

## Taranaki Province Correspondence

Letters from Private Persons 15 January to 31 December 1861

Items in this file have been numbered and there is a handwritten index to the contents at the front.

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1	Captain G. R. Burton, Omata Stockade	15 Jan 1861
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Re stock being used as food by Maori

2	Thomas William Shute	01 Feb 1861
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Placing memorial in Taranaki Herald

3	Jacob Samuel	New lease &c	Not in sequence
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4	Cruickshank, Smart & Co.	02 Feb 1861
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Sir, We have the pleasure to enclose Invoice of Sundries, shipped per *Lord Ashley*, addressed Harbour Master, New Plymouth in accordance with your returned favour of 30<sup>th</sup> instant. We could not procure the required quantity of 3½ inch nails, but have made up the difference with three inch.

5	Memorial re Slaughterhouse
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Your memorialists desire to draw your Honor's attention to the great nuisance occasioned by the Slaughter House, and to express their opinion that a great deal of the illness now prevalent may be attributed to the stench arising therefrom.... Signed by John Shaw; Thomas McGuinness; Will Weles; J. Barnes; James Thomas Upjohn; John Kelly; William Tatton; Edward Okey; Matthew Jones Snr; Matthew Jones Jnr; James Wills Snr; James Wills Jnr; Janus P. Smith; William Witson; Edw. Jas. Cudd; W. Carrington; Shuttleworth; W. K. Wakefield; J. Rideal Duncan; Richard Lander; Richard Chilman; Edward Adam Adams; Joseph Colesby; James Laird; Josh. Laurence; William Renall; J. Watson; G. Single; J. Brooking.

6	J. W. Cooper, Wanganui	06 Feb 1861
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Sir, I have the honour in reply to your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimate to inform you that Mr Charles Aldridge was here some time since, but he has gone to Auckland. I don't believe that Mr Aldridge met with any duress, but consider that some one should be here, and of course you are best able to select a person likely to be acquainted with the Taranaki Stock. The truth is all communication with the Ngatiruanui and Taranaki Tribe should be cut off from this place.

7	Bain, Grahame & Co., Auckland	12 Jul 1860 Copper nails and roves
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8	J. B. White, Auckland	19 Feb 1861
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Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant and I have thought over the matter and I will except the offer? And the first opportunity I will leave this place for New Plymouth to communicate with his Honour the Superintendent.

9	Thomas Allen, New Plymouth	31 Nov 1860
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Sir, I beg respectfully to offer myself as a candidate for the Office of Inspector of Sheep under the Scab ordinance. I feel justified in so doing from the experience I have had in the treatments of sheep suffering from the scab and can, if required, produce most satisfactory testimony to that effect.

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10 James P. Smart, New Plymouth 30 Nov 1860

Sir, The undersigned beg to apply for the Office of Inspector under the Ordinance to regulate the Branding and Slaughtering Cattle and Sheep in the Province of Taranaki and trust that my experience in Cattle will be deemed a sufficient qualification.

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11 Robert Pitcairn, Taranaki 23 Nov 1860

Sir, Understanding that you are about to appoint an Inspector of Brands under the Branding Ordinance now passing through the Provincial Council, I beg to offer myself as a candidate for that appointment.

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12 Joseph Smith 24 Nov 1860

Sir, You being about to introduce an ordinance for the regulation of Branding and Slaughtering of Cattle in this Province, I beg leave most respectfully to offer my Services as inspector under the above Ordinance.

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[-] James P. Smart, New Plymouth 29 Oct 1860

Sir, Having been informed that an Inspector of Cattle Brands is likely to be required I have the honor herewith to apply for the appointment.

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13 Christ. Homeyer, New Plymouth Application for Inspector of Brands

Sir, I beg respectfully to offer myself as a Candidate for the Office of Inspector of Brands and description of Cattle. Should I be favored with the appointment it will be my study to do justice to all parties concerned. Since I have been in the Settlement I have succeeded in restoring Sheep and Horses for some of my fellow settlers viz the late Mr Brown Mr Vickers and others and as an amateur have been very successful in the cure of animals of various sorts particularly Sheep belonging to the late Mr Weston and Mr R. Brown. My object in mentioning this is to show that I have paid some attention to animals in general and I flatter myself the appointment would open a way to my introducing a valuable specific for all cutaneous diseases in animals not hitherto known in the Southern Hemisphere.

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14 W. R. Chadwick Praying for assistance Not in sequence

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15 J. H. Fletcher, New Plymouth 07 Aug 1860

Sir, I have been requested by Mr Clark, shoemaker, being in the Devon line, to certify to you that he is, through a very long illness, quite unable to do anything whatever for his living. I believe him to be a thoroughly honest man who has expended all his means before making any application for public aid. He is most grateful for the rations of Flour and Meat which the Provincial Government has already granted him, but having no other means of support than Your Honour can grant him, must now solicit some further assistance, that he may obtain other necessaries and Medicine such as his very infirm health requires.

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16 J. J. Looney, New Plymouth 04 Mar 1861

Sir, As the Commissariat has accepted my tender for fresh meat for twelve months I will therefore require room for cattle yards, also room for a store to keep provender in for the cattle. I therefore beg you will allow me about half an acre of land on the east side of the present pound for the above purpose on conditions that I remove the same after my contract ceases.

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17	Boatmen, Omata Stockade	03 Mar 1861
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The memorial of James McDonald, Daniel Teary and Henry Parnell late of Auckland, Boatmen, but now serving in the Taranaki Militia – that your Memorialists were engaged for three months in the Boating Department at Taranaki; that two months or upwards have elapsed since the expiration of the term for which your Memorialists were so engaged as aforesaid; we therefore pray that your Honour would be pleased to procure their Discharge to be issued to your Memorialists forthwith.

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18	Union Bank of Australia, Auckland	02 Mar 1861
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Amount standing to credit of Province

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19	Cruickshank, Smart & Co., Auckland	06 Mar 1861 Receipt of Cheque
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20	Christian Nelson	02 Mar 1861
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Although I am aware of the necessity that exists for families to be absent from New Plymouth, yet upon the following representation I humbly hope you will make an exception of my case, and permit my family who have been absent from me since August last to rejoin me. The Allowance from Government being only 8s 9d per week I beg to assure you that it is quite inadequate to support them, being five in number, and having to maintain them at a cost of £6 per month. I find myself quite unequal to so large a demand on my small means. I further beg to acquaint your Honour that on the 9<sup>th</sup> March last, the Naval Brigade took possession of my house near the Niger Redoubt, since which I have received no compensation whatever from the Authorities for it, and have had to pay rent for another place in addition to supporting my wife and family at Nelson, since they were compelled to leave Taranaki. Trusting your Honour will take my case into your kind consideration upon the foregoing statements and permit my Family to rejoin me at New Plymouth, and that some allowance may be made to me for the use of my premises which have been used for Government purposes.

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21	Jacob Samuel	New leases	Not in sequence
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22	Mechanics Institute, Auckland	01 Jul 1860
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James Boyle, Secretary: Sir, I have the honour, as directed by the Committee to write to you requesting that you would have the kindness to forward to the Institute, a Government Map of Taranaki, having, if convenient, the places somewhat coloured – such as Bell Block &c – that have been rendered conspicuous in the late events of the war. As the Members of the Institute, generally, and the Public at large here, are entirely ignorant of their relative positions &c and are desirous of information, your compliance will confer a favour.

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23	Rob. Wadsworth, No.6 Chambers Terrace, South Yarra Melbourne	14 Mar 1861
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Sir, I shall be much obliged if you will be good enough to cause to be sent to me a Copy of the Land Regulations of your Province, together with any printed particulars you may have drawn up for intending settlers.

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24	Boatmen, New Plymouth	15 Mar 1861
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Sir, We the undersigned Boatmen employed by the Provincial Government of Taranaki respectfully apply for an increase of wages for the coming winter. We need not remind you of the hardships attendant upon surf Boating but we believe that the ensuing Winter will be one unrivalled in Taranaki for shipping, and therefore think it necessary that we should be compensated proportionately. Many of us are married men and served in times of peace and assure your honour that we are worse off now than we were then, the hours are very long at times, and provisions are getting dearer and will be, rents are much higher, and with our present pay we believe we shall not have anything to spare therefore we hope you will take the matter into your favourable consideration – signed by Joseph Lowndes; Henry Bailey; James Allan; Samuel Dunshea; Frederick Stockman; Francis Maguire; John James; John Kivell. One signature is readable and indecipherable.

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25 William McKechney 16 Apr 1861  
 Sir, I have to beg the favour of an early reply to the following question – Whether preference will be given to the steamer *Cozio* in loading and unloading over sailing vessels that may chance to be in the Roadstead when she arrives? I ask this, and for an early reply because not doubting that such preference would be given, a cargo of coals has been ordered from Sydney for her use, which order will have to be countermanded or the cargo sent elsewhere for sale. I trust you will not think I am urging this matter with unseemly haste for your consideration, but that you will look at it in a business view and let me know as soon as possible your determination.

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26 Union Bank of Australia 22 Mar 1861 Return of Debenture  
 27 Union Bank of Australia 17 Dec 1860 Return of Debenture

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28 Hugh Ross 17 Apr 1861  
 Sir, I send you by the steamer eleven ash oars and a bag containing iron knees bolts &c. I was led to believe the Iron work was of much more value than I find it, but it may be useful. I was sorry to leave after I wrote to you, that the vessel had not been taken into the Rangitikei River as I expected, but that owing to a Gale of wind, it had been buried in the sand where it lay. The cost of floating it and putting it in a place of safety would have been very large; so, I have instructed Messrs Powell & Co. to sell it. I fear however under the circumstances it will prove a total loss. Major Durie had sent a messenger to the Coast before my return and had promised the man £2. This I have paid, and £8 for the carriage together with 3s 6d cartage – total £10 3s 6d. I am afraid the affair will turn out but badly. I trust however it will not be worse than it was. I have not paid the freight upon the articles forwarded. I send you the receipt from the vessel.

Receipt Wanganui 17 Apr 1861 – Received on board the *Wonga Wonga* eleven ash oars and one bag with iron work for delivery to G. Cutfield, Taranaki. Freight not paid.

Letter to Hugh Ross from Wanganui 02 Apr 1861 on account of the Government of Taranaki... James Lomas... To Journey to Rangitikei 30 miles to see whether the boat and punt belonging to the Government of Taranaki lying on the beach at Rangitikei were sound or capable of repair and afterwards attending again the Boat being damaged beyond repair, breaking up same and procuring the iron work therefrom and bringing the same in to Wanganui together with eleven ash oars belonging to Boat and punt, the punt being embedded in the sand upon the beach and immoveable unless at very heavy expence. £10.

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29 Memorial 06 Apr 1861  
 Sir, We the undersigned inhabitants of Taranaki request Your Honour to call a public meeting to take in to consideration the advisability of forming a deputation to confer with His Excellency upon matters connected with the Province. Signed: H. A. Atkinson, Charles Brown, W. Weston, H. J. Honeyfield, Edward Dorset, H. H. Hulke, Y. U. Gledhill, James Leviot?, A. McKellar, T. E. Rawson MD, William McKechney, Walter Morrison.

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30 James Hirst, New Plymouth 30 Apr 1861  
 Sir, I beg leave respectfully to give notice that I shall require possession of the house situate in Devon Street belonging to my Father, Mr Thomas Hirst, now and for some time in the possession of the Provincial Government on the first day of June next, unless the Provincial Government are willing to pay 28s per week rent subject to one months notice on either side, the incurred rent to commence from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861. An early answer would greatly oblige.

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31 Captain George Rutt Burton, Omata Stockade 30 Apr 1861  
 Sir, I have the honour, at the request of several farmers who have lost stock by the depredations of the Southern natives to enquire if you can afford any information as to arrangements made for the disposal or identification of livestock which may possibly within a short time be given up by those tribes. It would seem highly desirable that in the event of cattle &c being brought back some system should be devised to... as well as to record the quantity and description of stock given up to each individual, with a view (amongst other advantages of such a plan) of affording a check to improper claims for loss and I should therefore, on behalf of many interested in the matter be obliged if you could state whether the civil authorities have taken or intend to take any steps on the matter, or whether you are aware what arrangement may be made by the military forces.

Annotation: I am not aware that the Military authorities will take any steps should the Southern Natives return any stock. I should the best cause respecting cattle would be to put them in the pounds about the town and let individuals select their own by their marks. If any doubt exists respecting any one or more beasts let the taker give a certificate to the Inspector of Brands to show them when registered. Such cattle as are not claimed to be marked by the Inspector and under his charge till owners can be found.

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32 J. Samuel Iron Sand Lease Not in sequence

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33 Robert Parris, New Plymouth 04 Jun 1861  
 Sir, Having been informed that you are about to lease for three years in small allotments the "Waste Land" near the Town, I have the honour to submit to you the following proposal, respecting two Native Reserves situate in the midst of the "Waste Land" one of which I have purchased, the other I have leased. For the convenience of fencing, I am willing to give up the reserve which I lease, containing eight acres, to be disposed of by your Honour for the three years as "Waste Land" provided I may be allowed to enclose the same quantity adjoining the reserve which I purchased for the same period. If for the convenience of fencing any quantity over the eight acres should be enclosed I am willing to pay rent for the surplus, at the same ratio as the other land may let for. The above arrangement would be a mutual accommodation on account of the peculiar shape of the Native Reserves, which the Surveyors map will explain.

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34 Henderson & McFarlane, Auckland 06 Jun 1861  
 Sir, With reference to your letter of 27 May requesting to know the price at which we could deliver timber in the roadstead of Taranaki we beg to inform you that we can deliver the timber as specified at the rate of 20s per 100 feet.

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35 Memorial 31 May 1861  
 Sir, We the undersigned having been given to understand that it is your intention to let or lease in sections of five or ten acres the waste lands surrounding the town beg to express our wish that you will allow us the right of selecting ten or more acres. We would also be obliged by your informing us whether it is your intention to render aid towards fencing the various sections. Signed: John Harris, N. Grayling, Robert Thompson

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36 Chadwick - Not in sequence

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37 Daniel Bishop, New Plymouth 15 Jun 1861  
 Sir, I have the honour to call your attention to the state of the road approaching the Waiwakia Bridge. At present I am prevented cultivating my farm in consequence of the water which is thrown into it from the road. This is putting to some inconvenience as the season is fast passing away in which I ought to work the land.

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38 Henry Shuttleworth, New Plymouth 26 Jun 1861  
 Sir, Presuming the appointment of an Officer to inspect Weights & Measures will be shortly made I have the honour to offer myself a candidate for the same assuring you that should the confidence be placed in me it will by my study to discharge the duties with satisfaction to yourself and the Public at large.

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39 J. Stephenson Smith, Taranaki 02 Jul 1861  
Sir, Having at your desire inspected the ground which the building now used as a Fire Engine House stands, with a view to ascertain what ought to be deemed a fair rent for the same, I have the honour to state that I consider £7 10s per annum would be sufficient provided the buildings could be removed, or taken at a valuation.

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- George F. George 03 Jul 1861  
When first I saw Richard Collins I thought he was suffering from sanguinous apoplexy, but I soon found it was Copnanche Largugoa?? I gave him two... but he would not be bled. I returned... to give blisters and other medicines and he died a few minutes after I returned.

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40 Union Bank of Australia, Wellington 28 Jun 1861  
To W. Hulke – Sir, With reference to our conversation today respecting the purchase of timber &c on account of the N.P. Provincial Government I beg even to state that I shall be unable to advance your funds in accordance with the terms set forth in the Superintendents' credit in your favour, and which you have exhibited to me; as this Bank has a Branch at Taranaki; neither have we any authorized agents residing there. I would suggest a lodgment of funds in this Branch by the N. P. Government and an authority to you to operate on the same should you require to transact similar business on a subsequent occasion.

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41 H. Hulke, Wellington 28 Jun 1861  
I have enclosed a letter from the Manager of the Union Bank of Wellington in reply to an application I made him...

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42 W. J. Grayling, Taranaki 15 Jul 1861  
Sir, On a late visit to my farm in Omata I find that by a little attention being given to the furze fencing directly a top rail would be a sufficient protection for the crops. If on the contrary it is longer neglected the furze will spread in such a manner as to do a great deal of injury to the land independent of being almost useless as a fence. From the extent of my frontage, fencing to me will become a serious consideration, but by attending to the fences this winter I shall be enabled, whenever circumstances will allow, to go back and commence cropping at once, if on the contrary the fences from neglect are ruined a season may be lost before the farm is again in a protected state fitted for culture. To assist me in carrying out this object I write to know if you would kindly advance me on the security of my compensation the sum of £10. The amount of my claim which has been received and examined by the commissioner is £244, lots of fencing and houses not being included in this amount.

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43 The respectful Memorial of John McDonald, farmer  
That your memorialist at the commencement of the war was tenant and proprietor of certain lands at Tataraimaka and that he in consequence of a Brigade order which was issued by the officer commanding the troops removed himself and family from the said district to the town of New Plymouth 03 Mar 1860. That losses and damages were sustained to an extent which precluded your memorialist from supporting himself and family. That your memorialist was sworn in the said Militia on the said third day of March and continued to act as one of the body of the said force until 30 Jun 1860. That pay and rations were allowed to your memorialist during the time that he served in the Militia until the date last above mentioned when he was discontinued in consequence of bodily infirmity and inability to perform the same. That your memorialist prays that the losses sustained by your memorialist have been so great that he is utterly incompetent to sustain himself and his family. And while he deploras the circumstances in which the province is placed he would withal respect urge a claim for what he has been deprived of during the Native War of which your Honour is acquainted. His claim is for the value of the support of his family during the time that he was precluded through no means of his own to the rations and allowances given to others which date from 03 Aug 1860 until 18 Sep 1860.

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44 William Wells, Chairman, New Plymouth 22 Jul 1861

Sir, At a meeting of the Settlers in the Upper Mangorei district held this day on the subject of Cattle branding, the enclosed resolutions were passed unanimously and are hereby forwarded for your Honour's approval.

At a meeting of the Settlers of the Upper Mangorei district, held at New Plymouth 22 Jul 1861, Mr William Wells in the Chair, it was resolved

1<sup>st</sup> That this meeting is of opinion the Cattle belonging to settlers of that district should be branded in it. Proposed by Mr Upjohn, Seconded by Mr Oliver

2<sup>nd</sup> That there be three yards for branding Cattle one at Mr John Lawson's, one at Mr Joseph Laurances or Mr William Cowling as the Subinspector of the District may determine on, and one at Mr William Rendall. Proposed by Mr Upjohn, Seconded by Mr J. Roberts.

3<sup>rd</sup> All persons agreeing to the two first resolutions hereby bind themselves to assist in putting up or making secure the yards above named, and to assist in collecting the Cattle of all the owners in that district and branding the same under the directions of the Subinspection. Proposed by Mr Waite, Seconded by Mr Smith

4<sup>th</sup> That Mr John Lawson, is hereby recommended Subinspector of Cattle for the Upper Mangorei District. Proposed by Mr Upjohn, Seconded by Mr Rendall

5<sup>th</sup> That the thanks of this meeting are hereby given to His Honor the Superintendent, for his promptitude in the matter

Signed: William Wells, J. H. Smith, Thomas Waite, William Cowling, Stephen Coad, T. B. Upjohn, John R. Lawson, John Roberts, James Oliver, William Randall, Joseph Laurence, Robert Baker, Z. W. Wells, Matthew Carrick.

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45 Henderson & McFarlane, Auckland 07 Aug 1861

Sir, We regret that we have not been able to send your order for timber of date 26 July by the *Airedale* as we have not been able to execute the order for housing the troops as yet. We understand however that a ship is to be laid on for your Port to sail in about 14 days; and if so we shall make a point of having your order ready for her. Failing this opportunity we shall not be later than the next steamer.

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46 John Brooking, New Plymouth 15 Aug 1861

Sir, I have the honour to apply for a lease for 21 years of that piece of ground known as the Reserve for a "Mechanics Institute" on Mount Eliot on the following terms:- I will undertake to build a building on the same about 70 feet by 30 feet and 12 feet in height the plan to be approved of by the Superintendent, in a workman like manner, to give up the same and any other buildings on the land, at the termination of the lease in good order and condition, and to pay a moderate rent for the land during the continuance of the lease.

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47 William Crompton, New Plymouth 15 Aug 1861

Sir, Finding that the establishment of Public schools is likely to engage the attention of the Provincial Council I have the honor to submit for your consideration some suggestions thereon. In the present uncertain state of the Province I would suggest that only temporary buildings should be put up so that they might be removed or improved as circumstances should hereafter require. Buildings similar to that opposite the Ship Hotel and lately occupied by the Contractors for the supply of meat, as a butcher's shop would suffice for the present. Since I have been occupied in teaching in the Taranaki Militia Regimental School I have found myself confined for room that it is utterly impossible for me to accommodate anything like the number who apply for admission, that I would further suggest that a Temporary schoolroom of the character abovementioned be put up by the Provincial Council on the section adjoining the one I now occupy – or that the Provincial Council should advance me a sum say £120 at a reasonable rate of interest and take the section and building as a security and I will build the school room. Should it hereafter appear that the locality is a good one for a public school I shall be very willing to surrender it to you at any reasonable price which will protect me from actual loss.

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48 John Whiteley, Mission House, Taranaki 26 Aug 1861  
Sir, Referring to our conversation on the subject of the Mission Chapel, as agent of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, I beg to suggest for your Honour's consideration the following arrangement:  
[1] That the ground on which the Chapel stands, together with the road to it, as described in the Commissioner's Report of 26 April, be valued by the Commissioner residing in New Plymouth, and the estimated value paid over to the Missionary Society by the Provincial Government.  
[2] That, as soon as I can obtain a suitable site, a new Chapel be erected thereon by the Provincial Government in exchange for the present building, equal in size, value and every other respect, subject to the inspection and approval of two persons one to be chosen by Your Honor and the other by myself.  
[3] That until such chapel be completed the Provincial Government continue to pay rent for the present building, as now, at the rate of 1s per day.

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49 P. Wilson, New Plymouth 24 Aug 1861  
Sir, In a letter which I addressed to your Honor's predecessor, on the subject of Furze Hedges, in September 1859, demonstrating that it were beneficial that some regulation regarding the growth and management of these should be enacted, I recommended that hedges of that shrub should be trimmed three or four times in the year, or before the shoots have attained the state of woody fibre, and in postscript, I remarked thereon that if such a law were extended to our country blocks, as well as to the town, it would save the farmer much labour, and, of course, expense; or, when the shoots of the plants are in succulent state, chains length of hedge may be cut in an hour's time, whereas, when allowed to become woody, the operation is a heavy and laborious job. Since the war began, the evil effect of these hedges becoming overgrown has been inadvisably manifested, as, by the neglect, the seed growth has been manifoldly increased; and the wind acting on the tall branches has spread it over the ground to several yard distances, hence many of the grass paddocks so inclosed are becoming dense furze cover, and will cost much expence of labour to clear.

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50 Samuel Joll, New Plymouth 21 Aug 1861  
Sir, I have the honor to request that you will let to me or lease for a term of years that piece or parcel of land situate in the Town of New Plymouth known as "St Germain's Square" at a yearly rental of 50s per acre, or in lieu thereof such portion of Town land on the Race Course as may be mutually agreed upon at a yearly rental of 40s per acre.

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51 Thomas Veale, New Plymouth 04 Sep 1861  
Sir, I would wish to call your Honour's attention to the dangerous state of the Footpath in Devon street near my house. As people have gone over in the dark with danger of breaking their bones, if your Honour could do something to remedy the evil. I with my neighbours should feel much obliged.

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52 W. Weston, New Plymouth 13 Sep 1861  
Sir, I beg to bring before the notice of your Honor the unsatisfactory state of the Harbour Department in this Province. On Monday last there were three vessels lying in the Roadstead, the *Clutha*, *Sea Gull* & *Raden*. The first named vessel had the first right to the two Boats then at work. On Tuesday a third boat was launched to discharge the *Sea Gull* which vessel was finished and sailed last evening. This day the third Boat has not been launched, notwithstanding that the *Raden* is still lying in the Roadstead with a valuable cargo on board. Two fine days (half of which would have been sufficient to have discharged and loaded the *Raden*, has consequently been lost, notwithstanding that during that time there were boats lying idle in the sheds, now her turn for the boats has come, there is every probability of bad breakers setting in, entailing a great loss to both ship and cargo. I would most respectfully impress upon your Honor the necessity that every exertion should be used by the Department to facilitate the dispatch of vessels coming into our Roadstead and also that the rules laid down should be strictly adhered to.

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53 W. McKechney, New Plymouth 12 Sep 1861

Sir, I have to complain that the Boats of the Boating Department were... employed this afternoon for the loading of the *Sea Gull* when they were due to the unloading of the *Clutha* as following i.e. At 25 to 4 I was on the Beach and saw a boat hanging astern of the *Sea Gull* – at half past four one boat left her for the *Clutha* and the boat astern then pulled alongside and at the same time half past four a boat left the shore for the *Sea Gull* loaded with ballast and some few goods. Now, I had asked the Harbour Master if he could put two cart loads on board the *Clutha* this afternoon, supposing it possible she might get all out and be ready for Sea before the evening. To this he objected stating that the Boat then loading was going to the *Sea Gull* and that the Boats then out, would not be back before dark. My complaint is that the unloading of the *Clutha* has been retarded by one hour positive and I believe by much more which I cannot prove, and for any thing I know this one hour might have finished the unloading of the *Clutha* tonight.

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54 Henderson & Macfarland, Auckland 06 Sep 1861

Dear Sir, We have now the pleasure of sending you per *Airedale* timber as per invoice enclosed. You will see that your order is not fully executed as we could not manage to get more forward in time for the steamer. Perhaps you will not require more at present; but if you do have the kindness to write and we shall make up the deficiency by next steamer. In the meantime we shall feel obliged by receiving a remittance for the amount now sent.

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55 J. H. Horne

Sir, Through failing to bring either Department of Government to make me any remuneration for losses incurred through the War and quite uncertain when they will, compels me most unwillingly to solicit pecuniary assistance from the Provincial fund over which you have the chief control. On application to the Head of the Commissariat Department that officer referred me to the Military Secretary to obtain the necessary warrant, acknowledging that it would give him the greatest satisfaction to see me fully paid for my heavy losses. The Military Secretary being totally ignorant of my affairs required time to consult the Members of the Military Board of Inquiry and afterwards to communicate with me. A month has elapsed and others may any satisfactory arrangement is come to. The consequences not for a moment troubles I believe the Military Secretary Head, although like the Trays in the Table, the delay is next akin to death – for I am in carrying debts, and what is worse still prevented from earning anything. The unlooked for length of time the most unsatisfactory war has continued, being the entire cause of my not only disagreeable but most painful situation. To prevent any further waste of time and finding it not advisable to commence practice in Auckland, as it would require a considerable outlay, I propose going to the Otago Gold fields which cannot be done neither without incurring some expences, nor should I like leaving here without defraying some expences that my family has indispensably incurred while here, during the last 18 months. I think Sir that neither the General nor the Provincial Government would think it fair for me to sacrifice what little property I have left to enable me to accomplish the two above objects, consequently I trust you will perceive the desirableness and justice of my claiming provision allowed to our refugees and if you will kindly interest yourself in my behalf and allow me to become a participator from the beginning, I may then be able to do something and... the time the Military Government requires to look into my affairs and I shall ever feel grateful for the efforts you may think it right to make on my behalf.

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56 John Brooking, Taranaki 11 Sep 1861

Sir, There is a quantity of Timber about 20,000 feet at Picton which Mr Hulke was to supply the Provincial Government with. As Mr Hulke wishes me to buy his timber there, will the Provincial Government take that 20,000 from me at the same rate as agreed with Mr Hulke.

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57	Jacob Samuel	Sale of land to Iron Land Co.	Not in sequence
58	Jacob Samuel	Lease of Iron Land Co.	Not in sequence

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59 James Gray, Taranaki 26 Sep 1861

Sir, From my blindness I find myself extremely lonely in being away from the town. Prior to Mr Cutfield's return from office he had arranged that I should have permission to build a house within the circumscribed limits of the town convenient to Rome's. I now write trusting that you will assist me in carrying out my wish of moving into town; I would if it could be arranged exchange suburban for town sections so as not again be compelled to move my house. I must further request that you will advance the means for purchasing timber for the erection of a dwelling. I will give security for the amount either on my compensation or on the suburban sections for which I hold crown grants.

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60 Henderson & Macfarlane, Auckland 14 Sep 1861

Dear Sir, Subsequent to the dispatch of our letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> we received your communication by Captain Eaton; and agreeably to your request we have shipped the balance of your order per invoice enclosed. The account for the same is also enclosed the amount of which (£13) can be added to and remitted along with the amount of the former account.

Enclosed: Invoice (with ship pictorial labelled as "Sold by C. T. Chapman, Auckland") 14 Sep 1861  
Shipped via *Victoria* under Master George Eaton from Manukau to Taranaki – 203 pieces tongued (1590 feet)

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61 Thomas Heale, New Plymouth 14 Oct 1861

Honored Sir, Hearing the Provincial Government have more Bricks than you require for the present times I have foolishly erected twice a chimney with Cob and both have failed. If your Honor will be so kind as to sell me a few hundreds of bricks I shall be very thankful. I have made bold to send this note by my wife as the Chimney is tottering and dangerous to cook in if you will please to grant my request and please to state the price my wife shall attend with the money in payment.

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62 John Whiteley, New Plymouth 23 Oct 1861

Sir, I have just received your Honor's letter of this date, addressed to me as "Chairman of Commissioners of Native Reserves" and enquiring if the Provincial Government can acquire by purchase the Otumaikuku Reserve. In reply I beg to inform you that I am not Chairman of the Commissioners, and further to state that the Reserve in question has already been sold by the Commissioners.

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63 Declaration: Benjamin Wells 28 Oct 1861

I Benjamin Wells of Taranaki, Settler do declare that I served with unblemished character as a Private in the Taranaki Militia from its establishment till 30 Jul 1860, that I then obtained leave to join my family in Nelson, that I maintained my wife and family in Nelson from that period till 26 Aug 1861 when by reason of being out of employment I returned to Taranaki. That on my return the Officer Commanding the Militia refused to re-instate me in my Regiment and that I am now left to my own resources to support myself and to assist in maintaining my family.

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64 Declaration: Richard Heale 28 Oct 1861

I Richard Heale aged 29 years do declare that I was in the employ of Mr Skinner, that I was in the Militia during that time, that Mr Skinner was Contractor to the Forces in supplying meats, that for a short period during that Contract I did duty as a Militia man and during such time I was once absent from Sunday Parade being employed in serving out rations to an escort, that I was afterwards exempted from duty in the Militia my services being constantly required by Mr Skinner as Contractor. I further declare that I was afterwards employed by another Contractor (Mr Looney) and subsequently by Mr Lethbridge in the same capacity and that I have been discharged from that employ owing to the Contractors not further requiring my labour. I declare also that I have been unable to obtain more than two days employment in the week for the support of myself and family, that I have been visited with both sickness and death by which I have incurred great expence. I further declare that I have applied to the Officer Commanding the Militia to be reinstated in that Force and that he has refused to do so.

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65 Robert Ward, New Plymouth 28 Oct 1861

Sir, I beg respectfully to acknowledge the receipt of the Deed conveying to trustees a site for a chapel in Queen Street, and your note of 26<sup>th</sup> instant; and to say that the manner in which your Honor and the Hon. The Provincial Council have met our claims has given entire satisfaction.

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66 Thomas William Shute, Taranaki 18 Nov 1861

Sir, I beg to inform you that when my wife and daughter returned from Nelson by the last steamer Mr Gray refused to pay all the freight of their goods across from Motueka to Nelson consequently they were placed in the store and she was denied them without the payment of six shillings as part of freight and two shillings and six pence storage and she was obliged to borrow the money before she could pay it to enable her to leave by the steamer. The Superintendent gave me to understand that all the things that were taken away should be brought back when written to some time since on the matter. It is Sir a great hardship that my family have been thus treated, they have nothing more to bring home than was sent away which the Government were bound to bring back without charging me with the cost. I further beg to say that the charge thus made on me is unjust and ought not to have been made under the circumstances. I therefore request that you will be pleased take steps to cause the money thus wrested from my family to be refunded.

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67 Memorial No date

We the undersigned settlers of Omata having heard that Scabby Sheep are likely to be sent into this District do most respectfully solicit that your Honor will take steps to prevent it. Signed: George Curtis, A. McKellar, F. White, C. M. Kingston, Antonio, James Ball, Robert Law, Adolphus Kingdom, James Honeyfield, William Gray, John Autridge, Samuel Julian, George Rutt Burton.

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68 William Devenish, New Plymouth 10 Dec 1861

Sir, I do not think it is inconsistent with the due performance of the duties of my office if I direct your Honor's attention to the extremely imperfect action of the "Cattle Ordinance 1861." It has recently been decided in the Resident Magistrate's Court of this province that the Act in question takes no retrospective cognizance of offences against the "Cattle Branding Ordinance 1860" without entering into any particulars of the decision I have referred to I merely observe that I think a sufficient remedy would be applied by making the present Act a continuation of the Ordinance of 1860.

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69 Memorial: James Gray of New Plymouth

09 Dec 1861

The Memorial of James Gray respectfully sheweth – That at the beginning of the war your memorialist lost his right and had to apply to Mr Cutfield the then Superintendent for the means of subsistence. At the time the council had placed at the Superintendent's disposal a sum of money for the purpose of relieving cases of distress. From this fund a sum of six shillings per week had been allowed (the payment of which is still continued) which with the earnings of his wife little more than sufficed to pay the expences of lodging for the night in town. During the war those dwelling without the lines being compelled to seek protection in the town. Your memorialist's son who to this time had lived with his uncle in the bush was thrown on his father's small means for support and from the effects of the wet and exposure in moving through all weathers into town for the night his mother died, thus depriving your memorialist in his helpless state of all assistance. On the death of Mrs Gray rations which to this time had been allowed were stopped when your memorialist being unable to support his son went to Colonel Gold and represented his case pleading his former military services, when the Colonel ordered the boy to be enrolled in the militia, his pay rations and attendance being of great assistance. Since this his pay and rations have been discontinued, his support now falling on his widowed Aunt it being utterly out of your memorialists power to aid in his support. Since this your memorialist has been forced to part with portions of clothing and other property for immediate subsistence the government allowance not sufficing. That if a loan of £35 for building a house was granted and some small temporary assistance given to your memorialist it would enable him to get into the town and aid in his support by making a mangle he has available. That your memorialist would give security either upon his compensation or on town sections for which he holds crown grants. Your memorialist therefore prays that your Honor will take his case into favourable consideration.

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70 Memorial

The Memorial of the undersigned Merchants and Wholesale Traders of Taranaki humbly sheweth – That your Memorialists have heard that it is in contemplation to proclaim within this Province the Ordinance of the Legislative Council of New Zealand entitled "Weights and Measures Ordinance" Session 7 No.10. That without entering into the question of how far it may be necessary for the protection of the private individual and retail customer to prohibit the use of steelyards and weighing machines with unequal arms for small quantities of goods your Memorialists as wholesale traders respectfully submit that their Customers being for the most part traders also, are fully competent to protect their own interests, and are for the purpose of carrying on their own trade necessarily possessed of the means of so doing, and therefore that for this class of the community no further protection is required. That from the difference in the construction of machines with equal and unequal arms, the latter are much more convenient especially for weighing heavy packages, and that they are for weighing heavy goods usually more accurate than machines with equal arms, from the circumstance of the machines with unequal arms being furnished with a lever to lower the points of suspension below the bearers when loading and unloading the scale, and also when the machines not in use thereby avoiding that grinding of the Bearers upon the points of suspension which does more to injure and destroy the accuracy of any weighing machine, than all the fair weighing it can do. That there are a variety of methods by which a thoroughly competent Inspector may not only assure himself, but also insure the accuracy of machines with unequal arms. And that therefore Your Memorialists should not be put to an expence and inconvenience not necessary for the protection of any public interests, notwithstanding any course which it may be deemed necessary to take with respect to Machines and Scales commonly denominated Counter Machines and scales, in which the general public is more particularly interested. Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray that the Ordinance in question may not be proclaimed in this Province but if deemed necessary for the protection of the Public that your Honor will send to the Provincial Council such a bill as will meet the requirements of the Public without unnecessarily interfering with the convenience and outlay of the trader. Signed: J. Newton Watt, W. Weston, F. M. Gledhill, Webster Brothers, James Yems, J. C. Sharland, William McKechney

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71 J. Knight, Devonport

19 Dec 1861

Dear Sir, If it is your wish, I can have no objections to the proposal in your favour of today.

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72 G. Cutfield 19 Dec 1861

Dear Sir, I have no objection to your proposing me as a Trustee of Public Reserves, if you think I can be of any service to the State and that I shall be able to agree with my colleagues.

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73 E. Tovey, New Plymouth 06 Dec 1861

Sir, I have the honor to apply under the Refugee Building Ordinance for 600 feet of timber.

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74 Jacob Samuel, New Plymouth 13 Dec 1861

Sir, I have the honour to transmit a memorial for the redress of my grievances which your Honor will be pleased to lay before the Provincial Council now sitting.

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75 Ford Family 24 Dec 1861

Elizabeth Ford (32 years of age); Henry Ford (13), Charles Ford (8), Fanny Ford (7), Norman Ford (5), Emma Ford (4), Kate Ford (2)

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76 Robert Hughes, Gaolor, New Plymouth 19 Dec 1861

Sir, I would beg to suggest that I be allowed to get some of best old Rugs and Blankets repaired, they can be made to last some time for common purposes. The expense of this will be trifling as one of the prisoners waiting trial is handy with the needle. I should get him to do it and pay him in Tobacco.

Enclosed: Articles required for the use of Gaol at New Plymouth 18 Dec 1861  
6 Blankets, 4 Rugs, 3 Palliasses, 3 Pillow Slips, Straw or other material to fill 6 Paliasses and 6 Pillows.

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77 John Turner, 9 Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn 20 Sep 1861

Sir, I have had sent to my chambers at No.9 Carey Street Lincoln's Inn, a Gazette Notice of your appointment as Superintendent for the Province of Taranaki, addressed to John Staple Esquire. This Gentleman was my brother-in-law and died in the month of September 1848, in the lifetime of his father. He, in his lifetime purchased a large quantity of land in New Zealand the particulars of which I am not acquainted with, but I have heard that it was about 12 square miles in extent. I presume that the Notice of your appointment was sent by you in consequence of Mr John Staple being the owner of the Land in question, and that the superintendence of the District in which it is situate is within your jurisdiction. If this is the case will you be good enough to send me full particulars of the Land, and what assistance you require to aid you in the performance of your duty.

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78 J. Knight, Devonport 28 Nov 1861

Sir, Excuse me for drawing your attention to "Thistles" in No.2 Run. If allowed to grow another week or ten days the whole country will be sown with seed – if they could be destroyed forthwith, by Soldier, Militia, or Maori, or via private subscription I should beg... to join.

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79 Josh. Palmer, Manager, Union Bank of Australia, Christchurch 23 Dec 1861

Sir, I have been requested by Mrs Moorhouse to forward to you the money taken at Mrs Moorhouse's Mall, at the Bazaar, held in Christchurch on account of the Taranaki Relief fund and I accordingly enclose a draft on our Auckland Branch in your favour of £170.

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80 Benjamin Wells, Henui

16 Dec 1861

Educational Scheme for Province of Taranaki

1<sup>st</sup> The province to be divided into educational districts, identical with the present road districts

2<sup>nd</sup> The Commissioner of roads to be constituted Commissioner of Roads and Education

3<sup>rd</sup> The Commissioner to be empowered to levy an annual uniform rate upon each householder in their several districts of such an amount as with the proceeds of the educational reserves may be deemed sufficient for the purposes of education for the time being. The Commissioner to build school houses, residences for teachers, to purchase school furniture and in conjunction with the Inspector to appoint and dismiss teachers.

4<sup>th</sup> An educated person, a layman, to be appointed Inspector of Schools, who in addition to his implied duties shall examine all candidates for the office of Teacher, and no Teacher shall be admitted without his Certificate. The Inspector to communicate with the Committee of Council on Education and procure from it a constant supply of books, maps, slates and other requisites at the low rates at which the Committee supplies Public Schools.

5<sup>th</sup> The Instruction, so far as the Teachers are concerned, to be of a secular character, The Method of instruction to be similar to that adopted in the British and Foreign Schools, or the National Schools of Ireland.

6<sup>th</sup> Each school to contain an anteroom in which Clergymen or Ministers may impart Religious Instruction to children of their own denomination, at such time, as may be agreeable to the Teacher and Commissioners.

7<sup>th</sup> All books, slates, and other articles needed by the children for their own special use, shall be purchased by them of the Inspector, who shall sell each article, at the lowest remunerating price.

8<sup>th</sup> All books, maps, diagrams and apparatus necessary for collective teaching to be purchased of the Inspector by the Commissioners.

9<sup>th</sup> A library consisting of works of an educational tendency to be established in connection with each school.

10<sup>th</sup> A set of Philosophical Apparatus, such as a Microscope, Telescope, Prism, Electrical and Galvanic Machines, Air pump, Magic Lantern with Astronomical Slides etc to be kept by the Inspector and lent out to the several schools, as occasion may require.

The above scheme is most humbly submitted to the consideration of His Honor the Superintendent.

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81 Robert Mutrie, London

26 Oct 1861

Sir, On 23<sup>rd</sup> instant I was favored with your letter of 8<sup>th</sup> August informing me that from the testimony of my esteemed friend Thomas King, Esquire regarding my business character and position here, such being looked on by you so favorably as to induce you to do me the honor to appoint me the Agent for the Government of the Province of Taranaki for England, which I receive and accept with much pleasure and for which I beg to return my sincere acknowledgements. Allow me to state in every way and as at all times I will devote my best energies in the Service of the Province. The order you enclose for the Harbour Department is now receiving my best attention and will be shipped per *Ardenraig* in all November. The letter for Messrs Troughton and Sims has been delivered and waiting the favor of your further advices.

## Other items

[1] Robert Mutrie, Buyer for Merchants, Colonial, Import & Export Agent, 22 Cannon Street, London Invoice 06 Nov 1861 in account with John Gladstone & Co. – Mentions expenses re passage for Mrs Muckleston

[2] Letter from Robert Mutrie 26 Nov 1861

Sir, Referring you to my letter of 26<sup>th</sup> October last, acknowledging receipt of your favor of 8<sup>th</sup> August, appointing me Agent for your province Taranaki; which I then respectfully acknowledged and accepted. I beg now to advise your favor of 9<sup>th</sup> September on 19<sup>th</sup> instant, and to inform you the order for copper nails and rivets is completed, also the contents of your previous order of 8<sup>th</sup> August, and the whole will be shipped this week per *Ardenraig*; but it is totally out of my power to send you the Invoice till the out going mail of 20<sup>th</sup> December, when it will be rendered you fully complete and Insurance duly effected for your protection. I am very sanguine the execution of these two orders will give you complete satisfaction. I beg to enclose you Copy of Cash Account rendered to me by Messrs John Gladstone & Co., balance received by me £52 19s 11d and in December I will render you my Cash Statement. Mrs Mucklestone, wife of one of your Harbour boatmen who was saved from the wreck of the *William Brown*, poor woman she lost her all, has called on me to aid her with £10 for an outfit. I told her I would do as Messrs John Gladstone & Co. would have done and find they would have given such, so if she calls again I will give it to her, as the hardship of her Case is great, and I trust such will meet with your sanction; Shaw Savill & Co. have given her a fresh passage without charge. Waiting the favor of your further advices.

[3] Confidential Memo of the Taranaki Steel & Iron Company (Limited) 06 Dec 1861

Called on Messrs Roy & Cartwright, 4 Lothbury, most respectable Solicitors; they act for the three Petitioners to wind up in Bankruptcy the Taranaki Iron & Steel Company and from Mr Roy I learn a deal, he tells me the three Petitioners are respectable men of some means, Martin & Soblechero are two men of straw, Soblochero may be called a rogue, he is off, there is a Criminal warrant out after him. Mr Roy tells me Morshead called on him and he talked at such a rate he was obliged to desire him to hold his tongue; he may fairly be called a cunning man. Martin & Soblechero hold 16,000 shares & Morshead has got £1,000 from them and he has also got Bills from the three Petitioners for £1,500 which will be paid, this is £2,500 to begin with, his object has been to get money and how much more he has to get remains to be seen. You see the proceedings in Bankruptcy are not to be further heard till 08 January and it will be a protracted business. Morshead is totally unqualified by commercial experience to manage an affair of such importance as this is to your province, he is a greedy covetous man, you will I expect have to annul his Contract and get rid of him and he ought to pay your Province a tidy sum for attempting to humbug you; I am right in all my remarks, Morshead is one of those plausible talking men, tries to plunge into you with his tongue and talks with such force and soliciting as to prevent one almost from making a reply; he has undertaken to do what he was never cut out for and is filled with pride and pomposity.

07 December: Called on a Mr Van Gheluwe and had some chat with him, and saw on his table two or three copies of a Prospectus or Rules of the Taranaki Iron and Steel Company limited. I requested to have a copy to send you, he declined to give it till he had consulted his brother Directors.

17 December: I have again seen Mr Roy, he tells me Mr Holdaway is rich and most respectable of Mount Street Grosvenor Square; Studer is also respectable but not much property; Van Gheluwe is a

chum of Solbechero, & Martin and him are bankrupts. Mr Roy tells me Morshead is not a man of property, he gets £2,000 from the Directors and Mr Roy thinks this is all spent already, it is quite clear Morshead is not the man for you. Mr Roy informs me Morshead has only made his trials as to the produce of Steel from the black Ironsand from the assistance of some labouring men at Sheffield and has no printed testimony that I have ever seen from any eminent Engineering Firm as to its qualities for making the great Arms of Marine Steam Engines of 800 to 1200 Horse power or for plating ships or making Armstrong Guns; not a word of this, but Mr Roy informs me he learns from a Scientific source that this Sand when used in a large smelting furnace possesses a dangerous and peculiar combustions principle calculated to blow the whole machinery to pieces, and it is supposed to be a sort of Lava from a former great Volcanic eruption in your Island or in the Sea facing your shore. If you will send me a few tons of the Sand, and give me power and means I will get it tested by one of the first engineering firms in this Country; if right, their printed testimony will stamp its value at once and forever. Morshead had done nothing of this kind, but his process has been hole and corner work in tote, by and having brought this Company prominently before monied men.

Extracts from the London Post Office Directory:

[1] Mrs Roxane Studer, Milliner, 9 Briston Street, Berkley Square – this is the wife of Mr Studer whose name is not in the Directory.

[2] Mr A. Van Gheluwe & Eladin de Soblechero both of 7 Cashmere Court, Tower Hill

[3] F. Holdaway, 7 Brunswick Place, Shepherd's Bush – a member of the highly respectable and wealthy firm of Robinson, Cook & Holdaway, 10 & 11 Mount Row, Berkeley Square, Coachmakers to Her Majesty.

The above including Morshead I believe will be found to be the whole of the partners forming the Taranaki Iron & Steel Company.

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82 Thomas King, New Plymouth

31 Dec 1861

Sir, I have the honor to resign from this date the office of Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki. My reasons for taking this step is contained in my letter to the Deputy Superintendent of this date to which I have the honor to refer you.

Letter to the Deputy Superintendent 31 Dec 1861

Sir, I have the honor to inform you that I have this day handed in my resignation from this date of the office of Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki. The Provincial Council has reduced the salary of an office held during good behaviour and has expressed its dissent to the arrangement proposed by His Honor the Superintendent and acceded to by the Bank of New Zealand and myself. I therefore take the only step I consider compatible with ordinary self-respect. The road rates for the district of the town are made payable during the month of January. I have the honor to request your attention to this matter, because my resignation and the absence of His Honor the Superintendent will render necessary a postponement of the date of payment.

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