

APPENDIX E.
REPORT ON CONDITION OF THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Chief Engineer's Office (Working Railways Department),
Wellington, 18th May, 1898.

Reefton and Jackson Lines.—The lines are in fair running-order. The banks at Snowy Creek, where formerly breached by floods, have been raised. Most of the iron bridges have been tarred. A large flood threatened the approaches of the Teremakau Bridge, but the encroachment was checked, and permanent protection is being provided. Some additional flood-openings have been put in the line. Buildings throughout the line are in good order.

Springfield Line.—This section is in satisfactory order.

J. HENRY LOWE, Chief Engineer.

The General Manager, New Zealand Railways.

ANNUAL REPORT of the MIDLAND RAILWAY.

SIR, — Locomotive Superintendent's Office, Wellington, 17th May, 1898.

I have the honour to report upon the Midland Railway for the year ending the 31st March, 1898:—

Locomotives.—The whole of the locomotives have been maintained in good order. During the year two locomotives were thoroughly overhauled, and six received light repairs.

Carriages.—Carriages are in fair running order. Two of the Class A bogie-carriages received heavy repairs, and five received light repairs.

Wagons.—The wagons are in fair order.

Buildings.—These are all in good order.

Tanks, Coal-sheds, &c.—These are in good order.

The locomotive staff has been transferred from Stillwater to Greymouth, and repairs to rolling-stock are now effected at Greymouth.

I have, &c.,

T. F. ROTHERAM,
Locomotive Superintendent.

The General Manager, New Zealand Railways, Wellington.

STATEMENT of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, NEW ZEALAND MIDLAND RAILWAY, Year ending
31st March, 1898.

Revenue—					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Passengers	...	...	...	...	6,516	13	1			
Parcels, &c.	...	...	...	...	535	12	5			
Goods, &c.	...	...	...	...	10,772	1	11			
Percentages	...	...	...	...	1,557	4	3			
								19,381	11	8
Expenditure—										
Traffic	...	...	...	...	2,105	15	7			
Locomotive	...	...	...	...	2,804	10	0			
Maintenance	...	...	...	...	8,565	17	11			
General charges	...	...	...	...	711	12	11			
								14,187	16	5
Net revenue								£5,193	15	3
Expenditure per cent. of revenue								73.20		

Accountant's Office, 17th May, 1898.

A. C. FIFE, Accountant.

APPENDIX F.

SIR,—

District Traffic Manager's Office, Auckland, 30th April, 1898.

I have the honour to report on the working of the Auckland Section of the New Zealand Government railways for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1898.

The traffic for the year shows an increase in every item, except horses and firewood, as compared with the traffic for the previous year; the increased revenue derived therefrom being £9,700.

The passenger traffic shows a very large increase, principally in the issue of excursion tickets. The public greatly appreciate the holiday excursion fares of 2d. and 1d. per mile, first and second class respectively, and as these fares become more widely known so is the issue much greater and more appreciated.

The parcels traffic shows an increase in the number of parcels carried of over 6,500. This shows of itself that the new rates for the carriage of small parcels have been taken advantage of.

The increases in carriages, dogs, and live-stock call for no special comment.

Chaff shows an increase of 2,500 tons, and grain of nearly 400 tons. This increase is in grain and chaff sent from country stations, and it shows that the country settlers are doing their best to supply the local markets with the various requirements.

Wool shows a satisfactory increase of 1,500 bales.

Firewood shows a small decrease. The prices obtained are in many cases too low to warrant the cutting of the wood.