

## No. 5.

REPORT on POMAHAKA SETTLEMENT to 31st March, 1895: Otago Land District.—Total Area: 7,462 acres 3 roods 1 perch. Purchased from Mr. John Douglas. (New Zealand Gazette, 25th January, 1894, page 131.) Land offered for selection 20th February, 1894. Tenure: LEASE IN PERPETUITY.

| Section.     | Block. | District. | Area.                | Capital Value per Acre. | Annual Rental at 5 per cent. | Date of Selection. | Name of Lessee.        | Value of Improvements. | Remarks.                                                                                         |
|--------------|--------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2            | X.     | Pomahaka  | A. R. P.<br>237 3 11 | £ s. d.<br>3 5 0        | £ s. d.<br>98 13 0           | 28/2/94            | R. C. M. Boyes         | £ s. d.<br>45 0 0      | 30 acres lying fallow; two-roomed house. Resident.                                               |
| 51           | "      | "         | 88 3 13              | 4 5 0                   | 18 17 6                      | "                  | David McConnell        | Nil                    | No improvement effected. Non-resident.                                                           |
| 58           | "      | "         | 250 2 25             | 4 2 6                   | 51 14 0                      | "                  | P. McG. Murray         | 115 0 0                | 140 acres in fair crop of turnips. Resides on adjoining land. Partly fenced.                     |
| 45           | XI.    | "         | 169 3 5              | 3 10 0                  | 29 14 2                      | 20/2/95            | W. Searlett..          | Nil                    | Recent selection. Non-resident.                                                                  |
| 50           | XIII.  | "         | 199 3 38             | 3 7 6                   | 33 15 0                      | 28/2/94            | George B. Watt         | 110 0 0                | 100 acres fair turnips, 6 acres oats, 4 acres grass; dwellinghouse; ring-fence. Resident.        |
| 5            | "      | "         | 232 1 8              | 3 0 0                   | 34 17 0                      | 25/7/94            | Helen Williams         | Nil                    | First year of occupation not yet expired. Non-resident.                                          |
| 6            | "      | "         | 232 1 24             | 3 2 6                   | 45 13 10                     | "                  | T. Williams ..         | "                      | First year of occupation not yet expired. Non-resident.                                          |
| 9            | "      | "         | 271 0 24             | 3 7 6                   | 45 15 2                      | 18/4/94            | Soren Hansen           | 140 0 0                | 120 acres in fair crop of turnips, 3 acres grass; dwellinghouse and blacksmiths' shop. Resident. |
| 10           | "      | "         | 271 3 20             | 3 2 6                   | 42 9 8                       | 28/2/94            | W. Gray ..             | Nil                    | Effected no improvements.                                                                        |
| 12           | "      | "         | 230 1 0              | 3 5 0                   | 37 8 4                       | "                  | James Falconer         | 125 0 0                | 130 acres in good crop of turnips; house; ring-fence. Resident.                                  |
| 14           | "      | "         | 250 3 0              | 3 7 6                   | 42 6 4                       | "                  | Thomas Erskine         | 115 0 0                | 120 acres turnips, 10 acres oats; house; partly fenced. Resident.                                |
| 15           | "      | "         | 276 2 36             | 3 2 6                   | 43 4 10                      | 11/4/94            | Edward Gray ..         | 130 0 0                | 130 acres in turnips; ring-fenced. Resident.                                                     |
| 20           | "      | "         | 247 0 8              | 3 5 0                   | 40 3 0                       | 28/2/94            | Donald McGregor        | 194 0 0                | 33 acres turnips, 15 acres oats; ring-fenced; dwellinghouse. Resident.                           |
| 4            | XIII.  | "         | 221 3 35             | 3 7 6                   | 37 9 2                       | "                  | Joseph Abernethy       | 175 0 0                | 100 acres fair turnips, 12 acres oats; ring-fenced; dwellinghouse. Resident.                     |
| 9            | XIV.   | "         | 316 1 0              | 3 0 0                   | 47 8 10                      | "                  | Joseph Stevenson       | 60 0 0                 | 30 acres fallow, 1 acre potatoes; ring-fenced. Resident.                                         |
| 4            | XIV.   | "         | 289 1 0              | 3 10 0                  | 50 12 4                      | "                  | Thomas Chapman         | 57 0 0                 | Partly fenced; small woolshed. Resident.                                                         |
| 5            | "      | "         | 281 1 0              | 3 10 0                  | 49 4 4                       | "                  | George Cormack         | 60 0 0                 | 90 acres cultivated; partly fenced. Non-resident.                                                |
| 6            | "      | "         | 289 2 10             | 3 10 0                  | 50 13 6                      | "                  | George Harvie, jun.    | 250 0 0                | 190 acres good turnips, 8 acres in grass; house and large stable; ring-fence. Resident.          |
| 7            | "      | "         | 311 3 37             | 3 10 0                  | 54 12 0                      | "                  | G. W. G. P. J. Maxwell | 91 0 0                 | 10 acres oats, 1 acre turnips; partly fenced; dwellinghouse. Resident.                           |
| 8            | "      | "         | 320 0 30             | 3 5 0                   | 52 0 8                       | 15/8/94            | Mary Chapman           | 40 0 0                 | {First year of occupation not yet expired; partly fenced. Non-resident.                          |
| 16 }<br>17 } | "      | "         | 291 3 20             | 3 5 0                   | 47 8 8                       | 14/3/94            | Ellen Clement          | 60 0 0                 | 18 acres oats, 3 acres turnips; two-roomed house; partly fenced. Resident.                       |
| 18           | "      | "         | 5,341 3 24           | ..                      | 894 1 4                      | ..                 |                        | 1,767 0 0              |                                                                                                  |

NOTE.—The boundary-fencing of the estate, worth about 8s. a chain, is not included in the above value of improvements effected.

It will be seen that, of twenty-one holdings taken up, on sixteen improvements to the value of £1,767 have been effected in the way of buildings, fencing, and cultivation. Total area cultivated amounts to 1,306 acres, consisting of 60 acres fallow, 90 acres oats, potatoes, and sown in grass, and 1,156 acres turnips. The season being an unusually dry one, and the cultivation being all on first furrow, no great results could be expected, nevertheless the greater part of the land sown in turnips has produced a very good crop. Harvie's and Falconer's deserve special mention; while Watt's, Hansen's and others' are very creditable. Next year more tangible returns, in the way of a grain crop, will be received by those who had the foresight to turn up as much land as possible last winter. Another section has been taken up recently, leaving seven still unoccupied; these will very likely be taken up gradually. Of course at present the low prices for produce, wool, and stock have a deterrent effect on intending selectors.

The school is now in course of erection, and will be an important factor in hastening the progress of the settlement.

The seam of lignite is still burning, but a renewed effort will be made to put it out this winter, when a good supply of water will be available.

The main road through the estate is now finished, and the road giving access to the Lignite Reserve and river-frontage is in a forward state of completion.

The advisability of cutting up one or two of the unsold sections near the school into smaller areas might be taken into consideration. I am of opinion the experiment is worth trying, as close proximity to a school, and to fuel, together with fairly good land, meets the requirements of the small settler.

T. A. FRASER, Crown Lands Ranger.