

bush felling in centre, 66 chains do. at outside; 217·85 chains heavy bush felling in centre; 217·85 chains do. at outside; earthwork, 56,316 cubic yards; side drains, 402·57 chains; culvert covering, 371 lineal feet; bridging 821 lineal feet; forty-one box-drains; metalling 802 chains; eighty-five box-drains; one syphon-box; one race diversion, one creek do.; two tramway crossings.

*Marsden to Hohonu.*—Dray road, seven miles seventeen chains, formed and metalled as above, this was maintained by General Government up to 1st September, 1873, when it was handed over to the County of Westland.

*Kanieri to Ross.*—Dray road, fourteen miles fifty-nine chains, formed and metalled as above. This road for seven miles seventy-one chains at the northern end, was originally formed 12 feet wide and with metal 8 feet wide by 8 inches thick, but was afterwards altered as now described, the work being completed in June, 1873, and maintained until November, 1873, by the General Government, when it was transferred to the County Government.

*Woolhouse Road.*—One hundred and twenty-two chains, formed and metalled as before and maintained by General Government until 25th March, 1874, when it was handed over to the Province.

*Bowen to Okarito.*—Estimated at fifty miles in length, formations to be 10 feet wide and metalled 5 feet wide by 8 inches. This road lies nearly parallel with the coast line, from which it is distant about ten miles. The survey is not yet completed, but such grades are adopted as will admit of the road being widened hereafter for dray traffic if found necessary. As a preliminary to the actual survey, a line is now being blazed by men well acquainted with the country, and twenty miles of this work is now done. One contract for work has been let, 7 miles 15 chains long, from Bowen to Waitaha, and on this the following work has been executed, viz.,—126 chains clearing, 86 chains of forming, 65 chains of metalling.

Two surveyors are now employed on the survey, one working towards Okarito from the Waitaha River to the Wanganui River, and the other towards Bowen from the Okarito to the Wataroa River. The road from Okarito to Lake Mapouriki has also been surveyed, and is 8 miles 73·67 chains long. This will be formed 12 feet wide, and metalled 8 feet wide and 8 inches thick, and tenders are called for the work in two sections, 201 chains and 197 chains respectively; in each of these one bridge is included.

*Hokitika to Blue Spur.*—Four miles 46·50 chains. This road commences at the east of Hokitika, passing the Hau Hau diggings and extending to the Blue Spur township. It will probably in future form part of the road from Hokitika to Christchurch as being shorter than by way of the Arahura Bridge. It will be formed 12½ feet wide, and metalled 8 feet wide and 8 inches thick, and there will be 85 feet of bridging over tail races, one lattice truss bridge, one plain bridge, one level crossing, nine dams for creek diversions, and twenty-six turn-outs. The work has been divided into two contracts, one of 146½ chains, and one of 220 chains. The first is nearly completed, and comprises 146½ chains of clearing, 4,625 cubic yards earthwork, 52 chains of drains, 78 lineal feet culvert covering, fourteen box-drains, 146½ chains metalling, thirteen turn-outs.

*Branch Roads: South Creek Road.*—Thirty-seven chains. Formed and metalled as main roads, and maintained by the General Government up till 1st April, 1874, and then transferred to the Provincial Government.

*Kanieri Forks to Lake.*—Four miles 53·87 chains. To be formed 10 feet wide, with metal 5 feet wide and 8 inches thick, and with grades suitable for dray road if necessary. A contract was let on 2nd June, 1874, for construction; it includes thirteen creek crossings, fords, and one bridge 41 feet long.

*Pounamu to Lake Brunner.*—Eight miles 37·68 chains. To be formed 10 feet, with metal 5 feet wide and 8 inches thick. Has been surveyed with grades suitable for dray road, and divided into two contracts for construction, one of 4 miles 34 chains, and one of 4 miles 3·68 chains; the first being let on 3rd June, and the second under tender. There will be twenty-five level creek crossings on this road.

*Marsden to Maori Creek.*—Five miles 50·65 chains. This was originally opened by the county authorities; but it being found desirable to widen and improve it, contracts were let for the work on 26th November, 1873, in two sections, 223·30 chains and 227·38 chains respectively; it has been formed 12½ feet wide, and metalled 8 feet wide and 8 inches thick, the work being completed in May, 1874. The work comprises the following, viz.,—450 chains clearing, 450 chains forming and widening, 450 chains metalling, 16 chains side drains, eight box drains, 40 lineal feet culvert covering, twenty turn-outs, and two fords. A heavy slip fell just after completion, which is now being removed, and the road when this is done will be handed over to the province.

*Stillwater to Maori Gully.*—Six miles 15·47 chains. To be formed and metalled like the last, but it has been laid off with grades suitable for a dray road, if necessary. The work has been let in two contracts, one 222·30 chains, and one 273·27 chains, and work on these has been done to the extent of 466 chains clearing, 420 chains of forming, 250 chains of metalling, and 30 lineal feet of culvert covering.

*Marsden to Paroa, connecting road.*—Seventy-seven chains in length. This lies within the borough of Greymouth, and connects the Greymouth to Marsden and Marsden to Paroa roads. It has been formed 15 feet wide and metalled 10 feet wide by 12 inches thick, the work being done by contract and completed in April, 1874, after which it was handed over to the Provincial Government. The work consists of 76·61 chains clearing, forming, and metalling; 100 cubic yards cutting, 2,238 cubic yards embankment, 57 chains side drains, five box drains, 40 lineal feet of culvert covering, two turn-outs, three race diversions, one syphon, one creek diversion.

*Bridges: Totara Dray Bridge,* on the Kanieri to Ross Road.—This is a wooden bridge in three spans of 50 feet each, trussed, and its erection necessitated the construction of 3·75 chains of road deviation. Work completed in October, 1873.

*Greenstone and Blackwater Bridges, Dray.*—These are respectively 88 feet long and 62 feet long, each in one span, trussed, over the rivers of the same names on the Hohonu and Marsden Road. The former is strengthened by two galvanized wire ropes, and a breakwater 3 feet high and 3 chains long was built to prevent the Greenstone Creek running in time of flood into the Blackwater. The approaches consist of 23·50 chains of road diversion, and the whole of the work was completed in January, 1874.