percentage on the money earned is the only way to meet the difficulty, and at least half the debts can be collected in that way.

In reference to the wire bridge across the Turnbull, that was carried away by the last flood, I have recovered nearly the whole of the material, and with but little loss. I may require part of a coil of wire to complete the job. The bridge at the Haast is now complete, and will be a great convenience to the settlers and travellers. The jetty is out 1½ chains, and the filling in with stones will be finished in about ten days. I will be at a standstill about this work, unless the saw-mill gets to work soon. I am getting my piles from the Okura—all silver pine.

The road-work is progressing favourably, as fast as the weather will permit, on the Arawata and Bay Road. I have let other three sections—25 chains,—and I am laying off 30 more chains at the Bay, and I have men at work by the day. I have had some trouble in getting over the limestone cliff, but yesterday I finished levelling, and the road will be made on a fair gradient—viz., 6 feet to the chain. The whole of the Italians are at work on contracts, and getting on fairly. I had an application from the five who came up to the Bay to see the Royal Commission for payment of the time they lost. I did not feel justified in granting it, seeing they came up entirely to see to their own interests, and state their grievances.

Some of the potatoes have suffered from the great quantity of rain that has fallen—36·76 for the month of March, enough to drown anything.

Steward has been down with another lot of dairy cows, and I think he has sold them all. He reports the floods on the Haast and the Landesborough to be the highest known on the Wanaka side—they had extraordinary floods.

In running some levels yesterday I was fortunate in discovering the outcrop of the coal-seam I have been looking for so long. The outcrop is 2 feet, and dipping slightly to the South and East. I cannot say much about it yet, but I am hopeful of its turning out a good seam. The outcrop being in good solid country, I have great faith in it. I traced the overlying rock to a height of 150 feet above it, and it is resting on the black and blue marls that show along the Bay Road. In the course of a couple of weeks I shall know more about it. However, I have been disappointed so often I will not be too sanguine as to the discovery.

I have, &c.,

D. MACFARLANE,

Government Resident Agent.

E. Patten, Esq., Hokitika.

 Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 10.

RESOLUTIONS passed at Public Meeting of Jackson's Bay Settlement.

SIR,—

Jackson's Bay, 4th April, 1878.

I beg respectfully to lay before you the following resolutions, agreed to at a meeting of settlers held at Jackson's Bay on the 5th ultimo:—

“1. That the Government be respectfully requested to allow two-third time during the current year to settlers on works at Jackson's Bay.

“2. That the Government be respectfully asked to pay wages in cash instead of cheques.

“3. That should any settlers obtain work on the Paringa and Haast Track the Government be respectfully asked to not consider such employment as forming any part of time allowed to such settlers on works at Jackson's Bay.

“4. That the Government be respectfully requested to consider all rents due prior to the 1st January, 1878, as back debts.”

I have been instructed by the meeting to transmit to you the foregoing resolutions, with the hope that the same will receive your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. J. Macandrew,
Minister for Public Works, Wellington.

GEORGE SMITH,
Chairman of Meeting.

 No. 11.

The UNDER SECRETARY for IMMIGRATION to the OFFICER IN CHARGE, Jackson's Bay Settlement.

SIR,—

Wellington, 16th May, 1878.

I have the honor, by direction of the Hon. Minister for Immigration, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a letter from the Resident