1892. NEW ZEALAND

THE RAILWAY WORKS UNDER THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.

Return to an Order of the House of Representatives dated 30th August, 1892.

Ordered, "That a return be laid before this House showing—(1) The railway contract works under the co-operative system 'personally inspected by the Engineer-in-Chief (as referred to in his report to the Minister for Public Works presented to this House on the 25th August); (2) the particulars of the various schedules of quantities and prices of the works contracted for, as well as the charges for plant, material, and incidental expenses of management, of which the Engineer-in-Chief (as stated in the report referred to) made careful examination from time to time; '(3) the other ascertained facts, if any, on which such report was based."—(Mr. G. HUTCHISON.)

RETURN showing—(1) The Railway Contract Works under the "Co-operative System" "personally inspected" by the Engineer-in-Chief (as referred to in his Report to the Minister for Public Works presented to this House on the 25th August) (2) the Particulars of "the various Schedules of Quantities and Prices of the Works contracted for, as well as of the Charges for Plant, Material, and Incidental Expenses of Management," of which the Engineer-in-Chief, as stated in the Report referred to, "made careful examination from time to time." (3) the other ascertained facts if any on which greek green records haved. time to time," (3) the other ascertained facts, if any, on which such report was based.

1. (a) The works on the Kamo-Hikurangi Railway, (b) the works on the Te Aroha-Paeroa Section of railway; (c) the works on the North Island Main Trunk Railway at both north and south ends (d) the works on the Otago Central Railway, Middlemarch to Hyde, (e) the works on the Catlin's River Railway; (f) the works on the Greymouth-Hokitika Railway

2 and 3. (a.) Statements of quantities and prices of the works contracted for and of the cost of plant and material are regularly sent in by the Engineers in charge of districts, and are examined monthly by the Engineer-in-Chief. A copy of each such statement for the month of July or August, 1892, is annexed. (b.) The incidental expenses of management consist of salaries of overseers, wages of occasional carpenters, blacksmiths, and labourers employed for the purposes of the works, and travelling-expenses of Engineers and overseers. Requisitions to cover such expenses are sent in from time to time by the Engineers in charge of districts, and all such requisitions are examined and reported upon by the Engineer-in-Chief before being approved by the Minister