

The sections included in the lines opened during the year are as follow :—

		M.	ch.
Ashburton Branch—	Anama to Cavendish ...	2	47
Albury-Fairlie Creek Branch—	Albury to Eversley ...	10	37
Orepuki Branch—	Colac to Roundhill ...	1	30
Total	...	14	34

In addition to the above, the Oxford-Malvern Branch, 11 miles 44 chains, is finished, except the alterations to the Waimakariri Bridge; and the extension of the Waipahi-Heriotburn Branch from Kelso to Heriot, 4 miles 56 chains, is quite ready for opening.

The new sections and extensions commenced during the year are as follow :—

		M.	ch.
Nelson-Roundell Line—	Wai-iti section ...	2	47
Greymouth-Hokitika Line—	Hokitika-Stafford Street section ...	0	71
Picton-Hurunui Line—	Balmoral section ...	9	50
Little River-Akaroa Branch—	Lake Forsyth extension ...	1	0
Ashburton Branch—	Cavendish section ...	2	46
Palmerston-Waihemo Branch—	Dunback No. 2 section ...	5	55
Riversdale-Switzers Branch—	Riversdale section ...	7	0
Seaward Bush Branch—	Waimatua section ...	2	40
Otago Central Line—	Nenthorn section ...	9	12
Total	...	41	1

Contracts were also prepared for the following railway works :—

Picton-Hurunui Line—	Dashwood section.
Greymouth-Nelson Creek—	Arnold section.
Waitaki-Bluff Railway—	Port Chalmers Wharf extension.
Livingston Branch—	Rakis section.
Palmerston-Waihemo Branch—	Waihemo section.
Catlin's River Branch—	Puerua section.

The following is a list of lines and sections under construction at this date, or on which work has been done :—

		M.	ch.
Nelson-Roundell Railway—	Wai-iti section ...	2	47
Greymouth-Nelson Creek Railway—	Stillwater section ...	0	59
Greymouth-Hokitika Railway—	Northern sections ...	6	12
	Southern " ...	4	0
Picton-Hurunui " Railway—	Vernon section ...	4	40
Hurunui-Pahau Railway—	Balmoral section ...	9	50
Hurunui-Waitaki Railway—	Horsley Downs section ...	8	40
Little River-Akaroa Branch—	Lake Forsyth section ...	2	32
Canterbury Interior Railway—	Oxford-Malvern section and Temuka Bridge ...	11	59
Livingston Branch—	Windsor-Livingston section ...	12	0
Palmerston-Waihemo Branch—	Palmerston and Dunback sections ...	6	77
Catlin's River Branch—	Inveriel and Puerua sections ...	5	36
Waipahi-Heriotburn Branch—	Swift Creek section ...	4	56
Edendale-Toitois Branch—	Mokoreta section ...	3	53
Riversdale-Switzers Branch—	Riversdale section ...	7	0
Seaward Bush Branch—	Appleby and Waimatua sections ...	5	40
Otago Central Railway—	Wingatui, Hindon, Deep Stream, and Nenthorn sections ...	32	57
Lumsden-Mararoa Branch—	Lumsden section (part) ...	3	59
Riverton-Orepuki Branch—	Pahia section ...	10	30
Total	...	142	27

NELSON TO ROUNDELL RAILWAY.

A few minor additions to the works on the open line have been carried out during the year. They consist chiefly of further protective works at Wai-iti River, stationmaster's house at Belgrove, and additions to the station accommodation at Richmond, Brightwater, and Wakefield. A contract for the formation of the Wai-iti section—an extension of two and a half miles onwards from Belgrove—was entered into in June. About five-eighths of the work is completed.

Complete sets of land plans for the Nelson-Belgrove section have been compiled during the year, and the survey of the land plans of the Wai-iti section is finished.

WESTPORT TO NGAKAWAU RAILWAY.

Railway.—The expenditure on this line during the year has been very small: it was confined to planting willows at the Buller overflow, fencing portions of the railway reserve, and minor additions to stations and rolling-stock. The Buller Relief Channel, cut in 1879, has not changed much during the year; it still carries a large quantity of water in floods, and is gradually, though