

1888. New Zealand. Native Land Claims in Marlborough (Report On), By Mr. Alexander Mackay.

Return to an Order of the House of Representatives, dated 2nd December, 1887.

Ordered, "That there be laid before this House a copy of Mr. Alexander Mackay's report on the claims of the Ngatikuia and Rangitane Natives to land in the Marlborough District."—(MR. PARATA.)

Mr. ALEX. MACKAY to the Hon. the NATIVE MINISTER.

SIR,—

Temuka, 9th May, 1887.

I have the honour to transmit herewith my report on an inquiry held at the Wairau in May of last year relative to the necessity of making further provision in land to meet the requirement of the Natives belonging to that district and the Pelorus, and beg respectfully to request that the same may be laid before His Excellency the Governor, to whom it is addressed.

I have, &c., A. MACKAY.

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

In pursuance of the instructions contained in the Commission issued to me by your Excellency, dated the 12th day of May, 1886, I convened a meeting of the Natives residing in the Wairau and Pelorus on the 19th of the same month at the Native pa, Wairau, for the following purposes:—

- To inquire into all cases of Natives alleged to be unprovided with land;
- To inquire into cases where it is asserted that the lands hitherto set apart are inadequate for the maintenance and support of the Natives on whose behalf such provision was made;
- To inquire into the cases of all half-castes in the Middle Island whose names are not included in any Acts of the Legislature who may still be unprovided with land;
- To ascertain and furnish the names, addresses, and sex of all such persons, and recommend in what quantities and in what localities land should be set apart and awarded to each for cultivation and settlement purposes.

Before detailing the result of my inquiry it is advisable that a brief statement be made of the early circumstances in connection with the setting-apart of reserves for the persons (or their predecessors) on whose behalf the inquiry was held.

Under the terms of a deed of sale known as "the Waipounamu purchase," executed at Wellington on the 10th August, 1853, between the Ngatitua Tribe and the Government, it was agreed, *inter alia*, that certain reservations of land should be made for the resident Natives, the extent and position thereof to be determined by the Governor.

In fulfilment of this condition, 770 acres were reserved at the Wairau for cultivation purposes and 200 acres at White's Bay for a fishing-station; and in the Pelorus 998 acres were set apart, but, as 238 acres of this quantity were allotted to certain persons as a special award, this area cannot be reckoned as a portion of the general estate. The actual quantity available for this purpose would therefore be 760 acres, and the gross total in both places would be 1,530 acres, exclusive of the 200 acres at White's Bay, which, being of inferior quality and unfit for cultivation, is not included.

The Native population in 1856, at the time the reserves were made, numbered 219, of whom 120 resided in the Wairau and 99 in the Pelorus. The acreage set apart for Native purposes in both districts, averaged over the

whole number, amounts to seven acres per individual, and had the Natives not supplemented the quantity by purchasing Crown land they would have been very badly off. They did not feel so much the want of an increased area in the early days while the country was only sparsely populated by the Europeans; but, as they are now hemmed in on all sides, and their requirements are much greater than in former times owing to their food supplies being cut off or considerably interfered with, they now find that the land set apart for them, for the reasons stated as well as other causes, is inadequate to their wants.

At the inquiry it was ascertained that there were 245 persons, inclusive of half-castes, who were insufficiently provided for; and I would beg to recommend that land to the extent of five thousand acres should be selected and set apart in suitable localities, for the purpose of enabling an area of twenty acres to be allotted to each individual, less the quantity already possessed.

It is impossible at present, owing to their reserves not having been subdivided amongst them, to determine the quantity now possessed per individual; and this can only be ascertained after the Native Land Court has sat in the locality. In the meantime, however, it would be advisable that action be taken to secure the land needed to increase the reserves.

I endeavoured, in accordance with the instructions contained in the last part of paragraph 4, to select land for the purpose, but found myself unable to fulfil the duty owing to the numerous obstructions that interfered with the due carrying-out of the requirement.

As far as I could ascertain at the Land Office, Blenheim, all the desirable spots on the shores of Queen Charlotte and Pelorus Sounds suitable for Native occupation, and which they desired to acquire as possessing some peculiar advantages, were, for the most part, reserved as sites for fishery reserves, or were occupied under lease or license for pastoral purposes.

The Pelorus Natives were very desirous to secure a block of land up the Rae Valley, at the junction of a stream called the Rongo with the River Rae; but all the country in that locality has been proclaimed under the State Forests Act. Other localities where they desire to secure land are within the Wakamarina Goldfield, and unavailable without specially withdrawn.

I have the honour to attach hereto, in compliance with the first part of paragraph 4, schedules containing the particulars required relative to the names, addresses, and sex of the persons on whose behalf the inquiry was made, as well as a list of the lands alluded to.

All this is respectfully submitted to your Excellency.

Signed and sealed this 9th day of May, 1887.

A. MACKAY.

A.—LIST of NGATIKUIA NATIVES residing in the Pelorus and Elsewhere.

B.—LIST of RANGITANE NATIVES living in the Wairau, Queen Charlotte Sound, and Elsewhere.

B1.—LIST of NGAITAHU NATIVES living in the Pelorus and Elsewhere.

C.—LIST of HALF-CASTES belonging to the Rangitane, Ngatikuia, and other Tribes

residing in the Northern Part of the Middle Island.

D.—LIST of NGATITOA and NGATI KOATA belonging to the Pelorus and Wairau.

E.—LIST of NGATIRARUA NATIVES belonging to the Wairau.

F.—SCHEDULE of LAND in QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND, PELORUS VALLEY, and Elsewhere that the NATIVES of the WAIRAU desired to have set apart for them.

He Ritana i runga i tetahi Ota o te Whare o Raro i tuhia i te 2 o Tihema, 1887.

"Kia whakatakotoria ki te aroaro o tenei Whare he kape o te ripoata o Arikihanara Make i runga i nga kereme a nga Maori o Ngatikuia me Rangitane me etahi whenua kei te takiwa o Marapara (Wairau)."—(TAME PARATA.)

E TA,—
Temuka, 9 o Mei, 1887.

E whai honore ana ahau ki te tuku atu inaiane i taku ripoata i runga i te mahi uiui i tu ki Wairau i te marama o Mei o tera tau e pa ana ki te tikanga e rite ana kia meatia tetahi ritenga ano mo etahi whenua mo nga Maori o tera takiwa me te takiwa o Te Hoiere hoki. A e tono ana ahau kia tukua atu tenei ki a Te Kawana.

Na to hoa iti i raro i te honore, (he mea haina) A. Make.
Ki te Minita Maori, Poneke.

ME PAI KOE E TE KAWANA,—

I raro i nga ritenga o roto o te Komihana i tukua mai e koe ki au he mea tuhi i te 12 o Mei, 1886, ka karangatia e au nga Maori e noho ana i Wairau i Te Hoiere kia huihui mai ratou ki te pa Maori i Wairau i te 19 o nga ra o taua marama tonu mo enei ritenga ara:—

- Kia kimihia nga keehi o nga Maori katoa e kiia ana kaore kau o ratou whenua;
- Kia kimihia nga keehi e kiia ana, ko nga whenua kua oti te whakarite mo etahi Maori kei te iti rawa, kaore ratou i te noho ora i runga i aua whenua kua whakaritea ra mo ratou;
- Kia uiuia nga keehi o nga hawhekaihe i Te Waipounamu kaore nei i uru o ratou ingoa ki roto ki etahi

Ture o te Paremete a kei te noho kore whenua tonu;

- Ki te rapu ki te tuhi i nga ingoa me nga nohoanga me te whakaatu hoki he tane, he wahine ranei aua tangata, me te whakarite hoki kia pehea te rahi o te whenua me me te wahi hei takotoranga e tika ana kia whakataua ki ia tangata o ratou hei mahinga kai hei orange mo ratou.

I mua i te korerotanga roatanga i te otinga o tenei taku mahi uiui, he mea pai kia korero poto i nga ritenga o te tuatahi mo runga mo te wehewehenga o nga rahui mo aua tangata mo o ratou matua ranei i tu ai tenei uiuinga.

I raro i nga ritenga o te Tiiti Hoko e mohiotia ana ko te Waipounamu Hoko i hanga ki Poneke i te 10 o Akuhata, 1853, i waenga o te iwi o Ngatittoa me te Kawanatanga, i whakaaetia kia whakaritea kia wehea etahi whenua mo nga Maori noho tuturu a ko te rahi me te wahi hei takotoranga ma te Kawana e whakaoti.

I raro i tenei tikanga, i wehea i rahuitia 770 eka i Wairau hei mahinga kai, me te 200 eka i Waiti Pei hei kainga hiinga ika a i Te Hoiere e 998 eka; otia i te mea 238 o tenei i hoatu ki etahi tangata i raro i te tuku motuhake, e kore e tika kia kiia inaianei, he whai taua 238 eka o te toputanga o enei whenua. Heoi ra ko te huihuinga o nga whenua i taua takiwa i tae ki te 760 eka, hui atu ki era atu eka i te wahi ke e 153 eka haunga ia te 200 eka i Waiti Pei, na te mea he whenua tupuhi tena, e kore e tika kia huia ki roto ki enei.

Ko te tokomaha o nga Maori i te tau 1856, i te wa i hanga ai aua rahui i tae ki te 219, 120 o ratou i noho ki Wairau, e 99 ki Te Hoiere. Mehemea ka whakahaerea te 219 tangata ki roto ki te huihuinga o nga eka whenua, ka kitea i tae ki te whitu eka ma ia tangata ma ia tangata o ratou, otia mehemea kihai ratou i tahuri ki te hoko whenua Karauna hei apiti mo enei whenua, kua tino mate ratou i te rawa kore. Kihai ratou i tino kite i te he o te iti o to ratou whenua i mua i te mea e takitahi ana nga pakeha ki runga ki taua takiwa e noho ana, otia inaianei, i te mea kua karapotia kua taiepatia i nga taha katoa, a i te mea hoki kua kore e puare era ara mahi kai o mua, kua kite ratou inaianei, kua kore e puta mai he orange ma ratou i te iti rawa o a ratou whenua rahui.

I taua uiui i kitea kei te 245 nga tangata hui atu ki nga hawhekaihe e noho he ana i runga i te iti o te whenua na reira e inoi ana ahau kia whakaritea he whenau kia rima mano (5,000) eka, me whiriwhiri i nga wahi e tika ana a me wehewehe kia tae ki te rua-tekau nga eka mo ia tangata o ratou, a ko a ratou whenua e mau ana kia ratou inaianei me hui ki roto ki aua rua-tekau eka ma te tangata kotahi.

E kore e taea inaianei te whakaatu atu, pehea te rahi o te hea o ia tangata i roto i enei rahui, te take hoki kaore ano kia wehewehea o ratou paanga; Ma te noho o tetahi Kooti Whenua Maori ki taua takiwa ka taea ai. Otia ko te mea tika inaianei, me whai tikanga hei tango hei tiaki i nga whenua e tika ana hei apiti atu mo aua Rahui.

I mahi ano ahau i raro i te pito whakamutunga o te rarangi 4, ki te whiriwhiri i etahi whenua mo tenei take, otia kihai rawa i taea i te huhua rawa o nga tikanga me nga raruraru e tau arai ana i taua whakaaro.

I runga i taku i ahei ai te tiroiro i te Tari whenua i Wairau, ko nga wahi pai katoa i te takutai o Arapaoa e rite ana ki to te Maori hiahia hei kainga, kua oti ke te rahui hei wahi mahi ika, kua retia ranei hei mahinga hipi me era atu tu mahi.

He nui te hiahia o nga Maori o Te Hoiere kia riro i a ratou tetahi poraka kei roto i te riu o Te Rai kei te huinga o nga awa e rua o Te Rongo me Te Rai otia ko nga whenua i taua takiwa kua oti te panui i raro i te Ture Ngaherehere o te Karauna. Ko era atu wahi e hiahiatia e ratou kei roto i te mahinga koura o Whakamarina a e kore e taea mehemea kaore e unuhia nga here.

E whai honore ana ahau i raro i te wahi tuatahi o te rarangi tuawha ki te tuku atu i nga kupu Apiti kei roto nga ingoa me nga kainga me era atu tohu o nga tangata Maori i tu nei ahau ki te mahi mo to ratou taha, apiti atu hoki ki nga ingoa o aua whenua e korerotia.

Ka tukua atu enei mea katoa hei whakapai mau i raro i te honore.

He mea haina me te hiri i tenei te iwa o nga ra o Mei, 1887.

Na A. Make.

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