

1880.

NEW ZEALAND.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF NATIVE RESERVES

FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1880.

[In continuation of G.-7, Sess. I., 1879.]

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

Mr. CHARLES HEAPHY to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR,—

Marton, 21st May, 1880.

In pursuance of the directions of a Royal Commission bearing date the 30th September, 1879, I have investigated the claims of several Natives to lands and reserves in the Wellington and Wairarapa Districts, and have the honor to report—

That Petihira, a Ngatiawa woman from Wanganui, is entitled, as a non-seller in the Wellington Block, to 60 acres of land in the Waiariki Reserve, near Cape Terawiti.

That, in pursuance of a provision in the deed of cession of the Turakirae Block, at Wairarapa, it is desirable that 200 acres of land should be marked out at Hinakitaka for the Ngatitama sellers of that block.

That, in pursuance of a contract made on the acquisition of the Turanganui Block, at Wairarapa, a reserve—No. 108—of 56½ acres in the parish of Manaia should be granted to Makareta Taka, of Gisborne.

The late chief Honiana te Puni gave an acre of the Native reserve near the present railway station at Pitone to the Roman Catholic Bishop for a cemetery, and several interments took place there. The gift was followed by the issue of a Crown grant; but the boundaries of the acre were not so defined as to indicate in what part of the reserve the acre was situated. With the construction of the railroad the land in the vicinity became very valuable; and, while the Church authorities maintained that the acre should be entirely on the flat, the Natives contended that it should be chiefly on the hillside. At my suggestion the case was referred to arbitration. Mr. Charles O'Neil acted for the grantee, and Mr. Wyles for the Natives, Mr. James Mackay having been appointed umpire. The decision was that the acre should be taken in a defined position, partly on the flat, where the graves are, and partly on the hillside, and that a road to give access should be conceded by the Natives. The decision appeared to be satisfactory to both sides.

On the 31st March last there were in the hands of the Public Trustee the following balances to credit:—

	£	s.	d.
Auckland account	...	...	...
Wellington account	...	...	...
General purposes	...	...	...
Wairarapa 5-per-cents	...	...	...
Auckland 10-per-cents	...	...	...
	1,445	8	11

I have, &c.,

CHARLES HEAPHY,

Commissioner, Native Reserves.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department.

WELLINGTON ACCOUNT

For Nine Months ending 31st March, 1880.

1879.	Receipts.	£	s.	d.
July 4.	Robert Lyon, 6 months' rent to 31st Dec., 1879, on Section 23, Aro Street, Polhill's Gully	...	...	...
„	4. A. Searle, 6 months' rent to 31st Dec., 1879, on Section 91, Ohariu	7	10	0
„	4. F. Smith, 12 months' rent to 30th June, 1880, on Paikakariki Native Reserve	27	0	0
„	7. J. Dransfield, 12 months' rent to 1st June, 1879, on Section 45, Polhill's Gully	13	0	0
„	8. J. Collins, 3 months' rent to 30th June, 1879, on part of Sections 39 and 41, Polhill's Gully	5	0	0
„	8. J. Collins, 6 months' rent to 30th June, 1879, on part of Sections 37 and 39, Polhill's Gully	7	10	0
„	9. R. Bould, 12 months' rent to 30th June, 1879, on Sections 7 and 8, Ohariu	87	3	0
„	17. E. J. King, 6 months' rent to 13th July, 1879, on Takapuwahia No. 1	30	0	0
„	17. E. J. King, 6 months' rent to 13th July, 1879, timber-money, Takapuwahia Nos. 1 and 2	5	0	0