

1896.
NEW ZEALAND.

PACIFIC ISLANDS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BRITISH RESIDENT, RAROTONGA.

[In continuation of Parliamentary Paper A.—3, 1895.]

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

No. 1.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 11th July, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Parliament of the Federation opened in accordance with law on the 5th instant. No opportunity has offered for members from the other islands to arrive, and only those representing Rarotonga, with one from Atiu, were present. Two trading-vessels are now in the group, and may be expected with the absent members at any time.

Te Pou o te Rangi was elected Chairman for the session, and waited on Queen Makea, as Chief of the Federal Government, to announce his election. In accordance with what is now an established custom, he received from Makea the opening address, which he read to the Parliament on his return.

I enclose two copies of the address in English and two in Maori for your Excellency's information.

The small surplus of £313 referred to in the address will enable a cottage hospital to be put up when a suitable site is obtainable, and I hope to see an appropriation made for the purpose. If so, provision for its working would be most readily made by a small addition of 1 or 1½ per cent. to the existing import duty, on condition that the full proceeds, without deduction of any kind, be placed to the credit of a special hospital fund.

The reference to marriage laws is made necessary by the opening of the Adventist and Roman Catholic Missions. A missionary from the Latter-Day Saints has also arrived from America by way of Tahiti. It is not at all certain, however, that a proper and suitable law can be prepared and passed, with the means and information now at disposal, during the present session.

The census referred to in the address is the first attempt to obtain accurate information by papers filled in detail by each household. The information asked was necessarily limited, but the Natives now understand the work, and more can be done on the next occasion. I enclose two copies. The population of 2,454 is much in excess of the estimates which had hitherto been accepted, the highest of which placed it as under two thousand.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

From the GOVERNMENT to the PARLIAMENT of the COOK ISLANDS.

SALUTATIONS! We welcome you again from all the islands of the Federation to hear what has been done for the year that is past, and to consider what is to be done in the year to come.

		<i>The Revenue</i>		£	s.	d.
For the year ending the 30th June, 1895, is	1,287	1	4

		<i>The Expenditure</i>		£	s.	d.
For the year has been	1,376	9	1

The balance in hand on the 1st July, 1894, was £402 18s. 6d., and there is thus a balance in hand to begin the year 1895-96 of £313 10s. 9d. Full accounts of the past year, and estimates of what we think it desirable to spend in the next year, will be laid before you.

1—A. 3.

		<i>The Imports</i>		
		£	s.	d.
Of all kinds for the year 1894-95	were	22,719	16	1
		<i>The Exports</i>		
Of Cook Islands produce for the year	...	19,491	17	11
And of produce received from other islands	...	1,556	17	0
Total	...	£21,048	14	11

Full particulars of these also will be laid before you.

British Money.

The Act passed by you last session has been brought into operation, and British coin is now the only legal currency. The Government receive no other, but we find that many people still take the Chilian and South American dollars. That is their business, and they will by-and-by grow wiser. The Chilian dollar is only good in Chili, with which country we have no commerce. British money is good with all the world with which we have commerce, or are likely to have. Currency notes were printed in accordance with the Act, so that, if any one said he had no English money with which to pay Government claims, we could give them notes in exchange for their dollars and send the dollars away for sale, and use the money they brought to pay the notes that were issued. But we find the price to be given for dollars so low that people prefer importing English money for themselves, and we are glad to say that it has not been necessary to issue any of the currency notes to the present time.

A Hospital.

We think the time has come when a hospital should be established. It is necessary in order to preserve the life and health of many of our people. During the session we will propose plans to you for a hospital, and to provide funds for its support in the manner least burdensome to the people. We adhere to the opinion that no increase of import duty should be for general purposes, but for special purposes defined when the tax is authorised.

Schools.

We have received a letter from the British Resident respecting schools, which we will lay before you, certain that you will give to it the fullest and most favourable consideration. We agree with Mr. Moss that unless we have schools and teach English in them the Government will never be able to work without outside help, and therefore can never be safe or strong.

Tereora School.

The school established by the London Missionary Society, and to which Parliament promised a fixed annual contribution towards the support of children boarded there, especially from other islands of the Federation, was opened on the 2nd January, and has been well filled. The children from this school will, it is hoped, contribute by-and-by many teachers to other schools, and many young men fit to perform duties in connection with the government of the Federation.

Marriage Laws.

There being now other churches in the group not connected with the London Missionary Society, the missionaries or clergy of those churches will desire to marry people belonging to their own congregation, and we think a law should be passed authorising the Government to license such clergymen, and specifying the conditions in which the licenses should be given.

Census.

A census of the Island of Rarotonga was taken on the 30th June. This census is only an affair of Rarotonga, and the Parliament has nothing to do with it, but we will lay a copy before you, as it may be a guide to other islands. It is very desirable that such a census should be taken in each island, then we will know how many people each contains, and can take a new census at regular times to see whether the numbers increase, and to learn other facts of importance which cannot be truly learned in any other way.

Other questions will arise during the session or be suggested by members, but we do not propose for our part to bring before you any other subjects than we have herein mentioned.

We ask God's blessing on your labours for the good of the people of the Cook Islands.

For the Government (the Arikis),

MAKEA TAKAU, Ariki,

Chief of the Government of the Cook Islands.

Enclosure No. 2.

From the BRITISH RESIDENT to the GOVERNMENT of the COOK ISLANDS.

SALUTATIONS! I have now been trying for four years to have schools established in all the islands for the regular discipline and training of the children and for teaching them English. I need not repeat to you my strong belief that, without such training, and without being able to read English books, it will be impossible for Maoris to govern themselves. If that is to be the case, the Maoris of the Cook Islands must sooner or later give way and see their country governed by people better educated and trained than themselves. But with education they will be able, not only to govern themselves, but to send people to teach and lead the Maoris of other islands, and to become the chief Maori people in this part of the Pacific Ocean.

This work of education can only be done by the islands, each for itself, and not by the Federal Parliament. A committee in Rarotonga last year found that a good school, able to train a hundred or a hundred and twenty children, might be established in Avarua for £150 a year. It is for the Au of Avarua to see to this, if it does its duty. It will be for other AUs and other islands then to do the same, each for itself.

The Parliament of the Federation might give great help in this way: they might lay in a store of desks, maps, blackboards, and other school furniture, and lend it to any schools that the Government was satisfied would do good work in teaching. The loan could be for as long as the school did its work properly, and this would save the Au, or the island Government, much money at starting a school.

I urge you to bring this before the Parliament. Do not let any one say that, having no children, he does not want schools. A horse or a bullock dies, and leaves no mark behind it: a man ought to leave his country better for those who are to come after him. You all owe much to your fathers, who planted the trees from which you now get food and money. Do you now plant schools in the same way, and your names will be blessed by those who come after you.

Your friend,

FREDERICK J. MOSS.

Sub-enclosure.

CENSUS, RAROTONGA.—1ST JUNE, 1895.

District.	Ages.						Totals.	Read.	Read and Write.
	Doubtful.	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 50.	Over 50.			
Avarua	3	97	172	219	514	97	1,102	90	509
Arorangi	2	55	77	130	222	54	540	82	222
Ngatangia and Muri	126	29	28	50	139	36	408	91	158
Matavera ... ..	...	32	21	29	112	14	208	50	85
Titikaveka	28	12	14	20	112	10	196	68	80
Totals	159	225	312	448	1,099	211	2,454	381	1,054

Nationalities.

Countries.	Avarua.	Arorangi.	Ngatangia.	Matavera.	Titikaveka.	Totals.
Rarotonga	641	359	305	176	142	1,623
Mangaia	159	61	29	8	25	282
Aitutaki	33	18	6	5	15	77
Atiu, Mitiaro, Mauke	78	37	11	8	5	139
Other Pacific islands	63	58	51	8	6	186
Great Britain	53	...	4	2	...	59
America (U.S.)	19	2	2	1	...	24
Germany	4	...	...	...	...	4
France	1	...	...	...	...	1
Norway	2	...	...	...	...	2
Portugal	4	2	...	...	2	8
Half-castes	38	...	...	...	...	38
China	7	3	...	...	1	11
Totals	1,102	540	408	208	196	2,454

No. 2.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 11th July, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Queen of Raiatea with her followers again waited upon me respecting their desire to have the British flag hoisted at their island. On being again assured by me that there was not the smallest possibility of their request being acceded to, they left by the steamer "Richmond" on the 3rd instant. I do not anticipate that any further application will be made, and believe that they will do their best to remain on good terms with the French authorities in their island.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

No. 3.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. Moss.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 19th July, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the census return of Rarotonga, dated 1st June, 1895.

At the request of my Government I have to ask you to give any further information as to the relative number of males and females and the respective ages of each sex.

The British Resident, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
GLASGOW.

No. 4.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 9th August, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of 19th July, and enclose herein the supplementary census, showing the ages and sexes of the population of Rarotonga, as requested.

This census, I am glad to be able to report, was taken in a few days. The Natives filled up their several papers readily, showing that the experience of the first was not lost upon them.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure.

APPENDIX TO CENSUS, RAROTONGA.—1ST JUNE, 1895.

Ages.

District.	Age Doubtful.		Under 5.		5 to 10.		10 to 20.		20 to 50.		Over 50.		Totals.		Grand Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M. & F.
Avarua	3	...	56	41	99	73	126	93	284	230	61	36	629	473	1,102
Arorangi	2	...	24	31	38	39	69	61	119	103	29	25	281	259	540
Ngatangia and Muri	63	63	16	13	20	8	29	21	73	66	22	14	223	185	408
Matavera ... ..	...	...	18	14	15	6	12	17	54	58	8	6	107	101	208
Titikaveka	17	11	5	7	7	7	11	9	64	48	6	4	110	86	196
Totals	85	74	119	106	179	133	247	201	594	505	126	85	1,350	1,104	2,454

No. 5.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

Rarotonga, 12th August, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 15th July two of the Sisters connected with the French Roman Catholic mission in Tahiti arrived in Rarotonga, and that on the 30th July they opened a school, in which tuition is given for four hours daily, at the small charge of 16s. (sixteen shillings) a year. The school was rushed by the Native children of this part of the island, showing their keen desire for instruction. Seventy-eight children were taken, being all for which room could be found. Among them are eight or ten children of European parents living here, though not members of the Roman Catholic Church. The children are being taught English by one of the Sisters, who is English by birth and education. Another to help her is expected by this or the next steamer.

On the 6th instant five more teachers, connected with the Adventist Mission (America), arrived in their mission schooner "Pitcairn." This vessel has on board seventeen passengers, including a doctor, teachers, printers, and others. Those who may not be left here are to be taken to Fiji in connection with their mission in that colony.

The Rev. J. Hutchin, of the London Missionary Society, has, for several months, given much time and attention to a morning school, in which, for four days in the week, the Native children are taught English. Mr. Hutchin's work in other directions is arduous, and calls for all his time, and he will welcome the free, secular public schools which the Adventist Mission express a desire to establish. This places the school-buildings of the London Society at their disposal, if the funds required to pay the teachers are forthcoming. To have the children brought up in one public school will unite them as a people—a result which cannot be looked for from schools in connection with different Churches, however well conducted and efficient those schools may be.

The Rarotonga Council will meet in the ordinary course on the 15th, and I hope by that time to be in possession of sufficient information to bring the subject properly before them. The opportunity is good, as, in any case, it would have been impossible to raise sufficient money to offer the least inducement to good teachers to come in the ordinary way.

As your Excellency is aware, I have felt, and still feel, very keenly on the subject. With a knowledge of the English language these Maori people will, in a few years, be able to govern themselves, and be of the greatest use as missionaries and teachers to the other Pacific islands. Their progress socially as well as commercially will be marked, and a great permanent good have been bestowed upon many islands by the Protectorate of Great Britain here. My chief difficulty has been in the tribal jealousy which made it impossible for the Council of the island to undertake the work unless able to begin simultaneously in the three districts into which it has for centuries been divided.

The second difficulty is in beginning a new system of raising the requisite money. From time immemorial the practice has been for the chiefs to call upon the people to make good any money required for public purposes. As no public account of contributions is kept, there is much reason to fear that this system leads to misappropriation and undue exaction. They were induced, with great difficulty, to adopt a different system in the road-tax, levied on the land according to frontage area, at the last session of the Council. The tax-lists being public, and the amounts known, the people are secured against undue exaction. The tax, though the first thus levied, has been freely paid, and if a similar system can be applied to obtain the funds for supporting public schools I shall feel that a good work has been done, and that there is great hope for the future of this naturally gifted people.

Your Excellency will, I hope, pardon my writing at this length, but I am much impressed with the importance of the subject, and regret only that the issue cannot be known in time for the present mail.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

No. 6.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 12th August, 1895.

I have the honour to report that the members from the other islands have arrived, and that the Federal Parliament is still in session.

I enclose the following papers, which have been laid upon the table:—

Returns.

- No. 1.—Imports for the year.
- No. 2.—Exports of produce of the Cook Islands for the year.
- No. 3.—Exports of produce of other islands.
- No. 4.—Shipping entries.

Accounts.

- No. 5.—Statement of accounts for the year.
- No. 6.—Statement of revenue.
- No. 7.—Statement of expenditure.
- No. 8.—Statement of unauthorised expenditure.
- No. 9.—Estimates for the year 1895–96.

I also enclose,—

- No. 10.—Act No. 1, 1895: To guard against secret dealings in land.
- No. 11.—Act No. 2, 1895: Act to secure the teaching of English in schools established in the Cook Islands by other than Maori teachers.
- No. 12.—Resolution to supply with school furniture any public schools established, on certain conditions.
- No. 13.—Letter from the British Resident to Parliament, with particulars as to cost, &c., of establishing a cottage hospital.

Nos. 1 to 8 do not, I think, call for comment on my part. Your Excellency will observe that the year begins with a small surplus of £313, of which it is proposed to appropriate the greater part to the hospital if it be established. Provision had also to be made for the care of an insane person—a European—a new feature in the expenditure of these islands. The estimates for revenue during the year have also been placed below the receipts of the last year, which were exceptionally good.

No. 10, the Act to guard against secret dealings in Maori land, was rendered necessary by finding that lands were leased, with rights of perpetual renewal, at the island of Mauke, and the leases registered in Rarotonga, without the tribe concerned and the other Arikis of the island being aware of the particulars of such leases or of their registration. In ignorance of this they do not offer opposition to the lessee taking possession, and much trouble may at some future time result. This Act will insure publicity, and be, I think, sufficient for all purposes.

No. 11, the Schools Act, is to guard against the establishment of schools by foreign missions without their making due provision for the teaching of English in such schools. This was passed readily and unanimously by the Parliament; but I deferred final approval till to-day, in order that due time might be given to consider objections or suggestions if any were made. Schools

taught by Maoris are exempted, as the Act would otherwise close those which are conducted by Maori missionaries in the various islands.

No. 12: It is impossible for the Federal Government to undertake the work of education even if it were desirable to do so, but it was considered that help to local effort could be given by the loan of school furniture, for which provision is made in this resolution.

No. 13: The letter respecting the hospital was to bring the question in a concrete form before the Parliament. They have debated it keenly, and have not yet come to a conclusion. A hospital is not popular with the Maoris, who have singular ideas respecting such institutions, but the proposal will, I think, be ultimately adopted.

The opening address to Parliament, and the papers connected therewith, were sent to your Excellency in my despatch of 11th July. The appendix to census of Rarotonga, showing the sex and ages of the people of this island, is sent by this mail under separate cover, in reply to your Excellency's despatch of 19th July.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

IMPORTS into the COOK ISLANDS during the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

Articles.	From Auckland, New Zealand.			From Tahiti.			Total Imports.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Animals	195	8	3	...	...	...	195	8	3
Clothing	586	6	4	392	2	7	978	8	11
Piece and fancy goods	3,979	3	5	2,626	4	3	6,605	7	8
Provisions, salted and preserved	2,186	13	6	541	18	7	2,728	12	1
Breadstuffs	1,046	4	7	706	18	0	1,753	2	7
General groceries	1,520	7	8	296	18	10	1,817	6	6
Spirits	465	14	9	64	8	4	530	3	1
Wines	38	16	6	65	4	5	104	0	11
Beer	45	17	6	13	3	6	59	1	0
Timber, manufactured and unmanufactured	1,943	14	7	641	4	8	2,584	19	3
Tobacco	370	5	4	163	6	6	533	11	10
Other articles	1,065	9	7	1,286	18	5	2,352	8	0
	15,322	18	10	7,896	17	3	22,719	16	1

Chili coin from Tahiti \$10,919-90 = £1,205 3s. 3d.
British currency from Auckland £1,026 0s. 0d.

J. H. GARNIER, Collector.

Enclosure No. 2.

EXPORTS of PRODUCE from the Cook Islands for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

Articles.	Exported to Auckland, New Zealand.		Exported to Tahiti.		Total Exports.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Bananas, bunches	6,297	£ 236 3 11	...	...	6,297	£ 236 3 11
Cocoanuts ...	8,030	19 12 0	...	...	8,030	19 12 0
Coffee, raw, lb. ...	180,486	5,814 0 0	42,878	2,084 2 6	223,364	7,898 8 1
Copra, lb. ...	1,679,882	5,781 15 3	561,323	1,951 5 3	2,241,205	7,733 0 6
Cotton in seed, lb. ...	76,144	1,427 5 7	{ 3,457 713 }	25 1 11	{ 3,457 76,857 }	1,452 7 6
Cotton ginned, lb. ...						
Fungus, lb. ...	736	7 11 10	...	...	736	7 11 10
Limejuice, gal. ...	11,646	308 7 11	...	...	11,646	308 7 11
Pineapples ...	9,607	79 19 8	...	...	9,607	79 19 8
Oranges, cases ...	8,558	1,705 12 6	...	...	8,558	1,705 12 6
Other articles ...	...	36 6 0	...	14 8 0	...	50 14 0
		15,417 0 3		4,074 17 8		19,491 17 11

British currency exported to Tahiti £94 0s. 0d.
Chili coin exported to Tahiti \$7,475 = £1,097 10s. 0d.

Enclosure No 3.

PRODUCE OF OTHER ISLANDS exported from the Cook Islands for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

Articles.	To Auckland, New Zealand.		To Tahiti.		Totals.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lb.	£ s. d.			Lb.	£ s. d.
Pearl-shell	68,369	994 3 0	...	...	68,369	994 3 0
Copra	134,400	405 0 0	...	...	134,400	405 0 0
Cotton, ginned	9,292	154 17 4	...	...	9,292	154 17 4
Arrowroot	340	2 16 8	...	...	340	2 16 8
		1,556 17 0				1,556 17 0

MERCHANDISE IMPORTED into the Cook Islands and exported beyond the Federation.

	Duty paid.	In Bond.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Penrhyn and northern islands	214 11 1	989 3 3	1,203 14 4
To Auckland, New Zealand	1 10 0	159 15 5	161 5 5
	216 1 1	1,148 18 8	1,364 19 9

J. H. GARNIER, Collector.

Enclosure No. 4.

ANNUAL RETURN of SHIPPING for the Port of Rarotonga for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

	British.		French.		American.		Cook Islands.		Totals.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.
Inwards—										
Sail	19	1,691	6	480	1	120	29	1,250	55	3,541
Steam	25	15,976	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	15,976
H.M.S. "Rapid"	1	1,420	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1,420
	45	19,087	6	480	1	120	29	1,250	81	20,937
Outwards—										
Sail	19	1,691	6	480	1	120	30	1,273	56	3,564
Steam	25	15,976	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	15,976
H.M.S. "Rapid"	1	1,420	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1,420
	45	19,087	6	480	1	120	30	1,273	82	20,960

J. H. GARNIER, Shipping-master.

Enclosure No. 5.

STATEMENT of ACCOUNT for the Year ending 30th JUNE, 1895.

	Receipts.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1895, July 1. Balance in hand as per account		402 18 6	
1895, June 30. Revenue, as per account, from 1st July, 1894, to date		1,287 1 4	
			1,689 19 10
	Expenditure.		
1895. Expenditure from 1st July, 1894, as per account			1,376 8 11
Balance, 1st July, 1895			£313 10 11

MAKEA DANIELA, Paymaster.

I have examined the above accounts, and compared them with the vouchers, and hereby certify that they are correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Enclosure No. 6.

STATEMENT of REVENUE for the Year ending 30th JUNE, 1895.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Import duty	1,048	2	9
Post Office	247	3	6			
Less— $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission	6	3	7			
Paid New Zealand Government, 16th July, 1894	3	6	9			
" 12th November, 1894	4	5	1			
" June, 1895	4	10	0			
Registering date-stamp	0	18	0			
							19	3	5
Miscellaneous				228	0	1
							10	18	6
							1,287	1	4
Balance on hand, 1st July, 1894, \$2,686.16, at 3s.				402	18	6
							£1,689	19	10

J. H. GARNIER, Collector.

I have examined the above accounts, and compared them with the vouchers, and hereby certify that they are correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Enclosure No. 7.

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

Vote.	Service.	Voted.	Expended.	Unexpended.
1	Fixed appropriations—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Payment of members	54 0 0	51 0 0	
	Subsidies to local Councils—			
	Rarotonga	90 0 0	90 0 0	
	Mangaia	90 0 0	90 0 0	
	Aitutaki	90 0 0	90 0 0	
	Atiu, Mauke, and Mitiaro	69 0 0	69 0 0	
			390 0 0	3 0 0
2	Collector of Revenue—			
	Collector, Rarotonga	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	Revenue officer, Aitutaki	7 10 0	7 10 0	
	" Mangaia	3 0 0	3 0 0	
	" Atiu	3 0 0	3 0 0	
	" Mauke	3 0 0	3 0 0	
	" Mitiaro	3 0 0	3 0 0	
	" Manuae	3 0 0	3 0 0	
			52 10 0	
3	Federal Court: Chief Judge	18 0 0	18 0 0	
4	Post Office—			
	Chief Postmaster, Rarotonga	15 0 0	15 0 0	
	Clerical assistance	9 0 0	3 15 0	
	Postal delivery and contingencies	15 0 0	13 11 9	
	Postmaster, Atiu	1 10 0	1 10 0	
	" Mangaia	1 10 0	1 10 0	
	" Aitutaki	1 10 0	1 10 0	
			36 16 9	6 13 3
5	Shipping Master, Rarotonga	12 0 0	12 0 0	
6	Paymaster and Clerk to Parliament	30 0 0	30 0 0	
7	Auditor	15 0 0	15 0 0	
8	Expenses, Chief of Government	30 0 0	30 0 0	
9	Interpreting and clerical—Vote £27 0 0			
	Transfer from Vote 10	£5 12 4		
		32 12 4	32 12 4	
10	General contingencies—Vote £148 16 0			
	Transfer to Vote 9	5 12 4		
		143 3 8		
	Transfer from Vote 18	15 8 3		
		158 11 11	158 11 11	
	Carried forward	785 4 3	775 11 0	9 13 3

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 30th June, 1895—*continued*.

Vote.	Service.	Voted.	Expended.	Unexpended.
	Brought forward ...	£ 785 s. 4 d. 3	£ 775 s. 11 d. 0	£ 9 s. 13 d. 3
11	Ngatipa ...	22 10 0	22 10 0	...
12	Parliament House ...	75 0 0	75 0 0	...
13	Printing and stationery ...	67 10 0	67 10 0	...
14	Passage of members ...	13 10 0	12 0 0	1 10 0
15	Expenses of Parliament ...	18 0 0	17 19 5	0 0 7
16	Road to school, Nikao ...	45 0 0	45 0 0	...
17	Opening expenses, Nikao School ...	30 0 0	30 0 0	...
18	Establish British currency, ex- penses printing, &c.—Vote £75 0 0 Transfer to Vote 10 ... £15 8 3	59 11 9	57 11 5	2 0 4
19	Maintenance of children at Nikao School ...	75 0 0	53 3 0	21 17 0
20	Subsidies in aid of Arikis' Court and police— Mangaia ... Aitutaki ... Atiu, Mitiaro, and Mauke ... Rarotonga ...	24 0 0 24 0 0 24 0 0 57 0 0	24 0 0 24 0 0 24 0 0 57 0 0	...
	Unauthorised ...	120 0 0	91 4 1	28 15 11
		£1,440 6 0	1,376 8 11	63 17 1

MAKEA DANIELA,
Paymaster.

I have examined the above accounts and compared them with the vouchers, and hereby certify that they are correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Enclosure No. 8.

STATEMENT of UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE (under Act No. 4, 1892,) for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

T. and S. Morrin and Co., New Zealand (No. 5) ...	£ 15 s. 0 d. 0
New Zealand Government (No. 6) ...	27 10 2
Henry Nicholas (No. 34) ...	12 3 4
Wildman and Lyell (No. 61) ...	21 10 10
Makea Daniela (No. 64) ...	14 19 9
	<u>£91 4 1</u>

Correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

STATEMENT of TRANSFERS.

Transfer from General contingencies, Vote No. 10, to Interpreting, &c, Vote No. 9 ...	£ 5 s. 12 d. 4
Transfer from British currency, Vote No. 18, to General contingencies, Vote No. 10 ...	15 8 3

Correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Enclosure No. 9.

ESTIMATES for the Year ending 30th June, 1896.

Revenue.

	Estimated, 1894-95.	Actual, 1895-96.	Estimated, 1895-96.
Import duty ...	£ 675 s. 0 d. 0	£ 1,048 s. 2 d. 9	£ 850 s. 0 d. 0
Postal ...	225 0 0	228 0 1	150 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	15 0 0	10 18 6	10 0 0
	£915 0 0	£1,287 1 4	1,010 0 0
Balance, 1st July, 1895 ...	...	...	313 10 11
			<u>£1,323 10 11</u>

Expenditure.

Vote.	Service.	Voted, 1894-95.	Expended, 1894-95.	Estimate, 1895-96.
1	Fixed appropriations—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Payment of members	54 0 0	51 0 0	54 0 0
	Subsidies—			
	Atiu, Mitiaro, and Mauke	69 0 0	69 0 0	45 0 0
	Aitutaki	90 0 0	90 0 0	45 0 0
	Mangaia	90 0 0	90 0 0	45 0 0
	Rarotonga	90 0 0	90 0 0	45 0 0
2	Collection of revenue—			
	Collector	30 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0
	Revenue officers, five	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
	" Aitutaki	7 10 0	7 10 0	7 10 0
3	Federal Court: Chief Judge	18 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0
4	Post Office—			
	Chief Postmaster	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
	Three Postmasters	4 10 0	4 10 0	4 10 0
	Clerical assistance	9 0 0	3 15 0	9 0 0
	Postal delivery	15 0 0	13 11 9	15 0 0
5	Shipping-master	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0
6	Paymaster and Clerk to Parliament and Government	30 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0
7	Auditor	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
8	Expenses, Chief of Government	30 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0
9	Interpreting and clerical assistance	27 10 0	32 12 4	45 0 0
	Transfer, General contingencies	5 12 4		
10	General contingencies	148 16 0	158 11 11	90 0 0
	Transfer, British currency: £15 8 3 Less transfer to Inter- preting 5 12 4	9 15 11		
		22 10 0		
11	Ngatipa	22 10 0	22 10 0	22 10 0
12	Parliament House	75 0 0	75 0 0	...
13	Printing, stationery, &c.	67 10 0	67 10 0	90 0 0
14	Passages of members	13 10 0	12 0 0	13 10 0
15	Expenses of Parliament	18 0 0	17 19 5	20 0 0
16	Road to school, Nikao	45 0 0	45 0 0	...
17	Expenses opening school, Nikao	30 0 0	30 0 0	...
18	Introduction of British currency	75 0 0	57 11 5	...
	Transfer to General contingencies, £15 8s. 3d.			
19	Maintenance of Children: Tereora School, Nikao	75 0 0	53 3 0	125 0 0
20	Subsidies in aid of Arikis' Courts—			
	Mangaia	24 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0
	Atiu, Mitiaro, and Mauke	24 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0
	Rarotonga	57 0 0	57 0 0	57 0 0
	Aitutaki	24 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0
21	Unauthorised expenditure, Act 4, 1892	120 0 0	91 4 1	...
22	Fair ... ..	...	...	30 0 0
23	Printing-press and type ... ..	...	...	40 0 0
24	Care of insane ... ..	...	...	50 0 0
25	Hospital ... ..	...	...	220 0 0
		£1,455 14 3	£1,376 8 11	£1,310 0 0

Rarotonga, 23rd July, 1895.

Enclosure No. 10.

No. 1, 1895.—AN ACT TO GUARD AGAINST SECRET DEALINGS IN LAND.

WHEREAS it is desirable that all dealings in land should be open and publicly known at the time:
It is hereby enacted by the British Resident and the Parliament of the Cook Islands:—

1. That all transactions in land must from the passing of this Act be registered in the Registry of Rarotonga within three months of the deeds being signed, or they will not be recognised in any Court of law in the Cook Islands.

2. That all deeds executed up to the present time in any of the islands must also be registered before the 31st December, 1895, or they will not be recognised in any Court of law in the Cook Islands.

3. That such registration shall be marked upon the deed by the Registrar with the words "Entered in the Registry of the Cook Islands this day of , in accordance with the Act." But such registration is only for security of the deed, and does not in any way give additional validity.

4. That the Registrar shall, as soon as possible after the passing of this Act, publish for general information, in such form as the Chief of the Government may from time to time direct, the following particulars of all deeds registered in the past, or that may be registered hereafter:—

- (1.) The names of the parties and the date of the deed.
- (2.) The name and description of the land.
- (3.) The nature of the interest conveyed by the deed.
- (4.) The amount of consideration.

5. That every person registering a deed concerning land shall pay to the Registrar a fee of two shillings to cover the expenses attending the publication.

6. That in case of protest from any person against any transfer or other dealings with land, such protest may be sent to the Registrar of Deeds for record in the same manner and on the same conditions as those made for the record of other papers or deeds.

Dated at Avarua, this 26th day of July, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation forthwith.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—26th July, 1895.

Enclosure No. 11.

No. 2, 1895.—SCHOOLS ACT.

WHEREAS it is desirable that the English language should be so taught to the Maori people in order that they may be able at the least to read freely in that language: And whereas it is desirable to secure such teaching in schools established or that may be established by other than Maori teachers in the Cook Islands:

It is hereby enacted by the British Resident and the Parliament of the Cook Islands:—

1. That the chief resident authority in any school at present established or which may hereafter be established shall apply to the Chief of the Government for a certificate, and shall in such application state what provision is made for the teaching of English, and who is to be held responsible for the due observance of this Act.

2. That the Chief of the Government, subject to approval by the British Resident, shall thereupon issue a certificate to the applicant in the form provided in the Schedule hereto.

3. That the school shall be open at any time to inspection by some person appointed by the Chief of the Government for the purpose of reporting on the result of the teaching of English in such school.

4. That if the report of the Inspector shall render such action necessary, the Chief of the Government shall send a copy of the report to the person responsible under this Act, and shall call upon such person to make within a period of not less than three months such provision or alteration as may be deemed necessary for the purposes of this Act.

5. That if the inspection be obstructed, or the provision or alteration deemed necessary shall not be duly made, the Chief of the Government, subject to approval by the British Resident, may declare the certificate suspended for a fixed period, or cancelled.

6. That any person teaching in a school not certificated, or from which the certificate has been temporarily or permanently withdrawn in accordance with section 5 of this Act, or obstructing the Inspector of the said school, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds for every offence.

7. That jurisdiction under this Act shall rest solely on the Federal Court of the Cook Islands.

Dated at Avarua, this 7th day of August, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation from this date.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—12th August, 1895.

SCHEDULE.

I, , Chief of the Government of the Cook Islands Federation, do hereby, under authority of "The Schools Act, 1895," and in accordance with the provisions thereof, certify that is authorised to establish a school at , in the Cook Islands.

Approved. , British Resident.

Chief of the Government.

Enclosure No. 12.

1895-96.—FEDERATION OF THE COOK ISLANDS.

Resolved, That, in order to encourage the establishment of free public schools in the different islands, the Government is hereby authorised to obtain such desks and school furniture as it may consider desirable, and to land them free of cost. That the term "public school" shall mean a school subject to inspection for purposes of report by any person duly appointed by the Government for that purpose; and, further, that the school shall be only for secular education, and receive its pupils without regard to religious creed and free of charge.

The Government is to make such conditions for the security of the school furniture so lent as it may consider necessary.

Dated at Avarua, this 2nd day of August, 1895.

Enclosure No. 13.

To the Parliament.

British Residency, 23rd July, 1895.

SALUTATIONS! The following information, obtained by me from Dr. Caldwell, in connection with the probable cost of establishing a small hospital for five patients, is submitted to the Parliament for its consideration.

	£	s.	d.
Necessary furniture and fittings, as per statement No. 1	40	12	0
Current expenditure, as per statement No. 2, for one year (and not including salary to doctor in charge)	224	16	0
Salary of the doctor, which could not be put, I think, at less than ...	90	0	0

A building would also be required, and Messrs. Donald and Edenborough are willing to sell, for a hospital or other public purpose, the house near Avarua Bridge formerly occupied by Pori. The tenure is leasehold, with upwards of twenty years to run, and ground-rent £7 10s. a year. They will take for the lease £100, and the necessary alterations would cost £20 to £30.

If Parliament agreed to appropriate, say, £220 from last year's surplus, and levied a special import duty of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as a hospital duty to be appropriated exclusively to that purpose and to come into operation on the 1st October, there would be probably sufficient provision for this year for the hospital—one of the most urgent needs of the Cook Islands.

FREDERICK J. MOSS.

Statement No. 1.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
6 beds and bedding ...	12	0	0	Dishes	0	10	0
1 desk and chair ...	1	10	0	Kitchen table	1	4	0
1 dozen chairs ...	3	12	0	Cupboard	0	16	0
1 bath	2	0	0	2 chambers	0	8	0
Water-heating apparatus ...	4	0	0	1 bed-pan	0	5	0
6 stands	3	0	0	Blankets for treatment ...	3	0	0
3 lamps	0	9	0	1 lamp	0	12	0
2 lanterns	0	6	0	Books and stationery ...	2	0	0
1 stove and fittings ...	5	0	0				
					£40	12	0

Statement No. 2.

	£	s.	d.
Medicines and supplies, for dressings, &c.	20	0	0
Provisions for eight persons, at £15 12s.	124	16	0
1 nurse	40	0	0
1 caretaker and wife	40	0	0
	£224	16	0

No. 7.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 16th August, 1895.

The detention of the "Richmond" by the breakage of the shaft on the voyage from Tahiti enables me to inform your Excellency that the Arikis of Rarotonga (its Government) met on the 14th, and adopted the enclosed message to the Rarotonga Council, which met on the following day (yesterday).

Respecting the proposed free public schools, the only information available was that the Adventists are willing to leave four teachers at £60 each for one year; but whether this means two teachers and their wives (also teachers), or four distinct teachers available for as many schools, is not yet clear. If left, they are to make arrangements directly and individually with the Government of the island, and be solely under its orders.

On the 15th the Rarotonga Council met and appointed a committee of three to make inquiry,—

- (1.) As to the teachers, their certificates, and qualifications;
- (2.) What subjects it is proposed to teach;
- (3.) What school-books to be used;
- (4.) The probable number of pupils and of schools and teachers required;
- (5.) The salaries of the teachers, and general expenses of the schools;
- (6.) The best means of raising the requisite funds.

The committee has not yet been able to make much progress. Meanwhile, I write by this mail to the Education Board in Auckland, asking them if they will kindly send me the regulations, standards, and various papers connected with the New Zealand schools; also a set of the school-books used, and where they can be obtained. I wrote to Auckland because the reply by the "Richmond" comes a month earlier than it could from Wellington.

Your Excellency will see that much is yet to be done before free public schools can be opened. I am anxious, if they should be, to keep them as much in accord with the New Zealand system as possible.

A second Sister, as an additional teacher of English, arrived by the "Richmond" for the school opened by the Roman Catholic Mission from Tahiti.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

I have, &c.,
FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

Enclosure.

From the ARIKIS (the Government) to the COUNCIL of RAROTONGA.

Rarotonga, 14th August, 1895.

SALUTATIONS! You will meet to-morrow according to the law to consider what is for the good of Rarotonga.

Since you last met important changes have taken place. The Tereora School has been opened at Nikao by the London Missionary Society. A school has been opened in Avarua by the Roman Catholic Mission, and several school-teachers have just arrived in the "Pitcairn" in connection with the Seventh-Day Adventist Mission. The "Pitcairn" goes from here to Fiji, and we are informed that, if arrangements can be made, some of the teachers will be left in the Cook Islands.

At present we do not know what the nature of these arrangements will be, and until we know we cannot consider the subject ourselves nor put it before you. We therefore are of opinion that the Council, at its meeting, should adjourn until full information can be laid before them, and we have not prepared any business for the present for your consideration.

TINOMANA, Ariki,
For the Government of Rarotonga.

No. 8.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. MOSS.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 17th August, 1895.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, enclosing copies of the Federal Flag of the Cook Islands as it will appear in the Admiralty Book, one of which is forwarded herewith for registration in your office.

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
GLASGOW.

No. 9.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. MOSS.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 31st August, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch (No. 9) enclosing the following papers: (1) Returns; (2) accounts; (3) estimates; (4) Acts 1, 2, 3; (5) a resolution; (6) a letter to Parliament as to establishing a cottage hospital.

2. With regard to (1) the returns of imports and exports, it will be well if, in future, a comparative statement accompanies these showing the excess or deficit as compared with the previous year.

3. The accounts for the year appear highly satisfactory, and the same applies to the estimates.

4. The Acts to guard against secret dealings in land, and to secure the teaching of English in schools, appear calculated to secure the ends in view.

5. I trust that you will be able to carry the measure to establish a cottage hospital.

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
GLASGOW.

No. 10.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. MOSS.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 2nd September, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No. 7, No. 8, and

No. 10.

I have perused and forwarded them to my Government.

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
GLASGOW.

No. 11.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 16th September, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Federal Parliament closed its session on the 20th instant. The only Acts passed, in addition to those sent in my despatch of 9th August, were—No. 3, 1895, Import Duty Amendment Act; and No. 4, 1895, Appropriation Act; of which copies are enclosed.

The Import Duty Amendment Act levies an additional 1 per cent. on all imports, to form a fund for the support of the hospital. The building has been purchased, but the arrangements with the doctor and nurse have not yet been completed. I hope to see the hospital opened by the end of the year, but the small amount available renders it necessary to proceed with caution.

The Appropriation Act provides for an expenditure of £1,313, against receipts estimated at £1,323. It includes £220 for the purchase of the hospital building, furnishing, and making the necessary alterations to fit it for the small number of patients likely to be received till it is made popular with the natives. Their objection to hospitals is at present very great.

In connection with the Appropriation Act I may refer to a new item (£50) for care of the insane. This is rendered necessary by the hopeless insanity of a trader of long residence in these islands, Robert Summers, an Englishman, for whom we have to do the best that circumstances permit. I beg leave to suggest that it would be advisable, if possible, to make some arrangement with the New Zealand Government for receiving British subjects into one or other of the New Zealand asylums, subject of course to the payment by the Cook Islands Government of a fixed charge for each patient sent.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

No. 3, 1895.—IMPORT DUTY AMENDMENT ACT.

WHEREAS it is desirable to provide for a hospital, and for the maintenance thereof, in Rarotonga:

It is hereby enacted by the British Resident and the Parliament of the Cook Islands:—

1. That a duty of 1 per cent. shall be levied on all imports into the Cook Islands, and the proceeds applied to the erection and maintenance of a hospital, at which advice and medicine and general medical or surgical treatment shall be given without charge to all applicants, within certain hours to be fixed by the Chief of the Government.

2. That any money collected under this Act shall be kept in a separate and special account, to be called the "Public Hospital Fund."

3. That this Act shall read with and be an addition in all other respects to Acts 2 and 3 of 1891, and Act No. 2 of 1893.

4. This Act shall come into operation on the 1st day of October, 1895.

Dated at Avarua, this 15th day of August, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation on 1st October, 1895.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—20th August, 1895.

Enclosure No. 2.

No. 4, 1895.—APPROPRIATION ACT.

It is hereby enacted by the British Resident and the Parliament of the Cook Islands:—

1. That the expenditure for the Public Service for the year ending the 30th June, 1896, shall not exceed the sums stated in Schedule A of this Act, amounting in all to one thousand three hundred and thirteen pounds (£1,313).

2. That the Chief of the Government, with the approval of the British Resident, may authorise the transfer of savings from any vote (other than a vote for salaries) to any vote (other than a vote for salaries) for which it may be found that sufficient provision has not been made in this said Schedule. Also that a statement of transfers so made shall be laid before Parliament at the next session.

3. That every account against the Government shall, before it is sent to the Auditor, be certified by the British Resident, or by persons appointed for each department or service by the Chief of the Government with the approval of the British Resident; that such certificates shall state that the services therein to be paid have been properly performed, or the articles charged have been duly supplied, and that the prices are fair and reasonable.

4. That the various sums in Schedule B of this Act which have been paid under the authority of Act No. 4 of 1892 (unauthorised expenditure) shall be charged to the purposes named in the said Schedule, to the amount of ninety-one pounds four shillings and one penny (£91 4s. 1d.).

5. That no money shall be paid except on cheques signed by the Paymaster and countersigned by the Auditor.

Dated at Rarotonga, this 20th day of August, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation forthwith.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—20th August, 1895.

SCHEDULE A.

Vote.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Fixed appropriations—		
	Payment of members	54 0 0	
	Subsidies—		
	Atiu, Mitiaro, and Mauke	45 0 0	
	Aitutaki	45 0 0	
	Mangaia	45 0 0	
	Rarotonga	45 0 0	
			234 0 0
2	Collection of revenue—		
	Collector	30 0 0	
	4 Revenue Officers	12 0 0	
	Mangaia	6 0 0	
	Aitutaki	7 10 0	
			55 10 0
3	Federal Court: Chief Judge ... ..	...	18 0 0
4	Post Office—		
	Chief Postmaster	15 0 0	
	3 Postmasters	4 10 0	
	Clerical assistance	9 0 0	
	Postal delivery	15 0 0	
			43 10 0
5	Shipping-master ... ..	...	12 0 0
6	Paymaster and Clerk to Parliament and Government ... ..	...	30 0 0
7	Auditor ... ..	...	15 0 0
8	Expenses, Chief of the Government ... ..	...	30 0 0
9	Interpreting, and clerical assistance ... ..	...	45 0 0
10	General contingencies ... ..	...	90 0 0
11	Ngatipa ... ..	...	22 10 0
12	Printing, stationery, &c. ... ..	...	90 0 0
13	Passages of members ... ..	...	13 10 0
14	Expenses of Parliament House ... ..	...	20 0 0
15	Maintenance of children, Tereora School, Nikao ... ..	...	125 0 0
16	Subsidies in aid of Arikis' Courts—		
	Mangaia	24 0 0	
	Atiu, Mitiaro, and Mauke	24 0 0	
	Rarotonga	57 0 0	
	Aitutaki	24 0 0	
			129 0 0
17	Fair ... ..	...	30 0 0
18	Printing-press and type ... ..	...	40 0 0
19	Care of insane ... ..	...	50 0 0
20	Hospital ... ..	...	220 0 0
		...	£1,313 0 0

SCHEDULE B.

General contingencies (Morrin and Co.)	£	s.	d.
Post Office (New Zealand Government)	27	10	2
Interpreting and clerical assistance (H. Nicholas)	12	3	4
Stationery, printing (Wildman and Lyell)	21	10	10
Parliament House (Makea Daniela)	14	19	9
	£91	4	1

No. 12.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 16th September, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Rarotonga Council resumed its sittings on the 29th August, and is still in session. The meetings of the Council are often only once a week, as the members like to confer with their people, a practice which I have always encouraged as serving to train their people.

I enclose,—

1. The opening message of the Arikis (the Government) to the Council on the 29th August;
2. Statement of accounts for 1894-95;
3. Statement of receipts for 1894-95;
4. Statement of permit-fees for 1894-95;
5. Statement of expenditure for 1894-95;

which have been laid before the Council,—

I also enclose,—

6. The estimates of revenue and expenditure for 1895-96, which are now under consideration.

After providing for all needful expenditure, these estimates show a sum of £116 available for new services or works.

The Council has very carefully inquired into the question of public schools—the probable cost, and the terms on which the necessary teachers can be engaged. They have passed a Bill authorising a tax of 2s. each for all over five years of age in Rarotonga to pay for the schools till their next meeting in August, 1896. This will probably yield a little over £200; but I have no doubt that, if the schools are found satisfactory, increased provision will be made. The Bill has to pass the Council of Arikis before it becomes law, and may be altered in its course. I do not, therefore, now enclose it to your Excellency.

The negotiations for these schools are unexpectedly complicated by a letter received last week from the London Missionary Society informing their agent here, the Rev. J. Hutchin, that they are ready to select and send teachers if their salaries and expenses be guaranteed. The natives would all prefer this arrangement, but the proposal is so vague, and says nothing of probable cost, that they fear losing the present opportunity of obtaining the English-teaching schools which I am glad to say they now eagerly desire.

Through whatever society the teachers may come, all arrangements will be made by the Rarotonga Government with each teacher separately and directly. The New Zealand standards will be adopted and the New Zealand school-books used.

If these schools are established in Rarotonga the other islands of the Federation will not be long in following the example.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

Enclosure No. 1.

From the ARIKIS of Rarotonga (the Government) to the RAROTONGA COUNCIL.

(Message No. 2.)

Rarotonga, 29th August, 1895.

SALUTATIONS! You met on the 15th instant, for the third time since the new Council was formed by law, in 1893; and we then addressed you on the single subject of education. We have now to inform you that the revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1895, was £792 19s. 9d.; and the expenditure for the same period, £678 15s. 8d. Thus you have a surplus of £114 4s. 1d. with which to begin the present year. Full accounts will be laid before you, as usual.

We counsel you to continue to be careful in the expenditure. A bad season, a hurricane, or other unforeseen calamity may make a great difference in the revenue; and this should always be borne in mind.

The census of Rarotonga has been taken in accordance with the law passed by you last session; and the population is found to exceed considerably that at which it had been always previously estimated.

We shall propose to you to alter the present law so as to make the fines and fees of the Arikis' Courts more quickly available as revenue; also a law to prevent people building within 15ft. of a road-line, in order that these houses may not be an obstacle to widening roads when hereafter it may be necessary.

The time has come when a small lock-up is necessary, and we recommend its provision to your consideration.

A hospital has been provided for by the Federal Parliament. Although in Rarotonga, it will be for all the islands, and the work will be in the hands of the Federal Government.

Your great work will be to establish free public schools in Rarotonga. You have now the opportunity, and we send herewith a letter to us from the British Resident, Mr. Moss, on this subject. We recommend that letter to your earnest consideration. This great work, if it be done, will make the present Council memorable for ever to the people of Rarotonga.

We pray God's blessing on you all.

For the Arikis of Rarotonga.

TINOMANA, Ariki.

Sub-enclosure.

From the BRITISH RESIDENT to the ARIKIS (the Government) of RAROTONGA.

Rarotonga, 20th August, 1895.

SALUTATIONS! I ask you when the Council meets on the 29th to press upon it specially the great subject of opening free public schools in the settlements of Avarua, Takitumu, and Arorangi. The teachers are here, and it rests with the Council to say whether the Maoris shall grow up from childhood associating together in their own schools as one people.

My advice to you is this: Do not lose the opportunity, or it may be long before you have it again. If you establish these schools there will be no difficulty in getting the use of buildings. The furniture will be provided by the Federal Government. These are great helps. You have only to tax justly the whole of the people to find the rest of the money for this work, which is for all their good just as much as are the roads, the Judges' Courts, or the public buildings.

The missions have plenty of work in the great duty of teaching religion and in doing good in other ways to the people. If they wish they can, of course, have schools for teaching other things also; but the people of Rarotonga should have their own schools, owned by themselves and paid for by themselves. Then let the parents choose to which of the schools they send their children.

If you open such free public schools, my advice is this: Make a law providing the money and let the following be the conditions:—(1.) That the subjects taught and the school-books used shall be those of the free public schools in New Zealand. (2.) That the schools be opened free of charge for four hours a day to all children between five and thirteen years of age. (3.) That the Government have power to fix three months altogether for holidays. This can be done at times when the children can help their parents, as in coffee-picking, &c. (4.) That night-schools shall be opened as soon as practicable to teach older persons; and at such night-schools there should also be taught carpentering, printing, and other useful trades.

Do this great work. Then encourage the formation of drum-and-fife bands in the schools, and have the children taught singing. You have now the opportunity of doing these things. Do not lose it from dislike to taxation. Every free and strong people has to tax itself for schools, and would be ashamed to look to others to pay for them instead. Let the people think how much money they used to be always paying in fines to the Courts, and how little they pay now. They will not feel the loss of the money they would have to pay for schools.

Again, therefore, I say, Do not let the present opportunity pass. If you do, it may be years before you have one again.

From your friend,
FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

Enclosure No. 2.

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.—STATEMENT of ACCOUNT for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

		<i>Receipts.</i>					
Balance on hand, 1st July, 1894—		£		s.		d.	
	\$965·80, at 3s. ...	...	...	144	17	5	
	\$680, at 3s. ...	...	...	147	0	0	
Subsidies—							
	Liquor-tax ...	...	...	312	15	2	
	Road-tax ...	...	...	43	15	0	
	Dog-tax ...	...	...	18	17	2	
	Court fines ...	...	...	125	15	0	
				—————		792	19 9
		<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Expenditure from 1st July, 1894, to 30th June, 1895, as per statement ...		...	...	...	...	678	15 8
Balance on hand ...		...	...	...	...	£114	4 1

MAKEA DANIELA, Paymaster.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above accounts and compared the vouchers therewith, and find the same to be correct—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Rarotonga, 26th August, 1895.

Enclosure No. 3.

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.—STATEMENT of RECEIPTS for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

		£		s.		d.	
Cash on hand, 1st July, 1894, \$965·80, at 3s. ...		...	...	144	17	5	
Subsidies, \$980, at 3s. ...		...	...	147	0	0	
Liquor-tax—							
	1st July, 1894, to 31st December, 1894, \$1,363·94, at 3s. ...	...	...	204	11	9	
	1st January to 30th June, 1895 ...	...	...	163	12	8	
				—————		368	4 5
Less—							
	Salary Licensing Officer ...	£54	0	0			
	Discount on \$29·25, due 31st December, 1894, paid in Chili dollars, at 2s. ...	...	...	1	9	3	
				—————		55	9 3
				—————		312	15 2
Road-tax—							
	Avarua ...	...	...	19	3	6	
	Arorangi ...	...	...	12	16	6	
	Takitumu ...	...	...	11	15	0	
				—————		43	15 0
Dog-tax—							
	Avarua ...	...	...	10	19	2	
	Arorangi ...	...	...	4	10	0	
	Takitumu ...	...	...	3	8	0	
				—————		18	17 2
Court fines—							
	Avarua ...	...	...	64	1	0	
	Arorangi ...	...	...	41	12	0	
	Takitumu ...	...	...	20	2	0	
				—————		125	15 0
				—————		£792	19 9

MAKEA DANIELA, Paymaster.

I do hereby certify that I have examined the above accounts and compared the vouchers therewith, and find the same to be correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Rarotonga, 26th August, 1895.

3—A. 3.

Enclosure No. 4.

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.—STATEMENT of FEES on PERMITS for Liquor received by and due to the Licensing Officer, Rarotonga, from 1st July, 1894, to 30th June, 1895.

Amounts received.

From 1st July, 1894, to 31st December, 1894, \$1,363·94,	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
at 3s.	204	11	9			
From 1st January, 1895, to 30th June, 1895	163	12	8			
				368	4	5

Expenditure.

Salary Licensing Officer	54	0	0			
Discount on \$29·25, Balance due 31st December, 1895,						
paid in Chili dollars deposited, at 2s.	1	9	3			
				55	9	3

Balance £312 15 2

Cash deposited.

From 1st January, 1894, to 31st December, 1894,						
\$1,154·68, at 3s.	173	4	0			
From 1st January, 1895, to 30th June, 1895	109	18	0			
Fees in course of collection... ..	29	13	2			
				£312	15	2

J. H. GARNIER, Licensing Officer.

I hereby certify I have examined the above accounts, and compared the vouchers therewith, and find the same to be correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.
Rarotonga, 26th August, 1895.

Enclosure No. 5.

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.—STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 30th June, 1895.

Vote.	Service.	Voted.	Expended.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Clerk to Council and Government	7 10 0	7 10 0	7 10 0
2	Paymaster	7 10 0	7 10 0	7 10 0
3	Auditor	7 10 0	7 10 0	7 10 0
4	Rent of bond	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
5	Clerk to Arikis' Court—			
	Avarua	13 10 0	13 10 0	
	Arorangi	9 0 0	9 0 0	
	Takitumu	9 0 0	9 0 0	
6	Police—			31 10 0
	Avarua	36 0 0	36 0 0	
	Arorangi	18 0 0	18 0 0	
	Takitumu	18 0 0	18 0 0	
7	Interpreting and clerical assistance	37 10 0	37 10 0	72 0 0
8	Fixed appropriations—			37 10 0
	Arikis and Mataiapos, Avarua	40 10 0	40 10 0	
	" " Arorangi	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	" " Takitumu	30 0 0	30 0 0	
9	Fixed appropriations—			100 10 0
	Judges, Avarua	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	" Arorangi	18 0 0	18 0 0	
	" Takitumu	18 0 0	18 0 0	
10	Maintenance of roads—			66 0 0
	Avarua	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	Arorangi	15 0 0	15 0 0	
	Takitumu	15 0 0	15 0 0	
11	Expenses of Council	12 0 0	12 0 0	60 0 0
12	General contingencies	22 10 0	22 10 0	12 0 0
13	Inspector of Works	9 0 0	9 0 0	22 10 0
14	Roads and bridges—			9 0 0
	Tuoro	105 0 0	105 0 0	
	Avana and Muri	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	Avana	7 10 0	7 10 0	
	Pouara	15 0 0	15 0 0	
	Avarua	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	Titikaveka	45 0 0	45 0 0	
	Contingencies	7 10 0	7 7 8	
				239 17 8
		£678 18 0	...	£678 18 0

MAKEA DANIELA, Paymaster.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above accounts and compared the vouchers therewith, and find the same to be correct.—J. SCARD, Auditor.

Rarotonga, 26th August, 1895.

Enclosure No. 6.

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.—ESTIMATES for Year ending 30th June, 1896.

Revenue.					Receipts, 1894-95.			Estimated, 1895-96.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Subsidies from Federal revenue	...	...	...	...	147	0	0	102	0	0
Liquor permits	...	...	...	...	312	15	2	200	0	0
Road-tax	...	...	...	...	43	15	0	45	0	0
Dog-tax	...	...	...	...	18	17	2	20	0	0
Fines and fees (Arikis' Courts)	...	...	...	...	125	15	0	120	0	0
					648	2	4	487	0	0
Balance from previous year	...	...	...	...	144	17	5	114	4	1
					£792	19	9	£601	4	1

Vote.	Expenditure.				Expended, 1894-95.			Vote, 1895-96.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	Clerk to Council and Government	...	...	...	7	10	0	7	10	0
2	Paymaster	...	...	...	7	10	0	7	10	0
3	Auditor	...	...	...	7	10	0	7	10	0
4	Rent of bond	...	...	...	5	8	0	5	8	0
5	Clerks of Arikis' Courts—									
	Avarua	...	...	...	13	10	0	13	10	0
	Arorangi	...	...	...	9	0	0	9	0	0
	Takitumu	...	...	...	9	0	0	9	0	0
6	Police—									
	Avarua	...	...	...	36	0	0	36	0	0
	Arorangi	...	...	...	18	0	0	18	0	0
	Takitumu	...	...	...	18	0	0	18	0	0
7	Interpreting and clerical assistance	...	...	...	37	10	0	37	10	0
8	Fixed appropriations—									
	Avarua	...	...	...	40	10	0	40	10	0
	Arorangi	...	...	...	30	0	0	30	0	0
	Takitumu	...	...	...	30	0	0	30	0	0
9	Fixed appropriations for Judges of Arikis' Courts—									
	Avarua	...	...	...	30	0	0	30	0	0
	Arorangi	...	...	...	18	0	0	18	0	0
	Takitumu	...	...	...	18	0	0	18	0	0
10	Maintenance of roads—									
	Avarua	...	...	...	30	0	0	30	0	0
	Arorangi	...	...	...	15	0	0	15	0	0
	Takitumu	...	...	...	15	0	0	15	0	0
11	Expenses of Council	...	...	...	12	0	0	12	0	0
12	General contingencies	...	...	...	22	10	0	22	10	0
13	Inspector of Works	...	...	...	9	0	0	...		
14	Roads and works	...	...	...	239	17	8	...		
15	Printing laws, &c.	...	...	...	...			25	0	0
16	Unforeseen expenditure	...	...	...	...			30	0	0
Totals of votes above					£484	18	0			
Estimated receipts					601	4	1			
Available balance for roads, &c.					£116	6	1			
					£678	15	8	£484	18	0

No. 13.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

My LORD,— British Residency, Rarotonga, 17th September, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 17th August, enclosing a copy of the Federal flag of these islands as it appears in the Admiralty Book.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

No. 14.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

My LORD,— British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th October, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that constant complaints have been made to me during the last two years by the local government of Mauke that one of their Arakis, Tararo, acting in concert with and under the advice of a German trader on the island, was defying their Judge, refusing to obey his decisions or to pay fines, and constantly creating trouble and quarrels among them. Also, that the trader and Tararo had imported fowling-pieces, and that others of the natives, seeing them do so, had obtained firearms from Aitutaki, contrary to the unwritten but well-known law of the island since, in consequence of anticipated trouble, their arms had been surrendered to the British Consul some years ago.

These complaints were supported by Ngamaru, an Ariki of Atiu. Mauke has been tributary to Atiu since its conquest, before the introduction of Christianity, and the mana over the island is claimed by Atiu. In relation to this, Ngamaru also complained that Tararo had given leases, practically perpetual, to the German trader of land which he had no right to alienate without consent of the Arakis of Atiu.

The German trader on his part has been also prolific in complaints, but they are trivial, and I have repeatedly warned him that I can listen to no appeals against decisions of the local Judge until those decisions have been obeyed. In no single case have I found him exhibit the least desire to cultivate a good feeling on the part of the natives, who have repeatedly written asking for his removal.

Finally, on 27th August, I wrote at Ngamaru's request warning the trader not to expend money on the land till his title was made sure, and requesting that he and all others would either send away their firearms or surrender them to the Judge at Mauke. He refused to surrender his, and the example was followed by Tararo and many of his people. The trader has been to Rarotonga to see about the land, but Ngamaru declined to give any reply till he had consulted with the other Arakis of Atiu. He will proceed for that purpose to Atiu at the first opportunity, and on receiving his report I shall be able to advise the Government what course to take. I feel confident that they will be able to uphold the law whenever it is made clear, and equally confident of their wish to do so.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

No. 15.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

My LORD,— British Residency, Rarotonga, 19th October, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 31st August, received on the 9th instant, and in accordance with your Excellency's suggestion will see that in future statements of imports and exports a comparison is made with the previous year. My annual trade reports contain comparative statements of the kind in detail, but they are made up for the year ending the 31st December.

I have compiled a comparative statement for the financial years of the Cook Islands Government ending on June, 1894 and 1895, and enclose them accordingly.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

Enclosure.

COOK ISLANDS.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS for Years ending 30th June, 1894 and 1895, respectively (shillings and pence omitted).

	<i>Imports.</i>			1894.	1895.
				£	£
From New Zealand	11,510	15,323
From Tahiti	9,013	7,396
Totals	<u>£20,523</u>	<u>£22,719</u>

	<i>Exports.</i>	1894.	1895.
		£	£
Produce of Cook Islands—			
To New Zealand	14,459	15,417
To Tahiti	3,903	4,075
		18,362	19,492
Produce of other islands—			
To New Zealand	600	1,557
To Tahiti	325	...
Merchandise imported free of duty from New Zealand for re-export to other islands	1,163	1,149
Totals	£20,450	£22,198

No. 16.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. Moss.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 25th October, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, as per margin (No. 11/95, enclosing two Acts; No. 3/95, Import Duty Amendment Act; No. 4/95, Appropriation Act, 1895).

In reply to your suggestion as to the removal of insane British residents to New Zealand from the Cook Islands, I have to inform you that my Government do not see their way to adopt the plan proposed by you.

I have, &c.,

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

GLASGOW.

No 17.

Mr. F. J. Moss, to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th November, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of 25th October, enclosing copy of a letter from the Acting High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, with reference to the registration of land in the Cook Islands, and asking my views and the views of the Government of these islands thereon.

A Registry of Deeds for the Cook Islands was opened on 17th July, 1891, in accordance with the Provisional Powers Act, passed by the Federal Parliament in its first session in that year.

The registration was not compulsory, and gave no additional validity to deeds. Many deeds have been registered, and are continually being registered here for security against loss or accident; but in the last Parliament an Act was passed (20th July, 1895) to guard against secret dealings in Native lands. All future deeds were required to be registered in the office at Rarotonga within three months of execution, and if not so registered would not be recognised in any Court within the Federation.

By the same Act it was provided that all deeds executed at the time of its enactment must also be registered on or before 31st December, 1895, on the same penalty of non-recognition in any Court within the Federation.

The London Missionary Society's agent in Rarotonga has sent the deeds here to be registered, and I presume the agent at Mangaia was not aware of the passage of the Act of 1895 when sending him to Sydney.

There cannot be any objection to the registration of deeds in the office of the High Commissioner as a means of additional security against accident; but, to prevent such registration being used to frustrate the purposes of the Cook Islands Act "to guard against secrecy in dealing with Native lands," it would be desirable that no such deeds should be received at the High Commissioner's Office unless previously registered in the Cook Islands.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,

British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

No. 18.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th November, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 15th instant the Rarotonga Council closed its session. I enclose copies of the Bills passed:—

No. 1. "Public Schools Act, 1895."

No. 2. "Administration of Justice 1893 Amendment Act, 1895."

No. 3. "Building Act, 1895."

No. 4. "Land for Public Purposes Act, 1895."

No. 5. "Appropriation Act, 1895."

No. 1. Regulations under the Act have been passed, and are enclosed. Schoolmasters have been appointed, and the schools are to be opened on the 1st January next. The payment of the rate has been fixed for the 4th January and the 4th April, and collectors for the several districts have been appointed. The books and school fittings have been ordered from New Zealand.

No. 2 enacts that the fines and fees collected by the Arikis' Courts should in future be paid to the Public Account quarterly. Queen Pa had insisted on maintaining her right to have all such fees paid to her, and that she alone should send them to the Council at its yearly meeting. This has caused considerable inconvenience, but she was induced lately to agree to an alteration.

No. 3. The Building Act is to avoid claims for compensation in case of future widening of roads or streets.

No. 4 is to guard against speculators buying, in the hope of prospective profit, the sources of water-supply, or other lands likely to be required for public purposes.

No. 5 appropriates the small revenue anticipated for the coming year. It is estimated at a low point, and the expenditure kept within it.

I also enclose copy of a letter which I addressed to the Council urging the wisdom of altering the present tenure of land occupied by natives so as to give them security, substitute a money for a service rent, and encourage cultivation. This was referred to the Arikis' Council, as they control the lands of Rarotonga. They promised it a favourable consideration, but it will require considerable time and keeping the subject well in their minds before they will be satisfied to give up the power which the present system gives to the owner of the land. I am glad to say that cultivation—especially of coffee—is extending greatly with the chiefs, who, by right, already have this security. As they cannot cultivate half the lands they possess, they will probably be induced to make the other half profitable, in time, by arranging with others to occupy on suitable terms.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

Enclosure No. 1.

No. 1, 1895.—“PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT, 1895.”

It is hereby enacted by the Rarotonga Council,—

1. That public schools shall be established at Avarua, Arorangi, and Ngatangia, for the teaching of children between the ages of five and fifteen free of charge.

2. That the hours of attendance, subjects to be taught, salaries to be paid, and teachers to be appointed, shall be settled by the Arikis (the Government), with the approval of the British Resident.

3. That the agreements made with teachers shall be for one year only, and subject to termination by notice of three months, either from the Government or from the teacher.

4. That the Government shall have the sole control of the schools, subject to approval by the British Resident, in any action it may take in connection therewith.

5. That at the next meeting of the Council, and thereafter at every meeting, the expenses of such schools shall be included on the ordinary estimates; but that for the first year the Government may, under this Act, and with approval of the British Resident, expend such sums, not exceeding in all four hundred pounds per annum, as it may deem necessary.

6. That for the purpose of meeting the cost of the said schools every adult person in Rarotonga shall pay yearly the sum of two shillings for himself or herself, and a further sum of two shillings for every child over five years of age in his or her family, provided that in European families no person shall be called upon to pay for more than three children in any one family.

7. That lists of persons required to contribute to the schools under this Act shall be made out for each of the districts of Avarua, Arorangi, and Takitumu, and such collectors appointed and such regulations made by the Government as it may find necessary.

Dated at Avarua, this 15th day of November, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation forthwith.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—15th November, 1895.

Enclosure No. 2.

No. 2, 1895.—“ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACT 1893 AMENDMENT ACT, 1895.”

It is hereby enacted by the Council of Rarotonga, with the approval of the British Resident,—

1. That clauses Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of “The Administration of Justice Act, 1893,” are hereby repealed.

2. That all fines and fees levied by any Arikis' Courts shall be received by the Clerk of the said Court, who shall pay the same in quarterly to credit of the Rarotonga Public Account with the persons acting as bankers to the Government for the time being, as appointed by the Government, with the approval of the British Resident.

3. That at the end of every month the Clerk of the Court shall make up a list of the cases heard by the said Court, stating in each case the date of hearing, the nature of the charge or complaint, the decision of the Judge, and the amount of fees and fines imposed and collected, in

accordance with a form to be provided by the Government for that purpose. That such lists shall be countersigned by the Judge and forwarded to the Paymaster.

4. That a separate pay-sheet shall be made out for the Clerks of Court, and shall not be passed by the Auditor without a certificate attached from the Paymaster that the returns required by this Act have been sent to him in due course.

Dated at Avarua, this 8th day of November, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation from present date.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—15th November, 1895.

Enclosure No. 3.

No. 3, 1895.—“ BUILDING ACT, 1895.”

It is hereby enacted by the Rarotonga Council,—

1. That no building shall hereafter be placed within fifteen feet of the boundary of any of the roads in Rarotonga. And if any building be so placed, the owner shall not be entitled to compensation if the road be at any time widened and the removal of the building become necessary.

2. That no building now standing within fifteen feet of a roadway shall be extended or renewed, and if any building be so extended or renewed, the owner shall come under the provision of section No. 1 of this Bill.

Dated at Avarua, this 8th day of November, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation from this date.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—15th November, 1895.

Enclosure No. 4.

No. 4, 1895.—“ LAND FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT, 1895.”

WHEREAS it is desirable that the Government should continue for all time to be able to obtain land or water-rights, or other property required for public purposes: And whereas in the course of time changes may occur to impede the exercise of this right: It is enacted by the Rarotonga Council,—

1. That whenever land or other property is required, or water-rights are required for public purposes, the Government shall give one month's notice to the owner of the same, and shall, if possible, arrange with him for due compensation.

2. That if no such arrangement can be made the owner of the property shall appoint one person as arbitrator, and the Government another, to say what compensation should be paid. If they agree, the Government may appeal to the Judge of the Federal Courts against their award. If the arbitrators do not agree, they shall take the case before the Judge of the Federal Court. Cases under this Act shall be heard in open Court, and the Judge's decision final.

3. That in awarding compensation the arbitrators shall consider the market value of the land or water-right at the time of arbitration, with any special loss the owner may sustain by being deprived of the same. To this shall be added ten per cent. for perspective profits of all kinds, and no further compensation of any kind whatever.

Dated at Avarua, this 8th day of November, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation from this date.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—15th November, 1895.

Enclosure No. 5.

“ APPROPRIATION ACT, 1895.”

It is hereby enacted by the Rarotonga Council,—

1. That the money, amounting to six hundred and one pounds and eight shillings, as per schedule attached hereto, shall be applied to the purposes respectively stated in the said schedule.

2. That all accounts must be formally certified to by the Auditor as being in accordance with the attached schedule and to be applied to the purposes respectively stated.

3. That the Paymaster shall not issue any cheques nor the Auditor countersign the same unless the services to be paid for are certified by the head of the department as having been properly performed, or the works and services on roads or bridges to be paid for certified by the Inspector of Works as having been properly done.

4. That as a lock-up is most needed at Avarua the appropriation of sixty pounds shall be subject in the first instance to the necessary outlay for that work to be approved by the British Resident; and that, if there be not sufficient remaining to establish a lock-up at Arurangi and another at Ngatangiia, the sum necessary to make up twenty pounds for each of the above places may be expended with the approval of the British Resident, to be included in the Appropriation Act for next year.

Dated at Avarua, this 8th day of November, 1895.

Approved. To come into operation from present date.

FREDERICK J. MOSS, British Resident.—15th November, 1895.

SCHEDULE, 1895-96.

Vote.	Service.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
1	Clerk to Council and Government	7 10 0
2	Paymaster	7 10 0
3	Auditor	7 10 0
4	Rent of bond	5 8 0
5	Clerks of Arikis' Courts—	
	Avarua	25 0 0
	Arorangi	9 0 0
	Takitumu	9 0 0
6	Police—	
	Avarua	36 0 0
	Arorangi	18 0 0
	Takitumu	18 0 0
7	Interpreting and clerical assistance	37 10 0
8	Fixed appropriations—	
	Avarua	40 10 0
	Arorangi	30 0 0
	Takitumu	30 0 0
9	Judges of Arikis' Courts—	
	Avarua	45 0 0
	Arorangi	18 0 0
	Takitumu	18 0 0
10	Maintenance of roads—	
	Avarua	30 0 0
	Arorangi	15 0 0
	Takitumu	15 0 0
11	Expenses of Council	12 0 0
12	General contingencies	22 10 0
13	Inspector of roads	5 0 0
14	Printing laws, &c.	25 0 0
15	Unforeseen expenditure	30 0 0
16	Outstanding accounts from last year	25 0 0
17	Places to lock up offenders	60 0 0
		£601 8 0

Enclosure No. 6.

The BRITISH RESIDENT to the RAROTONGA COUNCIL.

Rarotonga, 16th October, 1895.

SALUTATIONS! Last year I wrote to you about the large quantity of fine land lying unused in Rarotonga. You replied that the question was for the Arikis, and you recommended it for the Arikis' consideration. They have not yet decided what to do. It is good that they should think well before acting in so great a matter.

The land is the life of a people. The Arikis and chiefs of Rarotonga have always been good and kind to their people living on the land. But in all countries there have been times when chiefs were not good, and the land was sold to strangers because those chiefs were hungry for money to buy things for themselves. Then the people are left without land and strangers take their place.

If you wish that the Maori should live in Rarotonga for ever, my advice to you is this: Act while there is time. The people now pay rent for their land in services which are not heavy upon them, but the amount of these services is not fixed; nor are the people sure of always having the land on which they live, so that no one can disturb them as long as they do the services required.

New ideas and new wants are rising among the people, and you know that new wine cannot be put into old bottles. It will be wise to consider whether the time has not come for some of the old customs to be changed.

If the Arikis and chiefs who own the land make the people secure upon it, their names would live for ever. The owners would know for certain what rent they were to receive, and the people would know what they had to pay. In that case it would be well for all to have papers of title. These papers could be put into the hands of the Government, who would gather the rent for the Arikis and chiefs and pay it to them regularly. The family could not then part with its land without the consent of the Arikis and chiefs, and a law being passed to authorise the transfer.

Then you will have new bottles into which can be put the new wine. The natives who do that, live and flourish: they who do not, perish.

Enough. From your friend,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

Enclosure No. 7.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF RAROTONGA. IN ACCORDANCE WITH "PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT, 1895."

Passed by the Arikis (the Government of Rarotonga) this 8th day of November, 1895.

1. THE English language shall be used in teaching in the schools.

2. The following are the subjects to be taught: reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar and composition, geography, history, object-lessons, drawing, needlework, vocal music, gymnastic exercises and drill. All or any of these subjects are to be taught at the discretion of the head teacher in each school as the progress of the pupils may permit. The teaching is to be entirely of a secular character, but the school may be opened with the Lord's prayer at the option of the teacher.

3. The schools shall be kept open for five days in each week, Monday to Friday inclusive, and for four hours on each day; the hours to be fixed by the head teacher, with the written consent of the Ariki, to suit the convenience of the district.

4. The class-books used shall be those which are used in the district schools of Auckland, New Zealand. They and all other requisites will be supplied to the head teacher by the Government, to be sold by him at prime cost to the pupils.

5. Pupils over fifteen years of age may remain at the school, or may be admitted by the head teacher on the written authority of the Ariki of the district.

6. The following are the regular holidays to be observed: From December 24 to January 3 inclusive; from April 27 to July 10 inclusive; October 27, in commemoration of the hoisting of the British flag; April 5, hoisting of the Cook Islands Federal flag; and such other days as the teacher may arrange with the approval of the Ariki, not to exceed, in the whole, twelve days in the year.

Teachers.

7. The head teacher is responsible for the instruction and discipline of the school, and all assistants must obey his instructions.

8. The head teacher will see that the roll of attendance is filled daily. Attendance-rolls, daily-attendance register, and summary register will be provided, to be kept by the head teacher.

9. The head teacher will prepare a time-table to regulate the instruction given in the schools.

10. The head teacher will send to the Government, on the 1st of July in every year, a full report of the condition and progress of the school, to be laid before the Council at its yearly meeting.

11. The head teacher will take an inventory of school fittings and property in the school, and send the Government a copy of such inventory.

12. Assistant teachers will be appointed on application of the head teacher when such assistants may be found necessary.

13. All communications from the teachers to the Government to be addressed to the Clerk of the Government.

14. The following will be provided for each school, on application from the teacher: Short forms for back row of desks; ink-wells, two to each desk; teacher's table with drawer and lock; high stool; chair; blackboards, large, medium, or small; easels; ball-frames; map-hooks; pointers; chalk; clock; clock-face, with hands; and such other fittings and furniture as may be hereafter found necessary. Also, natural-history picture-cards; world in hemispheres; world (Mercator); Europe; Australia; Asia; Africa; North America and South America; chart of Pacific; Royal reading-sheets, 32; reading-sheets for new readers, 8; English reading-sheets for infant classes; and such maps, diagrams, and other necessaries as may from time to time be advisable.

Sanitary Arrangements.

The district is to see to the provision of proper drinking-water and all needful sanitary arrangements. If they be neglected, the Government may provide them at the cost of the district.

No. 19.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th November, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that a dispute has occurred respecting the election of a ruling Ariki for Takitumu, which has caused considerable excitement among the natives of Rarotonga, and which is not yet settled. Your Excellency's personal knowledge of the island, and of the Arikis and others concerned, will enable me to make the points clear with less detail than might have been otherwise required.

2. The three tribes inhabiting the island were always more or less at war with each other till the introduction of Christianity, and an intense jealousy has existed since. The ruling Ariki of each has a distinctive title, *i.e.*, the "Makea" of Avarua, the "Tinomana" of Arorangi, and the "Pa" (or fortress) for Takitumu. In Avarua there is an additional Ariki known by the family name "Kareka," and another on Takitumu known by the family name "Kainuku." In these last cases the name gives high rank and great consideration, but no direct power.

3. The Takitumu Tribe, which occupies the best part of the island, and includes the people of Titikaveka, Muri, Ngatangia, and Matavera, were the conquering people. At the introduction of Christianity they had driven the others to seek refuge in the mountains, after having killed and eaten a considerable number and destroyed their plantations. Christianity ended the wars, and

the Avarua and the Arorangi tribes returned to their land. Those of Avarua occupied a position which made them the trading centre, and put them in advance of Takitumu in wealth and numbers. This gave to the old jealousy an increased intensity.

4. The family of the present Pa of Takitumu acquired the position through the remarkable promptitude of one of the wives of a Pa of the heathen times, of whose wives two bore children to him on, it is said, the same day. The mother of the younger at once took her child to the priest, who by virtue of his office proclaimed him the future Pa. This caused lasting resentment between that branch of the Ariki family and the branch of "Tupe" descended from the child superseded. The present Queen Pa has no family, is old, and has been weak and ill for some time. The direct representatives of the "Tupe" branch are: Tia (the wife of Makea Daniela, son of Judge Tepou), her brother, and Makea, the Ariki of Avarua. All of these are objectionable to Queen Pa as being connected with Avarua, and she seems to have been bent on preventing their succession. I may add that I have always found her extremely outspoken, violent in temper, and hostile to change of any kind. Her position has exposed her to taunts from the Arikis, and made her sensitive to interference, but she is devoted to her people and very unselfish in her way. She has had frequent quarrels with her own chiefs, which have given me much trouble, but they all respect her, and are at heart attached to her.

5. On the 29th October Queen Pa suddenly called her chiefs and people together, told them she was now old, and could not look properly after their welfare or live much longer, and, to save trouble after her death, wished to name, as her successor, her adopted son Maretu, who is the native missionary at Ngatangia. Maretu is an intelligent man, speaks English, is unobjectionable in character, and popular with the chiefs and people, but is not connected by birth with any of the Ariki families. The assembled chiefs, not wishing to run counter to Queen Pa in her old age and weakness, did not dissent, but relied upon another opportunity when the vacancy should actually occur. But Pa was quite equal to the occasion; and two days later (the 31st October) they were again summoned to a feast and requested to install Maretu at once. The Tupé branch, the other Arikis, and all not directly connected with Takitumu, were left out in the invitations to the feast in order to secure unanimity. At the last moment the Rev. Mr. Hutchin was invited, and found that he was expected to perform the religious part of the ceremony. He declined, as none of the other Arikis had been invited to attend, whereupon a native missionary was ordered by Queen Pa to act instead. Maretu was then duly installed as Pa of Takitumu, and, as soon as the intelligence was known in the other districts, there was great excitement among the natives of every degree. The extent of this may be imagined from the action taken at Takitumu, in consequence of a foolish rumour that the Arikis and people of the other tribes were coming to seize Maretu and appoint a new Pa. They assembled with knives, guns, and weapons of all kinds, determined not to be dictated to, prepared to defend their Ariki at all risks, and to assert now their right to govern themselves in their own way and as they thought best.

6. I declined to interfere, informing them that the dispute was one to be settled in accordance with Maori law and customs, and that the Arikis and chiefs must see to it apart from the Government; but that any breach of the peace would be severely punished by whomsoever that breach might be made. I advised them to appoint some of their people most learned in these matters to draw up a report, which they could consider and refer to the Rarotonga Council. Meanwhile the Arikis and their chiefs met, and resolved that they would no longer regard Pa as an Ariki, nor recognise Maretu as her successor.

7. The meeting of the Arikis' Council had been previously fixed for the 8th November to settle the business of the current session. The difficulty arose as to who should be summoned to it from Ngatangia. All declared that if Maretu came as the Pa, or as an Ariki, they would at once leave. To avoid this stoppage of business the notice was sent to the Ariki Kainuku. I enclose the report of this meeting held by the Arikis' Council on the 8th November, and of the report on the mode of electing and installing Arikis drawn up by the best authorities on the subject, and unanimously adopted as correct by the Council. Takitumu was not represented at the meeting, for the reasons stated in the letter published with the enclosed report (taken from the "*Torea*" newspaper of the 9th November), and signed by Kainuku. There was a strong desire to retaliate by appointing separate Judges for Matavera and Titikaveka, and so detaching them from the jurisdiction of the Judge at Ngatangia, a strong supporter of Queen Pa; but I declined to agree to anything being done in haste or in their temper at the time.

8. An angry letter was received at the above Council meeting from the chiefs and people of Takitumu, declaring their determination to resist any interference with their right to do as they thought proper within their own district. The letter was addressed to the Chairman of the Government; but the Council, at my suggestion, declined to receive it, as the Government had not been mixed up with the matter.

9. The effect of this refusal was so far good that Takitumu sent her three elected members to the meeting of the elected branch of the Rarotonga Council held in the following week (on the 15th), and of which I also enclose a report taken from the *Torea*. The Council unanimously—including the Takitumu members—admitted that the report as to the election of Arikis, submitted to them by the Arikis' Council, was correct. A great step towards settlement has thus, I hope, been made. At the same time, as the work of the session is now ended, there is no further immediate need for the Arikis to meet. I do not think there is the least necessity to press for a settlement, and propose to leave time and reflection to do their work. The only point upon which I was apprehensive—namely, possible resistance to payment of the new education rate and the establishment of the school at Ngatangia, has been settled by the Ngatangia members recommending the persons to be appointed as collectors of the rate, and the readiness they express to make all requisite arrangements for opening the school on the date appointed or as near to it as possible.

10. This affair has naturally given me considerable anxiety, and it is impossible yet to see

what the settlement is likely to be. But there is no need for present action, and time will soften the feeling that still prevails. In this respect I have to express my sense of the tone taken by the proprietor of the *Torea* newspaper, who has avoided discussion or comment, that could not have done good, and might, with an ignorant Maori people, have done much harm. The excellent feeling shown by Judge Tepou and the Tupe branch of the Ariki family of Takitumu has also been marked, and of great service.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

[Extract from the *Torea*, 9th November, 1895.]

ARIKIS' COUNCIL.

THE Arikis' Council met as the Upper House of the Rarotonga Council to consider the laws passed by the House of the People. The following business was done:—

1. Present: Makea, Tinomana, and Karika, Arikis.
2. Tepou o te Rangi was requested by the Arikis to act as Chairman.
3. The "Public Schools Act, 1895," was passed, with an amendment that the expenditure should not exceed at the rate of £400 per annum instead of £200 for the six months. This amendment was made in order to carry on the expenditure beyond the end of June next and until the Council shall meet again in 1896. The reports Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of the People's House on education were also adopted.
4. The "Building Act, 1895," was passed. This provides that buildings put up within 15ft. of existing roads shall be at the owner's risk if the roads are hereafter widened, and shall not receive compensation.
5. "Land for Public Purposes Act, 1895," was passed. This provides how compensation for such land shall be awarded when required for public purposes.
6. "Appropriation Act, 1895-96" was passed.
7. Letter from British Resident respecting security of future title to land was read, and it was resolved will give full consideration to the subject named.
8. The following report, drawn up by Vakatini and Teariki Taraare, on the mode of election and of installation of Arikis according to the established Maori custom, was read:—

"Report on the Succession of Arikis: the Mode of Election and of Installation."

"Only upon the death of an Ariki is it settled who is to succeed to the title.

"It is the business of the priests (*kau-taungas*) and the mataiapos of Rarotonga to select the proper person to succeed the deceased Ariki, and such selection is to be made only from the nearest relations of the Ariki deceased, and they are to declare the same publicly.

"Should any new Ariki be chosen without the other Arikis, priests, and mataiapos of all the districts being present at the meeting, it must be proven satisfactorily to them that the one chosen is a near relative of the deceased Ariki. If it be not so proven, the Arikis, the priests, and the mataiapos from every part of Rarotonga shall meet together in one place, and it shall be for them to decide who is to be the new Ariki. It must be clearly shown that the new Ariki is the hereditary descendant in a direct line.

"The last words of a dying Ariki (will): An Ariki may wish to appoint a successor on his or her death-bed. After the Ariki's death, these words shall be carefully considered, and if it is found that the party named as a successor is the proper heir, such words shall be confirmed, not otherwise.

"It is not the custom for a living Ariki to name another person to take his or her position as Ariki, and such appointment is not valid without the full knowledge and consent of the Arikis, chiefs, and priests of all other districts.

"The priest (*taunga*) who shall anoint any new Ariki is named Teariki Taraare who is Potiki-taua.

"5th November, 1895."

"VAKATINI,

"TEARIKI TARAARE.

During the discussion a letter addressed by Kainuku Ariki to the chief of the Rarotonga Government was handed to the Chairman by Tinomana Ariki and read by him. Letter as follows:—

"Ngatangia, 8th November, 1895.

"To the Chief of the Rarotonga Government.

"SALUTATIONS! I have to inform you that I will not attend the meeting, as I believe it is to be a meeting of trouble. My reason for saying it will be a meeting of trouble is that only one of the Arikis of Takitumu has been written for. One Ariki's name does not appear.

"Sufficient.

"KAINUKU ARIKI, one Head of Takitumu."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That the Arikis' Council agree with the report of Vakatini and Teariki Taraare, and affirm it as a true statement of the old and unbroken Maori law and practice. That, with reference to the letter of Kainuku Ariki, the Council sent the notice to Kainuku alone because the Arikis of Rarotonga cannot and will not agree to any one Ariki setting aside the old laws and customs without the consent of all."

Enclosure No. 2.

[Extract from the "*Torea*," of 16th November, 1895.]

RAROTONGA COUNCIL.

THE House of elected members met yesterday, the 15th instant, and closed the session. All the members were present except Mooua and Teura of Avarua. The following business was done:—

The amendment by the Arikis in the Public Schools Act, extending the appropriation, was agreed to.

The report of Vakatini and Teariki Taraare on the Maori customs in the election of Arikis was agreed to unanimously.

The following names were recommended to the Government as collectors of the education rate under the Public Schools Act: Avarua, Makea Daniela; Arorangi, John Vairakau; Matavera, Tamarua; Ngatangia, V. Moaete; Titikaveka, Raina.

The Chairman, Tepou o te Rangi, then formally declared the business of the session ended, and congratulated the members on the good work they had done. He was glad to see all the Takitumu members present, and hoped that whatever differences might exist in opinions among them a good feeling would always exist in the Council, and they would always work together for the good of Rarotonga, which belonged to all of them to look after.

So ended the session of the Rarotonga Council for 1895.

No. 20.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to the PREMIER.

Memorandum for the Premier.

Wellington, 28th November, 1895.

THE Governor forwards, for the reconsideration of the Premier, the accompanying correspondence from the High Commissioner (Acting) in the Pacific, and the Resident in the Cook Islands, regarding a regulation which the High Commissioner is about to issue within his jurisdiction for the prohibition of Natives entering into contracts with Europeans, and as to which he has inquired whether it is desirable that it shall apply to the Cook Group.

It will be observed that the Acting High Commissioner has been impressed with the necessity for making this regulation by his experience gained by recent disputes between Europeans and natives of certain islands, and that the Resident in the Cook Islands concurs with the High Commissioner as to the desirability of such a regulation, and thinks that it would be applied with advantage in the Cook Group when necessary.

But the Government have requested the Right Honourable the Secretary of State to arrange that the High Commissioner shall not exercise jurisdiction over the Cook Islands, and he has agreed to do so.

Under the circumstances, the Governor will be glad to have the advice of Ministers as to the reply to be made to the High Commissioner.

GLASGOW.

Enclosures.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th October, 1895.

I received by last mail on the 9th October a despatch from the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy, with copy of my reply.

With reference to the proposed regulation to protect natives in cases brought before the High Commissioner's Court, and to the additional powers given to the Court in cases of partly-executed contracts, I am of opinion that they are very desirable, and would be with advantage applied to any cases arising in the Cook Islands. I presume that "goods supplied" would include ships sold to the natives when the sale takes place in the Cook Islands.

I may further state for your Excellency's information that the regulation would be specially applicable so far as the withdrawal of certain cases from jurisdiction is concerned, as the distance of the High Commissioner's Court, and the appeal to the Supreme Court of Fiji authorised by the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, are susceptible of being used to intimidate natives through their ignorance and the inevitable cost.

The additional powers in dealing with cases of contract are much needed, as natives, entirely ignorant of the principles of English law and the practice and procedure of English Courts, have no means of obtaining legal advice or legal assistance when such contracts are made.

The native Courts in these islands are improving with experience, and their practice is becoming more regular. They do substantial justice, and if any one feels aggrieved with their decisions he appeals to the British Resident, who brings the case before the Government of the island if one of the Arikis' Courts is concerned, or before the Federal Government if its Court be in fault. The knowledge that the Arikis or the Federal Government are thus held responsible has made the native Courts careful and much more regular in their records and procedure.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

SIR,— High Commissioner's Office, Western Pacific, Suva, Fiji, 23rd September, 1895.

I have the honour to enclose copy of a despatch which I have sent to the Governor of New Zealand with respect to a regulation which I propose issuing in order to protect natives in their dealings with Europeans.

I shall be obliged if you will inform His Excellency what your views are with regard to the application of the regulation to the Cook Group.

Frederick J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,

H. S. BERKELEY.

High Commissioner's Office, Western Pacific,

MY LORD,—

Suva, Fiji, 23rd September, 1895.

Recent disputes between Europeans and natives of certain islands which have been annexed to Her Majesty's dominions impress upon me the necessity of making a regulation for the protection of Natives entering into contracts with Europeans.

I accordingly propose to issue a regulation to forbid actions being brought in the High Commissioner's Court against Natives for money lent, goods supplied, work done, or for passages on board vessels.

In cases of partly-executed contracts, where a Native has paid money, or supplied produce, or done work, I propose to give the Court power to release the Native from the obligation to complete the contract; to inquire into the reasonableness of its terms, and, if it seems just, to order to be repaid to the Native the whole or part of any money paid by him, or the whole or part of the value of any produce delivered, or work done.

I should be glad to learn if your Excellency desires that the provisions of the regulation indicated in the last paragraph should apply to the Cook Group or not.

In order to save time, I am sending a copy of this despatch to Mr. Moss, with a request that he will furnish your Excellency with his views on the subject.

I have, &c.,

H. S. BERKELEY.

SIR,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 18th October, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's despatch of 23rd September, enclosing copy of proposed regulation for the protection of natives making contracts with Europeans and brought under the civil jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court; also asking me to inform the Governor of New Zealand of my views with regard to the application of the proposed regulation to cases arising in the Cook Islands.

I have the honour to state in reply that I have written to His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand accordingly.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,

British Resident.

His Excellency the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, Fiji.

High Commissioner's Office, Western Pacific,

MY LORD,—

Suva, Fiji, 19th November, 1895.

Referring to my despatch of the 23rd September, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that it appears necessary to decide in the High Commissioner's Court a dispute between a Mr. Emil Piltz and Natives of Penrhyn.

The case is one which it would be convenient to try in Rarotonga, and I should be much obliged if Mr. Moss could act as Registrar. If your Excellency sees no objection to this course, may I ask you to forward to Mr. Moss the letter which I enclose under flying seal.

I have, &c.,

H. S. BERKELEY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received a despatch from the Secretary of State covering copy of a memorandum from Mr. Seddon to your Excellency, concerning the position of the British Resident in the Cook Group, and expressing the wish that the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court be not vested in the Resident. Under the circumstances, I should ask your Excellency to sanction the proposals contained in this despatch. I have, however, decided to submit the matter, because, if your Excellency's Ministers disapprove, the proposal will be dropped; and because it seems to me, on a perusal of Mr. Seddon's memorandum, and of Lord Ripon's despatch to your Excellency of the 7th January, to which it is a reply, that probably no objection will be taken to Mr. Moss giving the assistance asked for.

Mr. Seddon replies in the negative to the inquiry, whether it is the wish of the New Zealand Government that the proposal contained in the paragraph 10 of Lord Ripon's despatch be adopted. This, however, contemplated the establishment of the High Commissioner's Court in the Cook Group as a Court to which recourse could be had at all times, as well as the removal of prisoners to New Zealand, and would have involved much extra work on the Resident, besides to some extent altering the character of his office. But I do not see any reason to suppose that Mr. Seddon objects to the Resident using his good offices if willing to do so, and if approved by your Excellency in each case, when a case arises which cannot be dealt with by the Courts of the Cook Group.

In the case *Piltz v. Tautini* and others, Natives of Penrhyn, what I wish to ask Mr. Moss to do is to approve a person to serve the writ, statement of claim, and order for statement of defence; to receive the affidavits of service of the various notices and orders; to issue subpoenas, &c.; and to forward copies of all papers filed to this office, as well as any applications for an order of the Court. All interlocutory orders made in the action will be made either by the High Commissioner or a Judicial Commissioner, and, when the pleadings are sufficiently advanced to allow of a date being fixed, a member of the Court will proceed to Rarotonga or Penrhyn, whichever may appear most convenient, to try the action. Mr. Moss's services are requested in order that the time may be saved which would be lost, if all process and notices had to be returned to the Registry in Fiji.

As the contract on which the proposed action is based was entered into in Rarotonga, and payment should have been made there, it would probably be competent for the Supreme Court of the Cook Islands Federation to entertain it. It appears, however, to be too difficult a case to be settled by a Native Judge, and, if the plaintiff succeeds, the judgment can only be enforced in Penrhyn Island, where the High Commissioner's Court only has jurisdiction.

Under the circumstances, I trust your Excellency's Ministers will have no objection to Mr. Moss acting as desired, should he be willing to do so.

H. S. BERKELEY.

Memorandum for His Excellency.

THE Premier returns the correspondence which accompanied His Excellency's memorandum of the 28th ultimo, and begs to state that in this particular case, which appears to meet with the approval of the Resident, the Government is willing that the regulation in question shall apply to the Cook Islands.

Premier's Office, Wellington, 6th December, 1895.

R. J. SEDDON.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 10th December, 1895.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency, in reply to your despatch of the 23rd September, 1895, that I have laid it before my Government, and that they advise me that they are willing that the regulation in question—namely, for the protection of Natives entering into contracts with Europeans, shall apply to the Cook Islands.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the High Commissioner of the
Western Pacific, Fiji.

GLASGOW.

No. 21.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Western Pacific.

SIR,—

Government House, Wellington, 10th December, 1895.

In reply to your Excellency's despatch of the 19th November, 1895, in which you ask that Mr. Moss may act as Registrar in order that a dispute between a Mr. Emil Piltz and two natives of Penrhyn may be settled at Rarotonga:

I have the honour to inform you that I have referred the question to my Government, and that under the circumstances they approve of Mr. Moss acting as Registrar in the case referred to.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency the Hon. H. S. Berkeley, Acting
High Commissioner, Fiji.

GLASGOW.

No. 22.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. Moss.

SIR,—

Wellington, 13th December, 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 14, 1895, relative to a proposed regulation which the Acting High Commissioner in the Pacific proposes to promulgate within his jurisdiction in order to protect Natives in their dealing with Europeans.

Noting your opinion that this regulation would be specially applicable to the Cook Group, and might be with advantage applied to any cases of such a nature, I have to acquaint you that my Advisers are of opinion that in this case it will be well to allow the regulation in question to have force within the Cook Group, and that the Acting High Commissioner has been so informed.

I have, &c.,

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

GLASGOW.

No. 23.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR to Mr. F. J. Moss.

SIR,—

Wellington, 13th December, 1895.

I have the honour to forward you a letter under flying seal, with enclosure, from the Acting High Commissioner of the Pacific, and I have to inform you that my Government are willing that you should comply with the request of His Excellency and act as Registrar in the case in question.

I have, &c.,

F. J. Moss, Esq., British Resident, Rarotonga.

GLASGOW.

No. 24.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 17th December, 1895.

In further reference to affairs at Mauke, and to my despatch of the 18th October (No. 15/95), I have now to inform your Excellency that Ngamaru, Ariki, proceeded to Atiu in the Native schooner "Ngamaru Ariki," belonging to Atiu, and returned to Rarotonga on the 12th instant after an absence of six weeks.

Ngamaru reports to me that he and the other Arikis of Atiu went with a large party—about two hundred men—to Mauke, and assembled the Arikis and people of that island, who recognised their authority without demur or dissent.

The *Torea* newspaper of the 23rd November contains an account of the meeting, which Ngamaru tells me is quite correct. I enclose the paper herein.

Tararo, the Ariki, who has given so much trouble at Mauke, was formally deposed by Rangomatane, the Atiu Ariki, whom he and his ancestors had always represented, and a new Ariki was appointed in his place. Tararo has accepted the position, and the probability is that he will now make due submission and be restored according to native custom. If he is still contumacious, the new Ariki will retain the position.

The lease by Tararo of certain lands to the German trader Franheim was cancelled, as having been given without authority from the Arikis of Atiu. Possession was resumed. Franheim was told that he might live upon it and carry on his business, but that no rent would be taken from him. That the Arikis of Atiu are only asserting a power which they have always held is proved by the recent registry under the new Act of the property of the London Missionary Society at Mauke, in all of which the transfer was confirmed at the time by the Arikis of Atiu.

Franheim has sent me a claim for \$1,031 (= £103 2s.). The claim is against Tararo. The Atiu Arikis recognise their liability for a portion of this claim (\$231) for material used in building the house which they have taken from Tararo. The rest they hold that Tararo must pay, as the planting and loss for which compensation is claimed were from his wilful wrong-doing. Franheim's claim is against Tararo, and he apparently therefore concurs in this view. I am now in correspondence with Franheim on the subject, and will report to your Excellency the result.

The firearms in dispute were surrendered to the Arikis of Atiu, with the exception of Franheim's. He had previously thrown his over the reef, or, at least, assured the Arikis that he had done so.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosure.

(Extracts from *Torea* newspaper, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.)

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, Saturday, November 23rd, 1895.

WE have this week very important news from Mauke. Tararo has been formally deposed as Ariki by the Arikis of Atiu; and certain leases of land given by him to Mr. Charles Franheim—a German subject—have been declared null and void. The land has been taken possession of by Rangomatane, Ariki, to whom it is said to belong. Franheim has been told that he may stay on the land, but that his lease is of no value. We shall probably hear more of this, as Franheim has spent money on the land, and will naturally seek to recover it from someone, as well as damages for the loss. The Atiu Arikis have kept formal written records of all the proceedings in connection with the case. These were forwarded to the British Resident by the schooner "Ngamaru Ariki," which left Mauke before the steamer "Richmond," by which we have received letters on the subject. The point appears to be this: For the last two years Mauke has been in constant turmoil. Tararo and Franheim were complained of by the Native Government of Mauke repeatedly to the British Resident in Rarotonga as refusing to obey the Judge, defying the Court, and creating so much trouble, that he was asked to have Franheim removed from the island.

They were informed in reply that the British Resident had no such powers, but would give them the necessary help in enforcing the decisions of their Judge, if they sent him clear accounts of the offence committed and the evidence taken to prove it. This was hard upon a Native Mauke Court. The offences, though irritating and numerous, were not serious, being such as shooting the missionary's pig, blocking a road, refusing to pay for a small quantity of timber, and the like. The Resident, on looking into these, found Franheim technically right in most cases, but urged him to waive small points, and keep on good terms with the natives, as other Europeans easily did.

The worst complaint against Franheim was of instigating Tararo to defy the Arikis of Atiu, as well as the Mauke Court. At last Franheim obtained from Tararo the lease of certain land at Mauke for fifty years, renewable after that. This land he fenced and began to plant. When news came to Ngamaru, Ariki on Rarotonga, he applied to the British Resident, who advised him to go down at the first opportunity and look into the case. The result is as we have stated. We wait for fuller advices by the schooner, and do not wish to prejudice the case; but it is quite clear that something had to be done if Mauke were not to fall into complete anarchy. The natives were threatened with appeals to the German Consul in Samoa, with a German man-of-war, and, finally, with the High Commissioner's Court, till they were afraid to move at all in support of their Judge's decisions. That, of course, was a condition of things not to be tolerated. The law must at all costs be upheld.

MAUKE NEWS.

On the 14th November all the people met, at the call of the Arikis of Atiu, who went to Mauke on the schooner "Ngamaru Ariki." Tararo did not attend. The three Arikis of Atiu, named Ngamaru, Rongomatane, and Parua were present. Atiu asked Mauke if they knew why Atiu had come to see them. Mauke replied that they did not know. Then Atiu asked Mauke if it was true that they had threatened to appeal to Fiji in defiance of the Arikis of Atiu, who were the true Arikis also of Mauke. They said Tararo had done this.

Atiu then read a copy of a letter sent to Mauke on the 3rd November, 1893, by the British Resident, containing a statement of Ngamaru's to him that Mauke, Atiu, and Mitiaro were one, and that the Arikis of Mauke were only agents of those of Atiu, and had always been so. When John Williams, the missionary, came here, he called them Arikis instead of "Tiaka Rurus." This was a mistake, but the Arikis of Atiu let it pass, and that is how they had been called Arikis ever since. In that letter Ngamaru said the Arikis of Atiu would not agree to give up their rights. This letter was then read aloud by Tetapu of Atiu.

Mauke was then asked if they had any complaints to make against the Arikis of Atiu, or if they had been interfered with in any way. Mauke replied that the Arikis of Atiu had done nothing of which they wished to complain.

Teau said he knew from his ancestors that Atiu gave the law to Mauke. Samuela said the same. These two are Arikis in Mauke. Tararo is the third, but he was not present.

Tutupu then read from *Te Torea* the registration notice of two leases of Mauke land from Tararo to C. Franheim, and said such leases could only be given in Mauke with consent of the other Arikis. The only answer was that Tararo had told them a Judge and a man-of-war (the High Commissioner's Court) would come to inquire into all the trouble of Mauke.

When asked what they meant by leasing land without the consent of Atiu, there was no reply.

The meeting adjourned till the next day, when all the Arikis were present.

Tararo was then asked why he gave the lease. He replied that when the South Pacific Trading Company came to Mauke they used his house. The house was burnt down, and then he gave a lease of the land at Franheim's solicitation. (Franheim was then manager for the company.) Said he did not know it was necessary first to get authority from Atiu. When asked if he considered himself independent of Atiu, replied that he did not, and admitted that he could not give leases without the consent of the Atiu Ariki, Rongomatane, whom he represented in Mauke. He added, "If you say the leases are bad, so be it." Said he knew nothing about the money Franheim had spent upon the land, or who was to pay him back.

The leases were then formally declared null and void, and the declaration to be registered in Rarotonga.

Rongomatane Ariki then declared that she took possession of the land in question, and that Tararo was no longer her representative or an Ariki. This ended the proceedings.

No. 25.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 17th December, 1895.

Referring to my despatch of 18th November (No. 19/95), respecting the installation of a new Ariki of Takitumu, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the position remains without change.

Maretu, as the Pa, is recognised by the chiefs and people of Takitumu, and will continue to be so while the Pa, whom he succeeds, is still living. After her death there may be change, but meanwhile it will probably be unnecessary for the Arikis to meet or to act together till June next.

Until the necessity for a meeting shall arise the affair will be purely local.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS.
British Resident.

No. 26.

The HIGH COMMISSIONER, Western Pacific, to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

High Commissioner's Office, Western Pacific, Suva, Fiji, 9th January, 1896.

MY LORD,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 10th December, informing me that your Excellency's Government are willing that a proposed regulation for the protection of Natives entering into contracts with Europeans shall apply to the Cook Group.

I have the honour to enclose draft of the proposed regulation, and shall be glad to learn if your Excellency's Government would desire to have it altered in any respect.

In connection with the latter part of section 4, I may mention that, in the absence of any agreement on the subject with the Government of the Cook Group, Natives of the Protectorate are not subject to the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court, although they can apply to the Court for relief.

The regulation is rather more general in style than would be the case ordinarily, as it is intended to impart an exposition as well as a declaration of the law, for the guidance of those who have to administer it—some of whom are gentlemen without legal training—and for the information of those whom it is intended to affect directly, who are for the most part without the means of obtaining legal advice.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

H. S. BERKELEY.

Enclosure.

FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIVES ENTERING INTO CONTRACTS.

Interpretation.

1. In this regulation the word "Native" shall mean aboriginal native of any island in the Pacific, not being a trader.

No action to be brought against Natives.

2. No action shall be brought in the High Commissioner's Court against any Native in respect of any contract entered into after the coming into force of this regulation.

Native may bring action for recovery of money paid.

3. If a Native enter into a contract with a non-native person (subject to the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner's Court) such Native, whether he has fully performed his part of the contract or not, may, with the leave of the Court, bring an action for the recovery of any money paid, and for the value of any work done or goods or produce supplied, and the Court shall give judgment for the same, subject to the deductions hereinafter provided. The Court may deduct a *quantum meruit* for the performance by the non-native party of so much of his part of the contract as he has actually performed. If the Court is of opinion that the contract is a fair and reasonable one, and that it has not been carried out owing to the default of the Native party, the Court may deduct a sum by way of damages for breach of contract. No contract shall be deemed reasonable if it is one which the Native party would in the ordinary sense of events have difficulty in performing.

Contracts for repairs to vessels.

4. It shall be lawful for any person to enter into a contract with a Native for the repair of a boat or vessel, with the proviso that such boat or vessel may be detained until the repairs are paid for: Provided that such Native is either the owner of such boat or vessel or has proper authority to enter into such contract. And in the event of an action being brought in the High Commissioner's Court for the delivery of such boat or vessel, the Court may order the payment by the Native party of the value of the repairs done as a condition precedent to the return of such boat or vessel. If any such Native is a person subject to the jurisdiction of the Commissioner's Court, the other party may apply to the Court for an order for the sale of the boat or vessel, and the Court may order that if by a certain date the value of the repairs be not paid, the boat or vessel shall be sold, and the amount due for repairs or costs shall be deducted from the proceeds and paid to the party executing such repairs. If the proceeds are not sufficient to meet the amount due, no proceedings for the recovery of the balance shall be taken against the Native party.

Court may inquire into adequacy of consideration.

5. Notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary, the Court may in any proceedings under this regulation inquire into the adequacy of the consideration moving from the non-native party.

Short Title.

This regulation may be cited as "The Native Contracts Regulation, 1896."

No. 27.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

British Residency, Rarotonga, 23rd January, 1896.

MY LORD,—

I have the honour to enclose the annual trade report for the year 1895.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

Enclosures.

REPORT on the TRADE of the COOK ISLANDS for the YEAR ending 31ST DECEMBER, 1895.

Shipping and Navigation.

TABLE I., herewith, shows an increase of 3,800 tons in the inward entries of mercantile shipping for the year. This increase is in British and Native vessels. The entries inwards of all mercantile vessels during the past four years have been:—

	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	12,610	16,179	16,084	19,780
Native	1,626	1,353	1,376	1,640
American	336	120	198	120
French	180	556	480	400
Totals	14,752	18,208	18,138	21,940

There is no alteration in harbour dues. The steamer "Richmond" continues to call at Rarotonga regularly on her voyages between Auckland and Tahiti. The Natives exhibit an increasing energy and activity in the management of their small craft, which they now employ in the carrying trade of the group. These vessels are owned and manned by Natives, but commanded by Europeans. A handsome schooner of 65 tons has lately been added to their small fleet by the purchase of a Californian built schooner in Tahiti, and a similar vessel is to be built for them in Auckland.

Exports.

Table II. shows the exports for 1895, with statement of those for each of the years 1892-93-94. The totals (of Cook Islands produce only) for the four years are: 1892, £15,396; 1893, £18,758; 1894, £18,936; 1895, £19,080.

Coffee and copra show an increase, and will continue to do so as new plantations come into bearing. The coffee-trees take four to five years, and the cocoanut nine to ten, before coming to full maturity. The fruit trade is entirely with New Zealand, and will increase with the market, as these islands are capable of great production in that respect. Attempts are to be made to concentrate the limejuice for exportation; and, if successful, there will be a considerable export in that article. Cotton has fallen off greatly, and will fall still further at the present low prices. There has also been a considerable falling-off in the exports of produce brought to Rarotonga from islands beyond the Federation. This is partly attributable to the lower freight from Tahiti when vessels leave that port direct for Hamburg, and partly to the hypothecation of their pearl-shell to a Tahitian trader by the Natives of Penrhyn in order to raise the amount awarded against them in 1893, by Captain May, R.N., of H.M.S. "Hyacinth, in connection with the case of the "Norval." This trade will, in time, probably find its way again to Rorotonga.

Imports.

The increased consumption of imported goods by the natives is shown by Table III. The imports were for 1892, £16,249; 1893, £19,284; 1894, £22,435; 1895, £23,269.

The increase in timber, hardware, tinned and other provisions, groceries, and piece-goods is marked. Included in the imports are certain goods afterwards shipped from Rarotonga to islands outside the Federation. These shipments were: for 1892, not known; 1893, £1,219; 1894, £1,293; 1895, £1,792.

Course of Trade.

Table IV. shows a steady increase in the trade with New Zealand. This was most marked in 1895, and is likely to continue. The following are the comparative figures for the four years:—

					Exports to New Zealand.	Exports to Tahiti.
					£	£
1892 ...	...	...	...	...	12,690	2,706
1893 ...	...	...	...	...	13,397	5,361
1894 ...	...	...	...	...	14,177	4,759
1895 ...	...	...	...	...	16,756	2,324
					57,020	15,150
					Imports from New Zealand.	Imports from Tahiti.
					£	£
1892 ...	...	...	...	...	10,995	5,254
1893 ...	...	...	...	...	10,187	9,097
1894 ...	...	...	...	...	13,153	9,282
1895 ...	...	...	...	...	16,855	6,414
					51,190	30,047

Currency.

Since the 1st January, 1895, British coin has been the only legal currency. None other is accepted by the Government; but, in the absence of a bank or other means of maintaining the supply of coin, the Chili dollar is still current in all ordinary business at the rate of 2s. Importers have to provide their own coin for the payment of duties, and can always obtain from the Government currency notes in exchange for dollars if necessary. The terms offered by the Government are, however, so unfavourable that importers prefer obtaining their own coin, and are, for that purpose, allowed two months' credit for duties on giving satisfactory security. None of the currency-notes have, therefore, been put into circulation, but they are held available if required.

Taxation and Revenue.

The only change in Federal taxation is an additional import duty of 1 per cent. towards the expenses of a hospital about to be opened in Rarotonga. This duty only came into force on the 1st October, 1895.

Table V. shows the revenue for each financial year (ending 30th June) since the Government was established in 1891. It is small, but has been found sufficient to maintain the Federal Government, to pay subsidies towards roads and works to the several local Island Governments, to build a Parliament House and a very fair hospital, and to supply the several district free schools with fitting and appliances, which are lent to them on condition that they find a proper teacher, school, and pay all other expenses. English is the only language used in these schools, and no private or mission schools are allowed unless satisfactory arrangements for teaching English are made. The natives are eagerly entering into the establishment of schools in Rarotonga, and their example will be followed in the other islands. There cannot be a doubt that these fertile islands, though small in size, are capable of a largely-increased production, and as the aims and desires of the natives widen, it is hoped that the increased production will keep pace with them.

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 20th January, 1896.

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

TABLE I.—REPORT OF SHIPPING at the PORT of RAROTONGA (Cook Islands), for Year ending 31st December, 1895, with Comparative Statements for 1892, 1893, 1894.

	Inwards.								Outwards.							
	Sailing.		Steam.		Men-of-War.		Total.		Sailing.		Steam.		Men-of-War.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	23	2,364	27	17,416	..	..	50	19,780	20	2,085	27	17,416	..	..	47	19,501
American	1	120	..	..	..	..	1	120	1	120	..	..	..	..	1	120
French	5	400	..	..	..	..	5	400	5	400	..	..	..	..	5	400
Cook Islands ..	36	1,640	..	..	..	..	36	1,640	38	1,805	..	..	..	..	38	1,805
Totals 1895 ..	65	4,524	27	17,416	..	..	92	21,940	64	4,410	27	17,416	..	..	91	21,826
" 1894	57	3,510	23	14,628	2	2,161	82	20,299	56	3,432	23	14,628	2	2,161	81	20,221
" 1893	60	4,392	22	13,816	1	805	83	19,013	60	4,450	22	13,816	1	805	83	19,071
" 1892	79	5,332	15	9,420	1	2,380	95	17,132	77	5,177	15	9,420	1	2,380	93	16,977

TABLE II.—EXPORTS of COOK ISLANDS PRODUCE for the Year ending 31st December, 1896, with Comparative Statements for Years 1892, 1893, 1894.

	1895.		1894.		1893.		1892.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Coffee, in centals* ..	2,272 $\frac{4}{100}$	£ 7,752	2,266 $\frac{37}{100}$	£ 7,782	1,914 $\frac{99}{100}$	£ 6,442	1,569 $\frac{14}{100}$	£ 4,827
Copra, in centals ..	21,742 $\frac{59}{100}$	7,253	16,009 $\frac{72}{100}$	6,189	15,200 $\frac{76}{100}$	5,661	15,288 $\frac{80}{100}$	5,549
Cotton, in centals ..	502 $\frac{85}{100}$	880	840 $\frac{35}{100}$	1,701	1,447 $\frac{63}{100}$	3,069	991 $\frac{63}{100}$	2,304
Limejuice, in gallons ..	14,596	397	5,289	144	9,375	282	32,122	818
Fungus, in lbs. ...	650	8	1,249	13	4,648	36	..	16
Bêche-de-mer, in lbs. ...	640	10	..	..	..	..	28,131	268
Oranges, in cases of about 25 dozen each ..	11,397	2,258	12,767	2,532	12,174	2,538	6,251	1,286
Bananas, in bunches ..	8,244	309	10,152	388	10,676	399	..	73
Cocoanuts, in hundreds ..	136 $\frac{52}{100}$	28	118	27	159 $\frac{10}{100}$	31	396	73
Pineapples and other fruit ..	..	152	..	99	..	113	..	62
Sundries .. ..	..	33	..	61	..	187	..	120
Total .. ..	..	19,080	..	18,936	..	18,758	..	15,396

* 100lb. English.

In addition to the above there was exported to New Zealand, pearlshell and other produce from other islands to the value of—in 1895, £1,058; in 1894, £1,729; in 1893, £859; in 1892, £4,945.

TABLE III.—IMPORTS into the COOK ISLANDS for the Year ending 31st December, 1895, with Comparative Statements for 1892, 1893, 1894.

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
Clothing	£ 957	£ 1,122	£ 922	£ 729
Piece and fancy goods ..	6,985	6,715	6,590	5,841
Provisions	2,741	2,415	1,837	1,534
Breadstuffs	1,734	1,648	1,656	1,562
Groceries	2,135	1,709	1,707	1,735
Spirits	481	531	407	324
Wines	77	59	55	25
Beer	27	40	89	153
Timber, manufactured and unmanufactured ..	2,470	2,664	1,417	501
Ironmongery and hardware ..	2,546	2,576	2,154	1,784
Tobacco	467	457	368	425
Animals	520	155	58	Nil.
Other articles	2,129	2,344	2,024	1,636
Totals	£23,269	£22,435	£19,284	£16,249

TABLE IV.—SUMMARY of IMPORTS and EXPORTS for the Years 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1895 showing the Amounts from and to each Country.

				<i>Imports.</i>			
From				1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
New Zealand	...	...	...	£ 10,995	£ 10,187	£ 13,153	£ 16,855
Tahiti	...	...	...	5,254	9,097	9,282	6,414
Total	...	...	...	£16,249	£19,284	£22,435	£23,269

				<i>Exports (Cook Islands Produce only).</i>			
To				1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
New Zealand	...	..	...	£ 12,690	£ 13,397	£ 14,177	£ 16,756
Tahiti	...	...	...	2,706	5,361	4,759	2,324
Total	...	...	...	15,396	18,758	18,936	19,080
Exported also chiefly to New Zealand, the produce of other Islands	...		...	4,945	859	1,729	1,058
Total exports	...	...	...	£20,341	£19,617	£20,665	£20,138

TABLE V.—REVENUE of the COOK ISLANDS FEDERATION for the Years ending 30th June, 1892-93, 1893-94, and 1894-95, respectively.

—	Duty of 5 per cent. on all Imports.			Postage and Postage Stamps.			Miscellaneous.			Totals.			Remarks.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1891-92	762	10	4	18	10	7	9	19	9	791	0	8	The Federation was formed on 5th June, 1891, and the collection of the revenue began in July. The Post Office was not established till May, 1892, as a revenue-yielding department.
1892-93	563	6	5	245	5	9	16	17	2	825	9	4	
1893-94	943	10	5	278	2	3	24	14	5	1,246	7	1	
1894-95	1,048	2	9	228	0	1	10	18	6	1,287	1	4	
Totals	3,317	9	11	769	18	8	62	9	10	4,149	18	5	

No. 28.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 8th February, 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 13th December, authorising me to act as Registrar for the Court of the High Commissioner in the case of *Piltz v. Certain Natives of Penrhyn*.

By the same mail I received the requisite documents in connection with this case from the High Commissioner, and will see that they are attended to.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

No. 29.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

My LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 2nd April, 1896.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Queen Pa of Takitumu died on the 19th March, and was buried in due state on the 21st. This will bring into prominence the question of her successor.

Having fully reported the position in my despatches of the 18th November and the 17th December last, it is only necessary to state that the Arikis still firmly refuse to recognise Maretu, whom Pa had made her successor. Nor are they likely to change their minds.

The system of government being entirely local and federal, the only points in which the central authority can be brought into collision with Takitumu are the meetings of Arikis, who form the Federal Government, and the local Government of Rarotonga. The other Arikis refuse determinedly to meet Maretu on such occasions.

To meet this, it is proposed that Makea, as the rightful heir, shall take her place both as Ariki of Avarua and of Takitumu, leaving Maretu and the chiefs disposed to support him to dispute her claim if they think fit. Makea will not interfere in any way with the local affairs of the district, but leave them to be controlled by Maretu if the chiefs so desire. Her objection is entirely to his ranking with the Arikis. In their own phraseology, they will not have a cockroach crawling on their mat.

The affair is delicate, and has caused me considerable anxiety, but I hope by keeping the Native Government, as a Government, and myself out of the dispute as much as possible, that it may be made local, and that quarrels may thus be avoided, which must prove exceedingly troublesome and injurious to the progress of the islands.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand.

No. 30.

Mr. F. J. Moss to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

British Residency, Rarotonga, 2nd April, 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 18th March, enclosing one from the Acting High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, together with a proposed "Regulation for the protection of Natives entering into Contracts," and requesting my views as to its application to the Cook Islands.

The Natives in these islands have little or no property, real or personal, which can be individually alienated. The possession rests with the family, or one perhaps of its members, but the ownership is with the tribe. The Native has no occasion to incur debt of any amount, and his own law prohibits his taking credit at all. The Native Courts are therefore, in my opinion, quite sufficient to deal with any engagements into which he is qualified to enter, and the British Resident can always be appealed to by any one feeling aggrieved by the action such Courts may take.

Further, a Native has no conception of British legal principles in practice, and no means of obtaining legal guidance when making contracts, or if sued in a British Court for non-performance.

Fully appreciating the objection of the Solicitor-General to section 2 of the regulation, as at variance with ordinary legal principle, it appears to me, for the reasons above stated, that its operation would be salutary in these islands.

I would suggest that the term "Native trader," in section 1, should be defined, or power given to the Judge to decide whether the contract such "trader" might enter into was in keeping with his ordinary trade, and of an amount consistent with it. Unless some such provision be made, it is quite possible that a chief employed to trade by a European might enter into contracts bringing great trouble on the tribe, who would be bound in honour to see him through his difficulty if the Court decided against him.

I enclose the letter of the Acting High Commissioner, and the proposed regulation to which it gave cover.

I have, &c.,

FREDERICK J. MOSS,
British Resident.

His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of New Zealand, &c.

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