

probably introduce a repurchase scheme in connection with the proposal to extend the small homesteads; and Sir Harry Atkinson stated that he had tried two or three times, but failed, to pass a line upon the estimates for the same purpose. I met with evidence that private landowners would be willing to sell at reasonable rates under such a system; but, on the other hand, there was a consensus of opinion that any scheme of repurchase would have to be worked with exceeding care, to prevent its being abused.

Conclusion.—As the intentions of the Government in reference to the subject of this report are a matter of policy, for determination by Cabinet, I do not think it expedient at this stage to make any further observations. The report, however, is published thus early so as to place the Parliament and the public in possession of the information which has been collected.

WILLIAM COPLEY.

APPENDICES.

THE two returns which follow are appended to the report as fairly typical of the whole. The first refers to Canterbury Land District, in which the settlements have been the most successful, and the second to the Auckland Land District, in which the greatest number of failures have occurred for reasons mentioned in the report.

NO. I.—PROVINCIAL DISTRICT OF CANTERBURY.

RETURN OF VILLAGE HOMESTEAD SPECIAL SETTLEMENTS ON PERPETUAL-LEASE CONDITIONS.

Settlement.	Date when Formed.	Number of Settlers.	Area held by Each.	Rent Paid per Acre.	Total Area.	Amount Advanced.	Rent Paid to Date.	Interests Paid to Date.	Total Rent and Interest Paid.	Acres on 31st Dec., 1890.
			Acres.	£ s. d.	Acres.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Alford Forest ..	Oct., 1886	10	20	0 2 6	216	180 0 0	100 15 7	27 10 0	128 5 7	..
Ashburton ..	Aug., 1886	6	20	0 5 0	120	120 0 0	97 10 0	17 0 0	114 10 0	3 0 0
Arundel ..	Aug., 1886	7	14 to 20	0 3 0	141	80 0 0	62 13 9	8 10 0	71 3 9	1 19 11
Alford ..	April, 1887	2	16	0 2 6	33	40 0 0	12 14 0	5 0 0	17 14 0	..
Arowhenua ..	April, 1887	6	1	1 10 0	6	80 0 0	21 6 0	10 10 0	31 16 0	2 10 0
Chertsey ..	July, 1886	17	10 to 20	0 4 0	289	280 0 0	135 12 1	34 10 0	170 2 1	7 0 11
Dromore ..	Dec., 1886	8	20 to 25	0 2 0	184	60 0 0	48 15 0	7 10 0	56 5 0	..
Fairlie Creek ..	Jan., 1887	4	3	0 6 0	16	..	8 8 0	..	8 8 0	..
Glenavy ..	Oct., 1886	4	23	0 3 0	95	20 0 0	53 6 7	3 0 0	56 6 7	1 15 8
Geraldine ..	Feb., 1887	3	5	0 10 0	15	60 0 0	21 2 6	6 0 0	27 2 6	3 13 0
Hakateramea ..	Oct., 1886	3	30 to 40	2 0 0	95	..	24 9 0	..	24 9 0	..
Hurunui ..	Feb., 1887	15	40 to 50	2 6 0	691	240 0 0	216 8 0	29 0 0	245 8 0	14 2 6
Hinds ..	May, 1887	16	50	0 1 3	790	260 0 0	118 19 0	26 10 0	145 9 0	29 6 3
Medbury ..	Feb., 1887	13	50	0 3 0	650	140 0 0	243 15 0	16 10 0	260 5 0	12 5 0
Oxford ..	Sept., 1886	10	50	0 1 0	500	80 0 0	85 0 0	13 0 0	98 0 0	..
Orari ..	Feb., 1887	11	5	0 7 0	59	120 0 0	40 11 6	12 0 0	52 11 6	1 9 0
Rakaia ..	Dec., 1886	8	16	0 10 0	132	120 0 0	204 6 4	16 0 0	220 6 4	17 5 0
Rangitata ..	Dec., 1886	1	41	0 2 3	41	20 0 0	17 18 9	3 0 0	20 18 9	..
Winslow ..	Dec., 1886	1	10	0 2 0	10	20 9 0	3 10 0	2 10 0	6 0 0	..
Waitaki ..	Oct., 1886	10	40 to 50	2 0 0	480	120 0 0	151 9 0	15 0 0	166 9 0	3 0 0
Waimate ..	Jan., 1887	5	4 to 9	0 10 0	32	..	42 16 0	..	42 16 0	..
Waitaki No. 2..	May, 1887	13	40 to 50	2 0 0	595	220 0 0	84 2 3	26 10 0	110 12 3	5 5 0
		173	..	..	5,170	2,260 0 0	1,795 8 4	279 10 0	2,074 18 4	102 12 3

Christchurch, 31st January, 1891.

NO II.—PROVINCIAL DISTRICT OF AUCKLAND.

SUMMARY STATEMENT giving Results of Village-homestead Special Settlements from October, 1886, to February, 1891.

Name of Settlement.	No. of Settlers whose Applications were accepted.	No. of Settlers who took up Sections.	No. of Settlers who actually went on the Land.	No. of present Holders.	No. of Holders actually Resident.	Amount of Advances made.	Value of Improvements.	Arrears of Rent.	Arrears of Interest.	Amount expended on Road Works.
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Whananaki ..	39	25	21	19	18	473 2 6	973 2 6	39 10 9	22 9 4	783 2 1
Motukaraka ..	63	60	51	42	36	1,636 15 0	1,966 16 0	97 18 0	109 9 4	1,092 17 7
Omaha ..	38	32	32	25	22	838 10 0	1,522 17 6	35 0 9	27 5 4	688 2 8
Te Aroha ..	39	34	29	28	24	452 0 0	1,172 0 0	49 6 9	16 13 0	808 5 11
Komokorau and Firewood Creek	32	31	23	17	15	500 17 6	764 5 0	11 10 9	14 1 11	601 0 0
Karaka ..	7	6	5	4	4	58 0 0	150 0 0	1 1 9	2 19 0	104 4 3
Swanson ..	23	20	20	18	17	362 0 0	774 0 0	63 12 9	23 8 4	497 10 4
Fern Flat ..	15	11	11	10	10	465 2 6	466 1 6	22 16 3	37 15 10	708 11 6
Hukerenui ..	82	48	38	34	31	996 17 6	1,463 0 0	101 6 2	72 7 4	877 0 5
Motatau ..	11	10	8	8	7	130 12 6	266 17 6	9 10 0	4 14 11	..
Parua Bay ..	23	17	16	12	12	373 5 0	561 10 0	7 4 4	18 6 10	567 3 10
Takahue ..	47	23	21	14	12	480 0 0	617 10 0	22 19 11	23 10 1	564 11 3
Herekino ..	125	108	99	34	33	1,172 12 6	1,331 14 6	79 18 4	62 12 1	5,738 4 1
Punakitere ..	72	48	45	29	25	912 11 3	1,103 6 0	75 5 5	52 1 5	1,429 9 11
Waimamaku ..	34	33	27	18	16	418 2 6	612 0 0	24 8 7	15 12 3	936 16 11
	650	506	446	312	282	9,270 8 9	13,745 0 6	641 10 6	503 7 0	15,397 0 9

26th February, 1891.

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