District.				Employed by Contractors.		Government Labour, including Surveys.		Total.		
					1879-80.	1880-81.	1879–80.	1880-81.	1879-80.	1880-81.
Nelson and Marlborough					85	82	15	6	100	88
Westland Canterbury Otago Southland	•••	•••	•••	•••	180	162	125	131	305	293
	•••	•••	***	·	285	59	260	293	545	352
			•••		405	231	765	602	1,170	833
		•••	•••	•••	200	153	10	18	210	171
	Totals		•••		1,155	687	1,175	1,050	2,330	1,737

These numbers do not include contractors' men employed off the works, nor men employed by the Working Railways Department on works chargeable to construction. There has also been an average

of 87 men employed on public buildings during the year.

As shown otherwise by this report, the "unemployed" in the Middle Island were discharged altogether during the harvest months, and they have not again been taken on. In consequence of the general revival of trade, the question of providing employment for the surplus labour in the colony did not assume the large proportions that was anticipated, and the vote taken for the "unemployed" not touched.

Map.—A map of the Middle Island, showing the authorized railways made, under construction,

and not begun, is appended hereto (Enclosure No. 5).

Enclosures.—The following enclosures accompany this report:—

No. 1. Lengths of Railways Authorized, Constructed, and Surveyed, &c., Middle Island.

" 2. Statement of Works executed on Roads in Westland.

3. Annual Report on Water-races.
4. Statement of Works executed on Public Buildings.

" 5. Map of Middle Island.

I have, &c., W. N. Blair, Engineer in Charge, Middle Island.