

From 166 to 175 miles the country consists of long flat valleys, with low hills between them, with bush clumps; the open land is grass or fern, of moderately-good quality. There are 5,000 acres on the west and 5,000 acres on the east of the line, a third would be arable. I should class this as land which should be held in blocks of four or five hundred acres.

From 175 to 194 miles (Mangapu) on the west there are 92,000 acres within ten miles of the line. I estimate two-thirds open and one-third arable. It is mostly limestone country, of very good quality; dotted over it are many Native villages and cultivations; wheat and oats are grown, and also maize and hops. The river, which has little fall, is the high road of traffic with the towns outside. On the east of the line there are 84,000 acres of land, of which four-fifths are open and one-fifth arable. This block is mostly good, and what little forest land there is is generally kahikatea and pukatea.

From 194 to 212 miles on the west, within ten miles, there would be 96,000 acres; beyond this the traffic would work to Kawhia Harbour. The land is chiefly open and good soil, with some considerable swamps. About half would be arable, the rest good pastoral country. Fern is the general growth. There are many Native settlements and cultivations; wheat and all kinds of crops are grown. On the east, within ten miles, there are 74,000 acres, mostly open fern land, of good quality. One-half of this would be arable and the rest good pastoral land. There are also several Native villages and cultivations on the block.

I have, &c.,

The Chairman, Main Trunk Line Committee,
North Island.

JOHN ROCHFORD.

ESTIMATE HANDED IN BY MR. JOHN ROCHFORD.

CENTRAL ROUTE.—SUMMARY ESTIMATE, TEN-MILE SECTIONS.

Miles.	Item.	Amount.	Total Amount.	Miles.	Item.	Amount.	Total Amount.
		£	£			£	£
1-10	<i>Marton to Hautapu—</i>			11-20	<i>Turangarere to Hautapu—</i>		
	Bush-cutting	114			continued.		
	Earthworks	5,287			Bush-cutting	499	
	Bridging	1,665			Earthworks	4,342	
	Masonry culverts	460			Grading	15,100	
	Wooden culverts	3			Bridging	2,600	
	Pipes	129			Masonry culverts	285	
	Road alteration	53			Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000	
	Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000					52,826
			37,711				
11-20	Bush-cutting	2,980		21-24½	Bush-cutting	357	
	Earthworks	2,208			Earthworks	1,203	
	Bridging	900			Grading	26,200	
	Masonry culverts	273			Tunnels	5,121	
	Pipes	86			Masonry culverts	1,210	
	Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000			Permanent-way, stations, &c.	13,500	
			36,397				47,591
21-30	Bush-cutting	1,092			Total		151,230
	Earthworks	848					
	Grading	24,800					
	Viaduct, Makohine	7,740					
	Masonry culverts	214					
	Stream diversions	8					
	Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000					
			64,702				
31-44	Grading	49,100		1-10	<i>Turangarere to Waimarino—</i>		
	Permanent-way, stations, &c.	42,000			Earthworks	7,804	
			91,100		Grading	1,600	
					Bridging	800	
					Masonry culverts	457	
					Wooden culverts	64	
					Pipes	137	
					Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000	
							40,862
	Total		229,910				
1-10	<i>Turangarere to Hautapu—</i>			11-20	Earthworks	5,003	
	Bush-cutting	62			Grading	7,200	
	Earthworks	662			Bridging	1,625	
	Grading	19,600			Masonry culverts	671	
	Bridging	400			Wooden culverts	34	
	Masonry culverts	80			Pipes	54	
	Pipes	9			Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000	
	Permanent-way, stations, &c.	30,000					44,587
			50,813				