

3 pages written 4 Aug 1874 by Alexander MacKenzie in Auckland City to Sir Donald McLean

Old Mens Refuge  
 A. MacKenzie  
 Auckland  
 Sept 12<sup>th</sup> 1874  
 To the Honble G. McLean  
 Sir  
 I trust you will pardon  
 me for the liberty I am taking in  
 addressing you upon the present oc-  
 casion and my reason for doing so  
 is briefly told in the following statement  
 when the House of Representatives  
 was sitting last year Major Jackson  
 M. P. presented a petition of mine  
 before the House praying for compensation  
 for losses sustained by me in the War  
 thro' the Native War in the year 63  
 as that was the last I heard of the said  
 petition  
 I have written Major Jackson asking  
 him to refer the said petition to the  
 Public Petitions Committee, and trust  
 you will have the kindness to support

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He said Justice. You are aware  
of heavy losses sustained by me  
in the year of 60 & 61. Those I do  
not claim compensation for  
as I understand the jurisdiction  
of the Court only extends to 63  
I only ask for what is justly  
due to me and which every other  
settler in the Waikato get except  
myself. and I do not see why I  
should be made an exception though  
been unavoidable absent from the Province  
at the time the Compensation Court  
was sitting. I am now in a most  
helpless condition having lost my sight  
and if your Hon<sup>le</sup> House would grant  
what is justly due to me I might  
be able to go to Sydney or Melbourne

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where I could obtain proper medical  
advice - and by the blessing of  
God get my sight  
Please pardon me for troubling  
you - but as the matter is of  
importance to me I trust you  
will see justice done to me  
and you will be conferring an ever  
lasting favor upon an unfortunate  
who is not able to help himself  
in the circumstances over which  
he has no control  
I have the honor to  
remain, <sup>to you</sup> with much respect  
Your Obed Servant  
A. MacKenzie  
Lake of  
Waikato