

ten years; that he was compelled to agree to this, as the Licensing Committee refused to renew his license unless he consented and signed the lease. He prays for an extension of his lease from the Government to the end of the time agreed by the Natives, viz., the 20th November, 1901.

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

18th June, 1886.

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No. 88.—Petition of CATHERINE CAMPBELL, Port Molyneux.

THE petitioner states that she is the widow of the late Robert Campbell, who served the Government in the lighthouse service for fifteen years, but had to resign owing to ill-health. She prays for consideration on account of her late husband's services.

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

22nd June, 1886.

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No. 422, 1885.—Petition of the UNION BANK of AUSTRALIA.

THE petition states that the petitioner was banker for the Board of Education for the District of Westland up to the time of its dissolution, and, as such banker, made advances, in the ordinary way of business, to the amount of £830 3s. 3d., upon which interest was payable until repaid; that by "The Westland Education District Subdivision Act, 1883," the said Board was dissolved, being still indebted to your petitioner in the aforesaid sum; that the Commissioner appointed under "The Westland Education District Subdivision Act, 1884," awarded interest only to the 31st December, 1883; that at the date of the last-mentioned Act £64 8s. was due from the said 31st December, and £82 12s. 3d. was due to the date of payment on the 7th February, 1885, and is still owing to your petitioner. The petitioner prays that his claim may be favourably considered, and relief granted.

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of the Committee, the petitioner is entitled to the payment of interest up to the date of the commencement of "The Westland Education District Subdivision Act, 1884."

22nd June, 1886.

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Nos. 61, 62, 63, and 23.—Petitions of JOSEPH HARVEY and Others (No. 1), GEORGE TAIT and Others (No. 1), JOSEPH CHAMBERS and Others, and H. WATT and Others (No. 1).

THE petitioners allege that on the occasion of the visit of Cardinal Moran to New Zealand favours were shown and honours heaped upon him by the Government. This they consider unfair, believing that no special favours should be shown to any Church. They pray that an inquiry may be made into these allegations, in order to prevent a repetition of them in future.

I am directed to report that, from the evidence adduced, it appears that a free railway-pass was given to Cardinal Moran, it being the usual practice both in this and the adjoining colonies to present free passes over Government railways to persons of distinction visiting them; that, although to oblige a number of gentlemen who wished to meet Cardinal Moran before the vessel on which he was a passenger reached the wharf, the steam-launch "Ellen Ballance" was permitted to put them on board, it does not appear that there was any intention on the part of the Government to give the Cardinal an official reception or show him any special favour; that all the available police were sent to the Auckland wharf, to preserve order and prevent accident there, by the local Inspector, but he being obliged to leave before the Cardinal's arrival, which was two or three hours later than expected, the Sergeant in charge, in the absence of explicit instructions to the contrary, considered himself justified in accompanying the procession with the detachment through the streets to prevent accident. The Committee have no recommendation to make.

22nd June, 1886.

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No. 53.—Petition of ANNE HOUGH, of Nelson.

THE petitioner states that her husband served the Government as a Native interpreter for twenty-five years; that he received a salary of £40 per annum, which was paid quarterly; that he died during the currency of the first quarter of 1885, but the salary due for the quarter was not paid to her; that it never has been paid, but, on the application of Mr. Levestam, M.H.R., she received £3 2s. 4d. in January, 1886; that she received no compensation allowance. She prays for relief.

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

23rd June, 1886.

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No. 143.—Petition of DONALD MCGREGOR and Others, of Whangarei.

THE petitioners pray for a telephone station at Whangarei Heads.

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

23rd June, 1886.

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No. 203.—Petition of JOHN F. HERBERT and Others.

THE petitioners, settlers in the Heriot Hundred and surrounding districts, pray for the Heriot railway extension.

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

23rd June, 1886.