

Forest-conservation.

As the forest in the Waimarino and other blocks lying between the Murimutu Plains and the Wanganui River near Taumaranui occupies country that is adapted to forest growth more than to ordinary settlement, owing to inferior quality of soil and rigorous climate, and as this forest is extensive enough to afford a permanent revenue for the railway, steps should be taken to insure its being worked on systematic lines, and provision made for perpetuating the forest by compelling the replanting of all areas cut out with suitable quick-growing trees.

I have, &c.,

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Resident Engineer.

The Engineer-in-Chief, Wellington.

TABLES OF DISTANCES BETWEEN WELLINGTON AND AUCKLAND.

Via CENTRAL LINE.

From	To Wellington.	To Auckland.	Intermediate Distances.
	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.
Wellington	...	426 39	...
Marton Junction	116 34	310 5	116 34
Mangaonoho (end opened line)	138 74	287 45	22 40
Mangaweka (end completed formation)	149 74	276 45	11 0
Taihape (end works in progress, south end)	161 14	265 25	11 20
Waiouru (summit, Murimutu Plains)	185 34	241 5	24 20
Waione (lowest point between summits)	195 34	231 5	10 0
Waimarino (summit of long grade from Wanganui River)	220 14	206 27	24 60
Taumaranui (bottom of long grade from Wanganui River)	252 71	173 48	32 57
Kawakawa (point of junction, Ngaire route)	268 39	158 0	15 48
Waimeha (end works in progress, north end)	274 79	151 40	6 40
Pororo-tarao (end opened line)	279 51	146 68	4 52
Mokau (point of junction, Awakino route)	292 4	134 35	12 33
Te Awamutu	326 39	100 0	34 35
Auckland	426 39	...	100 0
New Plymouth	252 0	445 0	...

Via NGAIRE ROUTE.

From	To Wellington.	To Auckland.	Intermediate Distances.
	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.
Wellington	...	477 5	...
Marton Junction, central line	116 34	360 51	116 34
Eltham Junction	216 0	261 5	99 46
Strathmore Township	238 15	238 70	22 15
Wangamomona Township	257 13	219 72	18 78
Head Wangamomona Valley (heavy work begins)	264 0	213 5	6 67
Waingarara Junction, Waitara route, and commence- ment rough country	270 20	206 65	6 20
Coal-seams, Tangarakau	278 0	199 5	7 60
Heao (end rough country)	288 0	194 5	5 0
Mangaroa (end heavy work)	290 0	187 5	7 0
Nihoniho, on Ohura River	299 20	177 65	9 20
Kawakawa, junction with central line	319 5	158 0	19 65
Waimeha (end works in progress)	325 45	151 40	6 40
Pororo-tarao (end opened line)	330 17	146 68	4 52
Mokau Junction, Awakino route	342 50	134 35	12 33
Te Awamutu	377 5	100 0	34 35
Auckland	477 5	...	100 0
New Plymouth	252 0	296 0	...