1899.

NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

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NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The SECRETARY for CROWN LANDS and SURVEYOR-GENERAL to the Hon. the MINISTER of LANDS.

SIR,— Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 21st June, 1899.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual reports on the operations of the Department of Lands and Survey for the twelve months ending the 31st March, 1899.

I have, &c.,

S. PERCY SMITH,

Secretary for Crown Lands and Surveyor-General.

The Hon. W. Hall-Jones, Acting Minister of Lands.

LANDS.

DURING the year an alteration has been made in the boundaries of three of the land districts, by which about 1,300,000 acres of the southern part of Nelson has been transferred to Canterbury, and about 478,000 acres in the south-west corner of Canterbury has been added to Otago. These alterations were deemed advisable in the interests of administration, and for convenience of the settlers residing in those parts. The alteration took place on the 18th January, but for purposes of record the transactions within those areas have been included within the old districts up to the 31st March. The registration districts are also to be altered to accord with the new boundaries of the land districts.

The following table summarises the total transactions in ordinary Crown lands, Cheviot Estate, estates acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts, &c., but excludes the endowments administered by this department. The items are divided into the numerous classes there shown, to accord with special clauses of the Acts or regulations under which they are dealt with, but in many cases the differences in tenure are but slight, and the whole can be shown under a few headings, as is done in Table B. Table A shows the gross transactions; the deductions due to forfeitures, surrenders, &c., being shown later on.

NUMBER of NEW SELECTORS and AREA taken up from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, and Total Amount of Money received during the Year.

TABLE A.

Nature and Tenure of Lands selected.	Selectors.	Area. A. R. P.	Number of Purchasers or Selectors.	Area. A. R. P.	Cash received on Past and Current Transactions. £ s. d.
Town lands sold for cash ..	249	135 1 25	528	36,188 3 23	23,267 18 4
Suburban lands sold for cash	97	962 3 38			
Rural lands sold for cash ..	182	35,090 2 0			
Deferred payments			1	13 0 0	20,754 8 11
Perpetual lease (cash includes money from perpetual leases made freehold, £65,749 10s. 6d.)			1	640 0 0	84,452 16 6
Occupation with right of purchase			458	109,949 3 30	15,319 5 6
Lease in perpetuity			362	99,262 0 3	20,430 2 11
Agricultural lease			2	114 1 11	79 19 0
Village settlement, cash			21	29 3 6	327 6 3
" deferred payment			..	..	217 17 9
" perpetual lease (cash includes money from perpetual lease made freehold, £145 15s. 7d.)			..	..	970 10 5
" occupation with right of purchase ..			3	2 0 0	10 1 5
" lease in perpetuity			104	2,100 1 2	1,423 13 8
Village-homestead special settlement			12	133 2 36	2,235 13 9
Special-settlement associations			5	607 1 10	8,834 6 10
Improved-farm special settlement (lease in perpetuity and occupation with right of purchase)			64	4,822 3 24	1,616 9 0
Occupation leases, Mining Act			31	1,448 3 1	228 0 3
Small grazing-runs			21	48,809 3 17	22,022 4 9
Pastoral runs			227	760,156 1 1	78,952 19 6
Thermal springs, Rotorua			29	87 2 28	1,351 13 6
Miscellaneous leases and licenses			304	201,474 0 8	21,788 16 2
Cheviot Estate—					
Cash lands			6	1,210 3 14	3,234 2 0
Lease in perpetuity			..	..	5,911 19 10
Village-homestead special settlement (lease in perpetuity)			..	..	813 11 4
Grazing-farms			..	..	6,259 14 4
Pastoral runs			..	..	262 3 8
Miscellaneous			6	196 0 0	566 9 5
Land for Settlements Acts—					
Lease in perpetuity			313	60,152 3 29	34,446 1 4
Lease in perpetuity, village			2	15 0 2	258 12 3
Special-settlement associations (lease in perpetuity) ..			..	..	170 18 4
Small grazing-runs			19	28,821 3 19	3,011 2 9
Miscellaneous			23	1,229 1 1	917 15 6
Totals			2,542	1,357,466 2 25	360,136 15 2

The details in the above Table A may be summarised under a few headings for purposes of comparison with the transactions of previous years. The figures include the ordinary Crown lands, Land for Settlements estates, Cheviot Estate, Thermal Springs, &c., but exclude endowments, miscellaneous and temporary leases, for the latter scarcely come under the heading of ordinary settlement.

TABLE B.

Tenure.	1897. Number.	1897. Area.	1898. Number.	1898. Area.	1899. Number.	1899. Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
Cash	392	28,489	274	22,526	555	37,427
Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	1	13
Perpetual lease	19	9,106	2	651	1	640
Occupation with right of purchase	281	59,652	382	81,416	461	109,951
Lease in perpetuity	966	139,571	782	128,855	891	167,178
Pastoral and grazing runs	156	1,256,706	209	2,139,872	267	837,786
Occupation and agricultural leases, Mining Acts	50	2,830	28	1,542	33	1,562
	1,864	1,496,354	1,677	2,374,862	2,209	1,154,557
Forfeitures and surrenders	852	592,035	704	779,271	586	499,152
	1,012	904,319	973	1,595,591	1,623	655,405

It will be noticed that there is an increase in the number of selectors or purchasers who took up lands as compared with last year, the largest increase being under the head of cash purchasers, which is due largely to the sale of town sections. An increase is also shown in the number of selections under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase and lease-in-perpetuity systems. It will be seen that the largest number of selections are now under the lease-in-perpetuity system, one of the reasons for which is that in several of the systems this tenure is obligatory. Under the optional system (Part III. of the Act) the following figures will show the popular choice :—

	No.	Area.
Selected for cash	114	17,824 acres.
Occupation with right of purchase	458	109,949 „
Lease in perpetuity	362	99,262 „

If from the total number of selectors or purchasers shown in Table B (2,209) are deducted those who took up town, suburban, and pastoral lands, together with the forfeitures and surrenders, we shall get 1,050 selectors who took up what may be called farms, and who are obliged by the conditions to reside and improve their properties.

Under the deferred-payment and perpetual-lease systems of previous Acts, which allow of the acquisition of the freehold, the following transactions took place :—

	No.	Area.
Deferred payments...	365	43,818 acres.
Perpetual lease	224	85,492 „

The above figures do not, of course, show so many new settlers, for the selections were made several years ago, but the freehold was only acquired during the past year. On the 31st March last there were still remaining 1,258 selectors holding land on the deferred-payment system, and 1,974 holding under the perpetual-lease system, with the right of purchase; whilst those who hold their lands by lease in perpetuity numbered 5,979.

The selections made under a few special clauses of the Act are as shown in the following table :—

TABLE C.

—	Under Section 114.		Under Section 115.		Under Section 117.		Under Section 13 of Act of 1895.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
Cash	4	29	6	31	14	99	..	..
Deferred payment	1	13	..	..	..	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase ..	6	786	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	18	2,214	4	1,014	..	..	..	..
Village homestead	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	103

The average size of farms taken up last year, excluding town, suburban, pastoral runs, grazing-runs, and miscellaneous, was 196 acres; the average for 1898 being 190 acres; for 1897, 138 acres; and for 1896, 162 acres. Under the optional system, where the size of the farm is—subject to the law—decided by the applicant, the average size was 243 acres; that for 1898 being 222 acres, and for 1897 220 acres.

The following table shows in a compact form the lands of all descriptions taken up during the last few years :—

TABLE D.

Year.	Number of Selectors or Purchasers.	Area taken up during the Year.	Territorial Revenue.	Total Revenue collected.	Number of Tenants on the Books.
		Acres.	£	£	
1888–89	2,529	2,313,611	310,061	Not given.	Not given.
1889–90	2,653	4,155,472	304,842	322,885	12,164
1890–91	2,420	2,154,138	352,417	364,938	11,995
1891–92	2,519	1,453,082	320,483	324,470	12,735
1892–93	3,071	1,663,339	274,399	310,523	14,261
1893–94	2,876	1,393,918	282,067	347,343	15,081
1894–95	2,547	1,015,577	338,166	375,879	15,326
1895–96	2,865	2,662,344	291,673	345,331	15,683
1896–97	2,173	1,600,695	272,954	360,993	15,527
1897–98	2,058	2,451,062	263,296	359,086	16,365
1898–99	2,542	1,357,466	273,799	385,145	16,572

The above are the gross transactions, without any deductions for forfeitures or surrenders, and represent figures which are constantly fluctuating, due to the running-out of leases or the purchase of the freehold, &c.

The amount of land thrown open for selection or purchase in some form or another during the period under consideration was as shown below. The total is somewhat less than for the previous year. It includes the lands surrendered or forfeited and again thrown open, and also endowments, estates acquired, &c.

TABLE E.

	Acres.
For Optional selection	366,424
Cash by auction	9,202
Other leases of Crown lands and reserves	17,412
Village allotments	2,937
Pastoral runs	603,220
Small grazing-runs	112,236
Lease in perpetuity only	73,669
	1,185,100

There were no special features connected with the ordinary Crown lands offered last year, excepting in the case of a block thrown open near Dannevirke, where 2,342 applications were put in for 13,730 acres of broken forest country. The proximity to the railway-line no doubt was the cause of this. The opening of two large estates acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts (Waikakahi and Starborough) caused a good deal of inquiry, and resulted in a great many applications being received. The whole of Waikakahi, 48,248 acres, has been taken up (part of it since the 31st March), and of the 3,949 acres in Starborough unselected at the 31st March there remains on hand 1,546 acres, including the township reserve, which will be offered shortly.

During the coming year the largest continuous area to be dealt with will be in Kawhia County, where about 80,000 acres are now undergoing the process of roading and survey. Some of this will be ready for selection about the begining of 1900. In Hawke's Bay some scattered lands of good quality are preparing for selection in the Waiapu County, and other blocks in Cook and Wairoa Counties. An extension of the Ngapaeruru Block (where so many applications were received last year) is also being prepared for settlement. Several blocks are being prepared for selection in the Taranaki District, and, like most of the Crown lands now dealt with, they consist of rough forest country that requires large expenditure in roading before becoming available for settlers. Several blocks of forest land of the same broken character are preparing in the Wellington District, mostly on the Upper Wanganui River and its branches. The fact of these blocks lying beyond the present system of roads means that they will only be taken up by degrees as the roading advances. In Marlborough some lands in the neighbourhood of Kaikoura and on the Wairau River are in process of survey, and will be opened during the year. These consist of country that has hitherto been held as runs, but which, it is thought, can be held in smaller holdings. In Canterbury the Crown land still remaining is very limited in area, and, unless more estates are acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts, little fresh settlement will take place there. Otago also suffers from the same want of good lands suitable for agricultural purposes; therefore the lands to be operated on during the coming year will be more in the nature of pastoral than agricultural. In Southland the Crown still owns considerable areas of fair land, but nearly all covered with forest, much of which is of marketable value, or will become so in the near future; it is therefore advisable to deal with the timber first before offering the lands for settlement.

That there is a real dearth of good agricultural land left in the hands of the Crown is very apparent, and has been noticed in these reports for several years past. From time to time fresh lands are acquired from the Natives in the North Island, but, taking this class of land all through, there is no very large area that can be called agricultural. Most of the lands left to be dealt with in the future are more suited to occupation in considerable areas, requiring large expenditure in clearing, grassing, and roading.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

In the eagerness to acquire lands many selectors, without previous experience or sufficient capital, have been led into embarking in pursuits for which they are unsuited. The end of this is that the conditions under which lands are selected are not fulfilled, and the Land Boards, acting under the powers and duties conferred on them by Act, eventually have to forfeit the selection. In some cases the Boards have been unduly blamed for pressing the selectors, but it is generally forgotten that the Act imposes on the Boards certain duties in regard to the Crown lands which have to be carried out, a neglect of which implies a dereliction of duty to the State. As a matter of fact, every consideration is given to individual cases before the final step of forfeiture is taken.

The number of forfeitures under all classes of land last year amounted to 432, whilst the surrenders were 154, or a total number of cases where the lands lapsed to the Crown of 586; the figures for 1898 being 852, and those for 1897, 704. The total area forfeited was 286,929 acres; the area surrendered, 212,224 acres, let formerly at a rental of £7,466. Of this considerable area, however, 318,205 acres are comprised in nineteen pastoral runs, where the holdings are large. The greatest number of forfeitures in any one class has been in the special-settlement associations, where 116 forfeitures took place. The reason for the large number of cases in this particular kind of settlement has been dwelt on at length in previous reports. In nearly all cases the forfeited and surrendered sections are taken up as soon as reopened.

Details of forfeitures and surrenders under each system will be found in the Appendix.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

The number of these settlements is forty-five, containing an area of 73,820 acres as proclaimed, in which number are included some extensions of previously existing settlements. They are principally in Wellington and Taranaki Districts, though others have been formed in Auckland, Hawke's Bay, Otago, and Southland. At the 31st March last there were 513 selectors holding land, and 1,854 persons resident in the settlements. The area felled was 15,141 acres; area grassed, 20,814 acres; whilst the value of the improvements on the lands was £84,168, of which Government have advanced towards clearing, grassing, houses, &c., £57,329. The rent and interest paid during the year amounted to £1,616 9s.

In the reports attached to the Appendix will be found notices of all of these settlements, from which it may be gathered that the amount of success is various, depending much on the class of land occupied, access, work available, and, more than all perhaps, on the character of the selectors themselves. In cases where dairy factories can be established, and some outside employment be obtained, there are reasons to hope that a considerable amount of success will attend this class of settlement. They have been the means of placing on land many families that could not otherwise have accomplished it.

The number of forfeitures and surrenders within these settlements during the year have been as follows: Thirty-six forfeitures, covering an area of 3,079 acres; and fifteen surrenders, covering 1,480 acres.

Village Settlements.

Under different systems of tenure there were 142 fresh selections during the year, the area selected being 2,280 acres, nearly half the number being in the Wellington District. The number of forfeitures and surrenders amounted to sixty-five, the area affected being 1,099 acres. On the 31st March there were 1,830 settlers in occupation of 36,926 acres, the rental of which was £5,676, whilst the arrears of rent and interest amounted to £1,797.

These settlements are fairly distributed throughout the colony, and have done a great deal of good in furnishing homes for settlers in places where they can obtain outside assistance in the shape of employment. In the north, where several settlements were placed near together on small farms, and where little assistance could be obtained from outside, they have not been a complete success. The want of markets near at hand, and the growing scarcity of kauri-gum, to which the settlers had to look for obtaining ready money, is telling disadvantageously on them, so that in some cases the settlers are gradually moving off to other parts. Some of those who remain who can secure additional lands will have a better chance of success. In other parts of the colony many of these villages have been a marked success.

Altogether a sum of £25,863 has been advanced towards building houses, clearing, &c., of which £2,634 has been returned to the Government.

Pastoral and Small Grazing-runs.

Of lands taken up for pastoral purposes, the following figures show the result of the year's transactions: 267 runs, containing an area of 837,786 acres, were selected or sold at auction, nineteen of which are in the estates acquired under the Land for Settlements Act. The greatest number of these pastoral runs lie within the Westland District; they number 134, the area being 141,404 acres. Owing to the Midland Railway proclamation, this is the only tenure under which settlement can advance at all in part of that district. It is obvious that some change must occur in the tenure whenever these lands are freed. The other cases consisted generally of runs of which the term had expired, and have been re-leased.

There are small grazing-runs situated in every land district, but nearly half of them are in the Otago District, where the lands are more suited to this class of settlement. This system of settlement is also taken advantage of considerably in the Marlborough District, where the rough, broken wooded hills of the Sounds are well adapted to pastoral pursuits, but not to others to any great extent.

On the 31st March the total area held under pastoral license was about 11,114,012 acres, held in 925 runs; whilst the small grazing-runs and grazing-farms numbered 602, covering an area of 1,107,808 acres.

"The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894."

The selections under this heading lie within the mining districts, and are intended to provide homes for miners working at their claims. The selections last year amounted to only thirty-one, with an area of 1,448 acres, situated principally in Otago. With these may be classed the agricultural-lease holdings—their object being the same, though the tenure is somewhat different; only two selections took place last year, covering an area of 114 acres. The total area held under these systems at the end of the year was 9,220 acres, held by 192 individuals.

Revaluation of Leaseholds.

Owing to the many complaints from selectors to the effect that their selections had been over-valued, it was decided to ask the Land Boards to investigate each case, which was done by personal visitation to the properties, with the following results:—

In Auckland, out of 2,881 tenants, there were thirty-four applications for relief from alleged oppressive rents. The Commission, however, actually examined forty-four selections, of 6,101 acres, and they proposed a reduction in the annual rent from £179 to £131 per annum, or a loss of revenue of £47 per annum. Of the forty-four leaseholds inspected, twenty elected to surrender and apply again under the new terms, while twenty-five declined to allow their leases to be again opened to the public.

In Taranaki, out of 903 tenants, there were sixteen applicants for relief, all of whose lands were inspected by the Commission. The area included in their leases was 2,440 acres, and the Board advised a reduction from £184 to £146 per annum, or a relief of £38 per annum. This was accepted by fourteen of the tenants and refused by two. The result was that eleven holdings were again taken up, and five did not again apply for their land.

In Wellington, out of 2,349 tenants, there were eighty-nine tenants who asked for revaluation, but the Commission examined in all 130 properties, and recommended a reduction from a rent of £327 per annum to £235 per annum, or a relief of £92 per annum. This was accepted by fourteen tenants and rejected by sixty-four, who refused to surrender. Out of those again opened for selection, six were taken up; the remaining eight did not again apply for their holdings even at the reduced rent.

In Canterbury, out of 1,583 tenants, there were forty-five applications for relief, but the Commission examined only eight, containing 23,946 acres. To these they granted a reduction of annual rent from £1,235 to £778, being a yearly relief of £457. The number of sections actually surrendered is eight, and thirty-seven declined to allow their lands to be offered to the public at the reduced rent. Of the eight surrenders, two were again applied for, one was not let, and the others have not yet been opened for selection.

In Otago, out of 2,251 tenants, there were 112 applications for reduction, and the whole of the leaseholds affected were examined by the Commission. The area inspected is 63,380 acres, and the Board recommended a reduction in annual rent from £1,082 to £518, or a relief of £464 per annum. This was accepted by thirty-one tenants, who duly surrendered their leases, but eighty-one declined to do so. Those surrendered are advertised as open for selection on the 21st June.

In Southland, out of 1,205 tenants, there were ninety applicants who said their rents were too high. The Commission examined all the holdings, and decided to recommend a reduction from £1,257 to £775 annum, or a relief of £482 per annum, the area affected being 33,446 acres. Those who decided to surrender were eighty-one, and eight leases were forfeited; nine refused to expose their holdings to public competition. The surrendered leases are to be again open for selection shortly.

The transactions as a whole show that, out of over 11,000 tenants, there were 400 who desired relief, and they were granted it to the extent of £1,580 per annum; but up to the present time only 168 have availed themselves of the opportunity afforded them to test in an open manner the real value of their lands by letting the rest of the public have the same privilege as they had, the rent realised being £495 per annum.

Settlement Conditions.

The large number of properties now held on conditions of residence and improvement necessitates an increasing amount of inspection by the Crown Land Rangers, who are also frequently assisted by the survey staff in districts where the work cannot conveniently be overtaken by the former. The Commissioner's reports on this subject show that compliance with the terms of the Act is very general, and that the value of improvements made is, as a rule, in excess of what is required. The following table shows the results of inspections made :—

Number of Properties inspected.	Area inspected.	Improvements required by Act.	Improvements actually made.	Settlers in default.
3,948	958,270 acres	£264,185	£590,922	639

The acquisition of so many estates under the Land for Settlements Acts, in which the land is, as a rule, much more valuable than ordinary Crown land, and in which bad farming will soon cause a deterioration in the properties, renders inspection much more minute, and is a matter of great importance.

State Forests and Plantations.

The total amount of land set aside as reserves for State forests, plantations, scenic purposes, &c., at the 31st March, 1898, was 1,175,622 acres. Since that date 412,391 acres have been added, including forests, plantations, reserves for scenic purposes, and the Patua Ranges, and 167 acres have been withdrawn from reservation, making the total at the end of the year 1,587,846 acres. The bulk of the area reserved last year was in Canterbury, where 371,160 acres were set aside for preservation of the vegetation, the lands lying principally at the heads of the Rivers Makarora, Hunter, Hopkins, Dobson, Rangitata, Rakaia, Waimakariri, &c. Proposals have also been received from some of the Commissioners to set aside lands at the heads of other rivers in the colony, in order to preserve the forests, with a view of lessening the increasing damage done by floods, which are found to occur with increasing volume wherever the forest or other vegetation is destroyed on the ranges. By denuding the watersheds of the covering of vegetation, which acts as a "sponge" as it were, the waters flow away more quickly and give rise to increased floods, which are more sudden in their action, and consequently do more damage to neighbouring lands, bridges, &c.

With respect to the plantation-work carried on by the department, a detailed report will be found in the Appendix, where Mr. Matthews, the Chief Forester, describes the results of the last few years' operations in full. Owing to the favourable nature of the past season, considerable success has characterized the work, but planting and transplanting is naturally a slow process, and takes some years to make any great show.

In the three nurseries—at Eweburn, Tapanui, and Rotorua—there are over 3,700,000 young timber and ornamental trees planted, the earliest of which will be ready for transplanting this next season. The trees in the plantations seem to be doing well generally, though the experiment made two years ago of planting young trees in the standing bush near Mamakau Railway-station, on the Rotorua line, has proved to be a failure. The intention was to have tried growing timber-trees for railway purposes there. The plantation on the bleak Kaingaroa Plain is more successful, and the trees are doing fairly well. At the other plantation on the same plains, near the Rangitaiki River, the trees have not succeeded, but some of the grasses sown are doing fairly well; but there is much trouble through the hares, which are plentiful in that part.

The other plantations in the South Island are doing well, for particulars of which see the Forester's report in the Appendix.

The total revenue from State forests this last year was £5,844 6s. 6d., and the expenditure amounted to £4,044 3s. 2d.

Reserves, Parks, Sanctuaries for Native Fauna, etc.

The reserves made for public purposes are summarised in the figures below. They include only those which have been gazetted, and exclude lands which have been withheld from sale or other dealings.

	A.	R.	P.
Recreation	1,103	0	26
Primary and secondary education	7,456	0	17
School-sites	662	1	31
Forest reserves and plantations	405,092	0	16
Preservation of native fauna and flora, scenic and historical purposes	1,799	3	0
Water-supply, Town of Whangarei*	1,569	2	8
Endowment, Thames Borough†	739	2	33
Agricultural and pastoral show-grounds, &c.	138	1	36
Miscellaneous	1,818	1	21
	420,379	2	28

The above total area shows a very considerable increase above the acreage reserved in later years, and is due to the large amount of land set aside in Canterbury as State forests, as referred to under the heading of "State Forests and Plantations." The lands reserved for the preservation of native fauna and flora consist of ten reserves in the Wellington Land District and one in Canterbury; they are usually of small area, but very important for the purpose intended.

In the Tongariro National Park the bridle-road constructed last year from the main carriage-road that runs past Roto-a-Ira to the Kete-tahi Springs has been continued for about two miles and a half beyond those springs to the Blue Lake on top of Tongariro Mountain, so that tourists can now easily reach that place, and from there visit the various craters on the mountain. The lake is at about 6,000 ft. above sea-level. This National Park is under the administration of a Board, but no occasion has yet arisen necessitating the members being called together. The area in the reservation—62,300 acres—might be extended with advantage as the adjacent lands fall into the hands of the Crown.

The exchange of land authorised under "The Reserves Disposal and Exchange Act, 1895," by which the Patua Ranges in Taranaki became practically a public park, has been completed during the year, and this 5,500 acres of fine forest mountain has now become a national property.

The secretary of the Auckland Institute has furnished a report on Hauturu or Little Barrier Island, situated in the Hauraki Gulf, which was reserved for the preservation of the native flora and fauna: this will be found in the Appendix hereto. The object for which the reservation was made appears, so far, to be successful, in that no depredations have taken place, and that there are to be found on the island a large number of birds now extinct on the mainland.

A report will also be found in the Appendix by Mr. Henry, the caretaker of Resolution Island, showing his proceedings during the year. He has succeeded in placing some additional birds on Resolution and the other islands around there, and reports no depredations.

A sum of £250 was paid for the purchase of the rare bird, the takahe, or *Notornis mantelli*, which was discovered near Lake Te Anau. The bird is deposited for the present in the Otago Museum. A description of it, together with a photograph, will be found in the Appendix. This is the fourth bird of this species that has been discovered in New Zealand.

"The Reserves, Endowments, and Crown and Native Lands Exchange, Sale, Disposal, and Enabling Act, 1898," section 26, authorised the handing over to trustees of 500 acres of wooded country on the slopes of the Ruahine Ranges as a sanctuary for native and imported game. This has been done, and the reserve is now in charge of the Wellington Acclimatisation Society, which body has expended this last year a sum of £311 12s. 3d. in further improving the reserve as a game-farm. The caretaker has now under his charge a herd of nine red-deer, and a number of pheasants are retained for breeding purposes. Seventy acres of bush have been felled and grassed, and a cottage erected for the caretaker. A report on this subject will be found in the Appendix.

A vote was taken last session (No. 71, item 22) of £300 as a subsidy towards the purchase of a domain for the district of Khandallah, near Wellington. Some gentlemen interested in the question secured an area of about 31 acres at a cost of over £500, the sum mentioned above forming part of the purchase-money.

Thermal Springs, Sanatoria, etc.

At Rotorua, which is the largest of the sanatoria under Government direction, improvements and extensions have been made in several directions under the supervision of Mr. Reaney, all of which are referred to in his report, which will be found printed in the Appendix hereto. The bath-accommodation at Rotorua is now fairly large, but might be extended with advantage at Whakarewarewa, where there is an excellent supply of hot and chemical waters. The time will come when the extensive supply of thermal waters on the west side of the town, at Kuirau and its neighbourhood, will be brought into use, but at present it is deemed best to confine operations to the neighbourhood of the Pavilion, &c.

The Pukeroa Park has been improved by planting and the making of additional paths, and more will be done in these directions during the present season. The Kuirau Reserve has also been taken in hand, and some paths have been cut and planting done. This reserve is being fenced in at the present time. Additional planting will be done also at Whakarewarewa, and as much use as possible be made of native shrubs for ornamental purposes.

The level of the lake itself has been unusually low during the year, and this, to a certain extent, affects the hot springs. It is possible that something may yet have to be done to control the level by works at the outlet. The wharf running out from the township into the lake has now reached a length of over 500 ft., but has yet to be extended to allow of a greater depth of water to facilitate landing from boats, steam-launches, &c.

* Reserves Disposal &c., Act of 1898, section 4. † Reserves Disposal, &c., Act of 1898, section 12.

The drainage scheme initiated last year has now been completed within the most important part of the town, but is incomplete until the erection of the necessary plant for pumping (and lighting the town) is effected. Tenders were invited for this service, but were considered too high for acceptance. The source of the power is a waterfall on the Taheke River, forming the outlet to Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti. Mr. R. Hay, C.E., has had charge of these works.

During the year twenty-nine town and suburban sections were selected at Rotorua, making 215 in all. These lands are held under lease by virtue of "The Thermal-springs Districts Act, 1881." There are 5,614 acres now held under this Act in the district, which amount is let at an annual rental of £1,452.

With the aid of the nursery now established at Rotorua, the planting of the public reserves should be extended considerably. Trees are found to do well in the district, and will eventually pay a good interest on the money sunk in planting.

It is to be regretted that some of the tourists who visit the district still continue to take away "specimens" of the deposits from the thermal springs, thereby decreasing the attraction for those who come after them. The officers in charge have strict instructions to prevent this, and, so far as lies in their power, do so.

At Hanmer, in northern Canterbury, the thermal-springs establishment has been well kept up under the care of Mr. J. Rogers, but it is found that the bath-accommodation is still deficient for the number of visitors. This place increases in attractiveness from year to year—a fact which is proved by the increase of accommodation which has been supplied, due to private enterprise. At the Government Sanatorium many applicants for accommodation have been refused for want of room.

Arrangements have been in progress for utilising the natural gas found there for lighting purposes, but are not yet completed.

In the Appendix hereto will be found Mr. Rogers's report, giving details as to the establishment.

The following table will supply information as to the progress of the two principal Government establishments at Rotorua and Hanmer:—

Place.	1895.		1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.	
	Number of Baths.	Fees.	Number of Baths.	Fees.	Number of Baths.	Fees.	Number of Baths.	Fees.	Number of Baths.	Fees.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Rotorua ..	23,196	483 11 3	28,906	502 17 0	33,158	631 0 6	46,668	747 0 0	48,868	711 0 0
Hanmer ..	6,306	202 17 6	7,781	240 4 8	9,627	290 4 9	11,436	354 4 7	14,540	413 1 2

The Hermitage at Mount Cook is under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Ross, and indirectly under that of the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Christchurch. The number of visitors was about the same as last year, but many of them stayed for longer average periods, advantage being taken of the huts erected near the glaciers for visiting the mountains and glaciers. A guide has been employed during the tourist season, and his services have been much in requisition by visitors. Various improvements have been made about the Hermitage itself, by the planting of trees, making seats, &c.

As population increases in Australasia, this place must become more and more a place of recreation and a "play-ground," for the scenery is acknowledged on all hands to surpass anything of its kind in Australasia, while the attraction it offers to alpine climbers is equal to many well-known mountain-ranges of Europe and America. The accommodation to be obtained at the Hermitage is very good, and the prices are reasonable.

A report giving detail of this establishment will be found in the Appendix.

Te Aroha Hot Springs are under the management of the Te Aroha Domain Board. The secretary of the Board has furnished an excellent report on this popular place of resort, which will be found in the Appendix. The principal event of the year was the opening of the new bath-house, which was built from funds contributed by the Government, under the supervision of Mr. C. R. Vickerman, of the Public Works Department. A description of the building, with a picture of it, was given in last year's report of this department. Reference must be made to the report referred to for detailed information concerning the springs, from which it will be seen that a great deal has been done to increase the efficiency and attractiveness of this place, which, from its easy access by railway both from Auckland and the Thames, is always a favourite resort of those who can spare a little time for recreation.

The thermal springs at Nuhaka, Hawke's Bay, are attracting more attention now that accommodation can be obtained on the spot, and, surrounded as they are by attractive sylvan scenery, the number of visitors must continue to increase, especially after the coach-road from Gisborne is open. At present the establishment is in its earliest stages, and visitors cannot expect the same comforts as are to be found at older establishments, but this will gradually mend. The accommodation-house is under private management.

In the near future another thermal-spring district will be opened to the public at Waipiro, on the coast northwards from Gisborne. Here a township has been laid out under the Native Townships Act, which will very shortly be submitted to the public. The springs here are several in number, and have proved very efficacious in cases of rheumatism. There is a fine supply of hot water. When the carriage-road is open from the coast the place is likely to attract a considerable number of visitors.

Naval and Military Settlers' and Volunteers' Land-claims.

In accordance with the recommendations contained in the report (H.–13, 1898) by Mr. Commissioner J. C. McKerrow, appointed under "The Naval and Military Claims Settlement and Extinguishment Act, 1896," of the sum of £3,485 voted by Parliament last year in settlement of the 110 claims £3,425 has been expended.

Vouchers were prepared for all claims as soon as possible after the money was voted; £3,055 passed for payment prior to the 31st March last. It was found that, out of the 110 claimants recommended, seventeen were deceased persons, and there was no evidence of legal succession or probate.

Under these circumstances the department moved the Treasury to take steps under the provisions of "The Public Payments without Probate Act, 1869," and after the statutory period had elapsed under the regulations of 1870 the survivors who claimed and applied were paid.

Thus fifteen have been paid since the 31st March last, and two claims are still unpaid; in one of these cases no one has made claim, and in the other there are several claimants, and it is not yet decided how the matter shall be adjusted.

Cheviot Estate.

The land transactions within the above estate were confined to a few miscellaneous leases, and the report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands given in the Appendix shows that the estate continues to progress satisfactorily. The value of improvements required by law amounted to £16,832, but the actual value at the time of inspection was £49,738; whilst the number of people residing on the estate was 838. The past has been a fairly prosperous year for the settlers, notwithstanding that the caterpillars had somewhat reduced the yield from the crops. The area in crop amounts to: Cereals, 4,019 acres; green and root crops, 7,374 acres; English grasses, 11,430 acres. The dairy factory has proved a great assistance to the settlers during the year, especially to the smaller settlers near Mackenzie.

The following figures show the state of the Cheviot Account at the 31st March last:—

Cheviot Estate: Return of Outlay and Income as at 31st March, 1899.

Outlay.	£
Balance from previous year	262,429
Administration and contingencies	647
Balance of interest chargeable to 31st March, 1899	6,642
Rents accrued, included in former account	6,204
Total	£275,922

Income.	£
Cash—Instalments of purchase-money of freehold	3,234
" Rents	13,515
" Interest	225
" Shipping and port charges	69
Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	4,155
Balance	254,724
Total	£275,922

There were nineteen settlers in arrear with their rents at the 31st March, to the amount of £171 18s. 8d. There were no forfeitures or surrenders.

Land for Settlement.

There have been fewer estates dealt with during the year ended the 31st March last than in the previous period, the number for 1899 being seven, containiug an area of 90,708 acres 1 rood 4 perches, whilst that for 1898 was fourteen, of a total area of 58,691 acres 1 rood 31 perches.

The following table shows the new estates which have been handed over to this department and dealt with during the year, and the attached table shows various particulars respecting them, and also of all the estates that have been dealt with since the policy of acquiring estates from private owners was initiated in 1894.

Estates offered for Selection during the Twelve Months ending 31st March, 1899.

Land District and Name of Estate.	Area of Estate.	Number of Selectors.	Area unselected, 31st March, 1899.	Annual Rental payable of Lands leased.	Date opened for selection.
	A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Auckland—					
Rangiatea	4,004 0 0	17	753 0 0	564 6 2	June 22, 1898.
Karapiro	2,270 3 9	13	69 1 0	394 15 0	Oct. 21, 1898.
Hawke's Bay—					
Mahora	1,133 3 0	27	268 1 27	1,260 1 8	Mar. 22, 1899.
Willows	775 1 36	16	190 1 0	573 10 4	Mar. 22, 1899.
Canterbury—					
Pawaho	52 0 18	21	7 0 22	108 14 6	April 5, 1898
Waikakahi	48,248 0 21	139	6,426 2 11	14,838 14 10	Mar. 20, 1899.
Marlborough—					
Starborough (leasehold surrendered, 1,625 ac.)	34,224 0 0	43	3,949 0 0	4,893 10 10	Mar. 13, 1899.
Totals	90,708 1 4	276*	11,663 2 20	£22,633 13 4	

* The number of applications received for these estates was as follows: Rangiatea, 37; Karapiro, 44; Mahora, 90; Willows, 90; Pawaho, 59; Waikakahi, 867; Starborough, 402.

Since the 31st March, the greater part of the area of 11,663 acres unselected at that date has been taken up.

In addition to the foregoing figures there have been thirty-five* selections in the estates acquired prior to 31st March, 1898. Of the four estates at that date which showed the largest amount of unselected land, viz.: Okauia, Pomahaka, Otahu, and Beaumont (total, 12,896 acres), 7,592 acres have been selected during the year, which, together with other selections, only leaves in the hands of the Government an area of 4,759 acres.† Details of all the selections will be found in the accompanying table.

The forfeitures for non-compliance with the conditions of the leases, together with surrenders, amounted to thirty, the area so forfeited being 2,643 acres, 3 roods, 20 perches, let for a rental of £463 9s. 4d. Most of the forfeited sections have been relet.

The arrears of rent on the 31st March amounted to £2,938 6s. 9d., which was owing by 134 lessees, or an average of £22 per selector.

The reports of the Commissioners on the different estates will be found in the Annual Report of the Lands and Survey Department of this year, and from these it will be seen that considerable progress has been made on each estate. The effects of the dry weather of last year, together with some high winds when the crops were coming on this year, were still felt at the date of the reports, and the arrears of rent are in large measure due to those causes, which are, however, only temporary in their operation.

The number of estates acquired under the Act, and which have been offered for selection, is fifty-six, containing an area of 243,947 acres (in which are included 3,112 acres of Crown land, being leases held by the former owners but now surrendered and dealt with as part of the estates). On these estates, at the 31st March last, there were 3,077 persons residing, the number of houses being 813, whilst the value of the improvements on the estates amounted to £129,133 18s. 9d.

	£
The total cost of the estates purchased to 31st March, 1899 = ...	1,170,305
Cost of roads, surveys, administration, and preliminary expenses ...	53,862
	1,224,167
Less cost of Richmond Brook Estate, not yet selected	21,921
	£1,202,246
The lands disposed of are let at an annual rental of	£57,747
The lands unlet (exclusive of roads, unlet reserves, &c.) are valued at a rental of	4,503
	£62,250

It will thus be seen that if the whole of the lands were let, the rentals would bring in a return of 5·17 per cent. on the capital invested in the estates that have been offered for selection. On the other hand, the rentals of land actually let are bringing in a return of 4·8 per cent. on the amount invested. As much of the land unlet at the 31st March has since been disposed of, the rentals at the time of writing are actually bringing in over 5 per cent. on the capital sunk in them.

The sum actually payable for interest, calculated as for the 31st March, on the money raised for the purchase of these estates was £42,497 3s. 5d., as against a rental of £57,747.

The construction of the branch railway or tram-line to give access to the limekilns on the Makareao Estate is in hand by the Public Works Department, and is approaching completion; whilst the work of building the kilns has also been commenced. A sum of £4,685 9s. 10d. has been expended in this work up to the 31st March.

Under those clauses of the Act empowering the creation of "hamlets," the following small blocks have been offered for selection:—

—	Opened for Selection.	Acres.	Number of Sections.	Number selected.	Cost.	Annual Rental.	Area unlet.
					£	£ s. d.	A. R. P.
Wharenui ...	Mar., 1897	73	26	25	4,994	285 2 8	2 0 0
Paparangi ...	Feb., 1898	323	39	32	6,592	284 11 6	12 3 20
Pawaho ...	April, „	32	25	21	1,942	108 14 6	7 0 22
Since the 31st March, 1899.							
Tamai	June, 1899	37	40	9	2,663	167 11 2	27 1 9

The hamlets are provided to meet the wants of small settlers in the vicinity of towns, and the Act provides for the advance by Government, in certain cases, of sums to enable the selectors to build houses. The cases above seem to show that there is no very active demand for this class of settlement, for the lands are not taken up at once.

"The Urewera District Native Reserve Act, 1896."

The Hon. the Native Minister administers the above Act, but, as the Lands and Survey Department has practically had the working of the Act so far, the proceedings under it may properly find a place in this report.

* To these thirty-five selections have to be added twenty-four reallotments.

† At the date of writing the lands still left in these estates are: Okauia, two sections, 748 acres; Pomahaka, *nil*; Beaumont, seven sections, 2,180 acres; Otahu, two sections, 485 acres.

The Commissioners appointed under the Act (the Surveyor-General, Judge W. J. Butler, and five Maori chiefs of the Urewera Tribe) met at Whakatane on the 1st February, and proceeded to consider how they might best carry out the provisions of the Act, which combine the two objects of ascertaining the ownership of the large block of land included within the boundaries described in the schedule to the Act (656,000 acres), and, secondly, of dividing the country into areas which are to serve as the basis for the local government of the tribes.

It was soon found that practically there are no such things as defined hapu boundaries such as were acknowledged by the people as belonging to any given hapu to the exclusion of others. As a matter of fact, nearly the whole area is subject to overlapping claims, sometimes three or four claims one on top of the other with discordant boundaries; and the hapus are so mixed by intermarriage that it is difficult to say to what hapu any particular individual of the tribe belongs. As the work progressed it became apparent that the title to the whole area would require investigation before any boundaries could be determined suitable for a division into districts.

In order to facilitate this, the Commissioners adjourned from Whakatane to Ruatoki, and from there to Te Houhi, Te Whaiti, Ruatahuna, Maungapohatu, finishing up at Waimako, near Lake Waikare-moana, on the 6th April, having obtained the lists of claimants in fifty-seven blocks, and learned approximately their boundaries. This work is preliminary to what is to follow in the investigation of the title, which will take considerable time, and prior to which some sketch surveys of the most intricate and disputed boundaries will have to take place. Practically, the owners of the Urewera country are now known by name, subject to, perhaps, some few names omitted from the lists. Their number cannot, however, be stated at present, until the completion of the work of arranging them all alphabetically, and the elimination of duplicate names.

The Commissioners were received most hospitably by these wild mountaineers, who are most anxious to see this great work finished. They were found to be very tractable and amenable to discipline. The Commissioners sat in any convenient place where shelter could be obtained, generally under a slight booth or the shade of a tree.

It is proposed to put in hand the surveys so soon as the season allows, but it is not contemplated to do more than make such sketch surveys as will allow the Commissioners to decide boundaries in dispute. And, moreover, it is proposed to do away with many of the smaller claims, throwing them into large divisions whenever this can be accomplished.

Lands for Landless Natives, South Island.

A special report has been presented to Parliament on the above subject, but, as the Lands and Survey Department has had much to do with the matter, a brief notice of the progress made may be given here. It is unnecessary to refer to the origin of the lack of land amongst the Natives of the South Island, suffice it to say that the claims of a large number of landless Natives so forced itself upon the attention of successive Governments that in December, 1893, the Cabinet decided to appoint two Commissioners (Judge A. Mackay and the Surveyor-General) to deal with the matter.

Up to date the investigation has proved that there are about 4,233 persons—Maoris, half- and quarter-castes—who were more or less landless—that is, not having sufficient land to live on—whilst very many had none at all. Out of this number, 2,415 have been provided with land in five different localities in the South Island, leaving about 1,828 yet to be allocated.

To meet these wants a total area to date has been withdrawn from selection and set aside, of 169,289 acres, some of which will probably prove on survey to be unsuitable; indeed, already, in the Waiau Block, 30,000 acres have turned out to be too mountainous to be used for settlement. During the coming summer about 57,600 acres will be explored and, where found suitable, surveyed prior to the allocation of land to the remainder of the people.

Native Townships Act.

Under the above Act, which provides for the laying-out of towns on lands owned by Maoris in places where such towns are necessary, but where the owners are not able to deal with the lands in a comprehensive manner, three towns have been laid out and offered to the public since the Act came into force—viz., Pipiriki, Tokaanu, and Kaimakau. The latter township was laid out at Kennedy's Bay, Coromandel County, but not a single allotment was disposed of. The following shows the towns that have been proclaimed, of which Te Puia has not yet been offered, but will be shortly:—

		Proclaimed.	First offered for Lease.
Pipiriki ...	... 366 acres	2nd October, 1896	27th July, 1897
Tokaanu ...	... 490 "	11th March, 1897	17th June, 1898
Kaimakau ...	... 190 "	14th July, 1897	14th October, 1898
Te Puia ...	... 497 "	13th July, 1898	...

In addition to the above, arrangements have been made with the Natives for the following towns: Potaka, between Mangaweka and Taihape; Tautini, at Tokomaru Bay, Cook County; Waipiro, Waiapu County; Araroa, Kawakawa Bay, Waiapu County; and Parata, near Waikanae.

Assistance towards the Establishment of Medical Men in Outlying Districts.

Under Vote 71, Item 76, "Miscellaneous Services," a sum of £400 was voted last year for the above object. The results up to the 31st March are shown below.

A petition was forwarded by European residents at Tolago Bay (where there is a large Native population) for aid to induce a medical man to settle in the locality, and £50 has been granted for the purpose.

In response to a petition from settlers at Raetihi a grant of £75 per annum for three years has been promised for a doctor to practise in the Waimarino district.

An offer has been made of a subsidy of £150 per annum for a reasonable period if a suitable man can be obtained to settle at Owaka (Catlin's district), on condition that he will visit Papatowai once weekly.

A subsidy of £50 has been granted to a doctor residing at Preservation Inlet, the money to be paid quarterly upon the certificate of the chairman of the medical committee of the district.

Territorial and other Revenue.

The moneys collected by the department during the year ended the 31st March last were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	273,799	7	4
Government loans to local bodies (interest and sinking-fund) ...	13,255	17	2
Land for Settlements Acts	38,804	10	2
Cheviot Estate	17,043	8	1
State forests	5,844	6	6
Endowments	15,117	18	4
North Island Main Trunk Railway lands	11,282	19	8
Thermal springs	1,351	13	6
Lake Ellesmere and Forsyth lands	1,740	8	11
Survey and other costs recovered	2,512	12	5
Crown-grant fees	1,228	12	0
Hanmer Sanatorium and baths	1,172	11	7
Miscellaneous	1,990	15	1
	£385,145	0	9

In the territorial revenue there was an increase of £10,503 5s. 1d., and an increase on the total sum collected of £26,058 7s., largely due to the new estates offered for selection under the Land for Settlements Acts. The following table will show a comparison between the territorial revenue of last year and the previous one:—

Comparative Statement of Territorial Revenue for the Years 1897–98 and 1898–99.

Land District.	1897–98.			1898–99.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	30,889	19	2	29,182	2	0	...			1,707	17	2
Taranaki	21,407	12	5	26,066	14	10	4,659	2	5	...		
Hawke's Bay ...	14,512	16	1	17,765	18	2	3,253	2	1	...		
Wellington	49,284	8	4	48,751	3	10	...			533	4	6
Marlborough ...	13,689	16	7	9,903	18	11	...			3,785	17	8
Nelson	15,134	11	4	15,553	16	2	419	4	10	...		
Westland	1,159	18	1	1,313	4	10	153	6	9	...		
Canterbury	47,503	4	6	54,518	13	4	7,015	8	10	...		
Otago	55,286	13	10	56,525	6	3	1,238	12	5	...		
Southland	14,427	1	11	14,218	9	0	...			208	12	11
	263,296	2	3	273,799	7	4	16,738	17	4	6,235	12	3
	...			263,296	2	3	6,235	12	3	...		
Net increase ...	...			10,503	5	1	10,503	5	1	...		

The cash balances at credit in the different Receivers of Land Revenue's Deposit Accounts amounted to £51,195 6s. 6d., as against £6,031 5s. 9d. at the same date the previous year. The great increase this year is due to the large amount of deposits on account of applications for the Waikakahi Estate, the selection of which only took place a few days before the close of the financial year.

The balances to the credit of local bodies, derived from "thirds" and "fourths," was £33,423 18s. 11d., a large sum, much of which might have been spent advantageously by the local bodies on roads, &c., had they submitted their schemes of expenditure to the Land Boards somewhat more promptly. The total amount paid to local bodies during the past year from this source was £33,099 8s. 2d.

Arrears.

Details under this heading will be found in the Appendix, but the following table shows a comparison for several years past. It includes all classes of lands on which rents, &c., are paid, but excludes endowments:—

	No.		£
31st March, 1890	3,755	selectors owing	52,891
" 1891	3,548	"	37,341
" 1892	2,612	"	25,256
" 1893	3,382	"	28,875
" 1894	3,104	"	32,205
" 1895	3,594	"	37,514
" 1896	1,673	"	15,708
" 1897	1,464	"	12,807
" 1898	1,546	"	14,437
" 1899	1,451	"	16,994

Of these arrears, the principal items are:—

	£
222 perpetual-lease selectors, owing	1,656
212 occupation-with-right-of-purchase selectors, owing	1,518
210 lease-in-perpetuity selectors, owing	1,678
122 village-homestead special selectors, owing	1,528
77 special-settlement-association selectors, owing	750
79 improved-farm selectors, owing	541
58 small-grazing-run selectors, owing	2,228
120 miscellaneous selectors, owing...	2,889
119 lease-in-perpetuity (land-for-settlement) selectors, owing	2,770

SURVEYS.

The transactions connected with the surveys of the colony are summarised in the table below:—

	Acres.	Average Cost per Acre.	Total cost. £	s.	d.
Minor triangulation	708,252	0·49d.	1,454	6	4
Topographical surveys prior to selection	13,758	1·07d.	61	7	10
Rural and suburban section surveys (1,615 sections) ...	540,485	1·06s.	28,757	17	3
Town section surveys (891 sections), cost per section ...	1,079	17·08s.	761	2	9
Native Land Court surveys (319 divisions)	330,576	4·3d.	5,933	3	9
Mining surveys (336 sections)	17,642	4·9s.	4,321	9	2
Roads (730·94 miles), per mile		£13·61	9,947	12	2
Miscellaneous surveys, inspection, &c.			8,632	0	2
Total cost of the above field-work for the year			£59,868	19	5

The total cost for the year is about £5,000 less than for the previous year, due principally to a smaller expenditure in mining surveys and miscellaneous work, whilst there has been an increased charge on rural and suburban section surveys.

Trigonometrical and Topographical Surveys.

The largest area under triangulation during the year is shown under Mr. J. H. Lowe's name, but a considerable area in hand is not entered in the return, for the reason that the maps are not yet complete. It lies in the centre of the North Island, around the mountain groups of Ruapehu, Tongariro, Kaimanawa, &c., and forms the connecting-link between the triangulation of Auckland, Wellington, and Hawke's Bay. Mr. Lowe has been in charge of the work, and has covered a large area of country with a network of triangles. The final results are looked forward to with considerable interest. In Taranaki Messrs. Skeet, Sladden, and Laing have made further extensions of the existing triangulation to some extent, and in Nelson a large area lying on the mountainous ranges on the west side of the district has been under survey by Messrs. Sadd, Thompson, and Robinson, though the work is not yet mapped. Preliminary results of the above work seem to confirm the fact that the west coast south of Cape Farewell is slightly out of position on the charts, but nothing of great consequence to navigation. In Marlborough the triangulation and topographical surveys of the country around the Kaikoura Mountains has been in progress, but the maps are not yet completed. This survey will furnish data regarding a part of the colony which is very imperfectly mapped at present.

Rural and Suburban Section Surveys.

A somewhat larger acreage was prepared for settlement last year, some of the estates surveyed being of considerable area, such as in the case of Waikakahi in Canterbury, and Starborough in Marlborough. In the former case six surveyors were engaged in the work, and they completed the whole survey in a short time at a very small cost per acre. The same may be said of the Starborough subdivision. Credit is due to all the gentlemen engaged in these surveys for the celerity with which the work was finished, and the complete manner in which it was done.

Most of the other work finished during the year has been in not very large areas, and generally in rough forest-country, where progress is naturally much slower. The cost per acre, therefore, throughout this class of survey is very creditable to the surveyors engaged. It amounted to 1·06s. per acre, which is a trifle over the average for the previous year. It varies very little, however, from year to year, and, considering the rough nature of the country we now have to deal with as a rule, it must be considered a very low cost. Care is taken to insure good lines of road, and in rough country the boundaries of sections are generally run along ridges to secure fencing-lines. This involves a greater cost; but the advantages to the settler are very great indeed, and, as compared to the old-fashioned "chess-board" system of laying out country, is infinitely superior.

Under regulations dated the 25th January, 1897, the limit of mathematical closure in surveys made with theodolite and chain (or, to be more correct, steel-band or wire—for the old Gunter's chain is now only to be seen as a curiosity) was reduced one-half, or from 8 links to 4 links per mile. It is found that by the use of the long steel wires, now common, this limit can easily be maintained; indeed, some surveyors are not satisfied unless their closures are less than the limit. It is certain that the introduction of the steel-wire has greatly facilitated survey work, and tended to reduce the cost. In this connection it may be mentioned that Mr. C. A. Mountfort, of the Wellington District, has been very successful in checking his meridian in dense forest-country by

solar observations. The use of the stars for this purpose has been common for many years past. Its practical introduction was due to Mr. T. Humphries, Chief Surveyor of Nelson, whose paper on the subject has been reprinted lately, and distributed far and wide. It forms the first of a series of such professional papers which it is hoped may be issued from to time, in which will be described the methods of survey most adapted to countries like this.

Considerable areas are under survey for settlement purposes at the present time in all parts of the colony, the largest being in Kawhia County, where is to be found a large extent of country suitable for holdings of some size. After the roading is completed an increase of pastoral settlement will certainly take place in this part.

Native Land Court Surveys.

A somewhat larger output of this class of survey is shown for the year just passed, the total area dealt with for Court purposes being 330,576 acres in 319 divisions or blocks, nearly the whole of which are subdivisions of larger blocks, the title to which had previously been determined by the Native Land Court. As a rule, this class of work is performed by the authorised surveyors outside the Government staff, the cost being advanced by the Government and secured on the land, or is paid for direct by the Native owners; but in all cases the surveys are official, in the sense that the work is subject to check and record by the Survey Department, necessitated by the fact that the titles have to be issued by the Crown.

A very large decrease in this class of work has taken place during the last ten years, owing to the decreasing amount of land held by the Maoris. The area of *papatipu*, or land still held under Native customs, is now small, and much of it not of an attractive nature for settlement.

Mining Surveys.

Again, as in the previous report, a considerable decrease is shown in the year's transactions. The area surveyed was 17,642 acres, in 336 sections, being approximately half the figures for the previous year. The greatest number of claims surveyed was in Otago.

Road Surveys.

Under this heading are the roads surveyed outside the regular operations connected with the subdivision of county into farms, &c. It includes roads taken in exercise of rights reserved in the titles, and other similar cases. Altogether, 730 miles were so surveyed at a cost of £13·61 per mile.

Miscellaneous Work.

The cost of inspection in the field, special reports, engineering surveys, boundary-lines not connected with current section surveys, exploration, traverse surveys not returned in other tables, and generally all work performed by the field-staff that cannot be tabulated under other headings, are included there. The total cost of such services was £8,632 0s. 2d.

Board of Examiners for Surveyors.

During the year four Board meetings have been held. Twenty-three applications for certificates, and for permission to sit for examination, were disposed of. Two examinations have been held, eighteen candidates being examined. One of these, however, took part in both examinations, and five had made partial passes at previous examinations. The following are the names of candidates to whom certificates have been issued: Under Regulation 21 (*c*.)—A. C. Murray-Aynsley, W. Anstey, and C. Otway; under Regulation 9 (*b*)—H. F. Edgecumbe, F. J. Ledger, and F. J. Harrop; under Regulation 9 (*c*)—C. O. McKellar and G. A. M. Luff.

Two new regulations, to provide for the inclusion of mining surveys in the subjects for examination, were advertised in the *Gazette* of the 18th August, 1898. On the same date an additional regulation was also advertised dealing with the conditions preliminary to examination, with regard to cadets in the Public Works Department.

Magnetic Survey.

At the request of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, a commencement has been made with the magnetic survey of this colony. The object aimed at is, by co-operating with similar observations in other parts of the world, to define the laws relating to magnetism. The matter is one of considerable importance to commerce and navigation, and consequently the scheme has the support of several public bodies and individuals connected therewith.

The operations, so far, have consisted in observations to determine—firstly, the best site for a magnetic observatory; secondly, the establishment of positions from which the secular variation can be subsequently determined; and, thirdly, to ascertain the present position of isomagnetic lines. Mr. C. Coleridge Farr, B.Sc., has undertaken the preliminary observations, assisted by Mr. W. T. Neill, of the Survey Department. They commenced on the 15th February, and up to date have made complete determinations of the declination, dip, and horizontal intensity of magnetic force at twenty-seven stations, extending from Orepuke in Southland to Ashburton in Canterbury, including Stewart's Island. Of these stations, eight are in the immediate vicinity of Dunedin, two near Invercargill, whilst the remainder are separated by intervals of about 20 miles, generally along the main line of railway.

It is premature to speak of results at present, until the survey has further advanced, and a determination has been come to as to the best site for the fixed observatory. It is essential that this should be done before the sailing of the Antarctic Expedition in 1901.

Roads.

The amount authorised for expenditure for roads under the administration of the Hon. the Minister of Lands last year was £520,239, and consisted of 1,376 separate items for roads,

bridges, &c., in various parts of the colony, a larger amount and a greater number of separate works than has ever occurred before. Whilst the above was the total amount authorised to be contracted for, the actual amount voted by Parliament for expenditure during the year was £391,461; out of this the actual amount spent to the 31st March was £265,905, to which has to be added £8,861 spent on behalf of the Mines Department, and £7,586 under the Land for Settlements Acts, making a total of £282,352. Of this sum £47,977 has been spent by local bodies under agreements with the Government, the plans and specifications of the works connected with same having to be passed by the department.

At the 31st March, over and above the expenditure, the liabilities on works in hand amounted to the following: Roads and bridges (general), £299,742; land for settlements, £2,768; Mines Department, £9,421—making a total of £311,931.

The monthly average amount of expenditure was £23,530, and varied from £19,500 to £30,600, according to the season.

The number of works of the above nature are now becoming so numerous that they are a very severe tax on the officers of the department, and frequently occupy time which ought to be given to the other work of the department.

The following table will show, in brief form, the nature and extent of the works undertaken by the department, further details of which will be found in the Appendix:—

District.	Constructed.	Widened and Improved.	Maintained.	Cost.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	£ s. d.
Auckland	212	310	1,124	67,841 18 2
Hawke's Bay	118	4	279	29,323 18 0
Taranaki	86	25	219	34,100 8 10
Wellington	123	84	635	61,647 19 9
Nelson	10	7	219	12,027 4 3
Marlborough	68	2	24	15,191 10 3
Westland	8	5	164	10,128 1 1
Canterbury	10	13	50	5,817 16 11
Otago	38	33	75	22,446 5 11
Southland	38	6	4	14,282 17 4
Flood-damages	...	...	86	9,544 3 6
Totals—				
Dray-roads	312	350	2,010	...
Bridle-roads	399	139	869	...
Totals...	711	489	2,879	282,352 4 0

During the year a total of 575 miles of engineering surveys was completed, the cost of which is included in the sums above; and, in connection with the roads, 96 bridges, of a total length of 10,588 ft., were built.

Whilst the expenditure for last year is greater than for the previous one, the mileage of roads constructed is less by something over a hundred miles, the work now consisting more and more every year of enlarging bridle-roads into cart-roads.

With the exception of a few special items, all the work done by the department has been on the co-operative system.

Some of the principal roads on which expenditure has taken place may be mentioned here, but fuller information as to each item will be found in the Appendix.

North of Auckland a great many roads have been extended and improved, either by the department or by the local bodies, and facilities of communication for settlers increased. The road from the Kaihu Valley Railway northwards to Hokianga is now almost completed as a cart-road. It gives access to some of the new settlements in that part where the land is of fair quality. The Great North Road, running from Auckland to Mangonui, has been improved and extended, but is not yet open for cart traffic at the northern end. Some metalling has been done here and there on the above road, but the material is very scarce, and consequently expensive. The Tokatoka Swamp, which contains some good land and timber, has been improved by roads and drains, and part of the tramway intended to get out the timber has been in use for that purpose. A wharf has been built at Raupo, and two artesian wells sunk, one of which delivers about 40,000 gallons per diem.

South of Auckland the Tuakau-Kahuhuru Road has been improved and extended; it is the main road through Raglan County, and passes through a country that has been settled during the last lew years. Connected with this road is the bridge over the Waikato River at Tuakau, plans of which have been prepared ready for construction. With the money available, the Great South Road has also been improved in places. The most important work in the south part of the Auckland District that has been in progress during the year is the road from Kuiti to Awakino, which runs through very good country, as a rule, and on its completion it will form a connecting-link between Auckland and Taranaki. There are about ten miles yet to make, besides some bridges to build, and then it will be possible to drive—with some difficulty, it is true, for part of the way—from Auckland to the mouth of the Mokau River. In connection with the lands lately acquired by the Crown in this neighbourhood, this road should be pushed on to completion. On the west side of the Waipa Valley, in Kawhia County, many miles of engineering survey have been

made to open up some 80,000 acres of good land, and since the end of the year the work of construction has been put in hand. Another important road in this district is the Ohura Road, which has been extended towards Stratford to a small extent, but the principal work on the northern end has been the construction of a bridge over the Ohura River, which was previously a dangerous crossing. The road is now open for vehicles from Poro-o-tarao Tunnel to the Mangaroa River, a distance of forty-four miles. From there onwards to Stratford a good deal of work has yet to be done, the unformed gap being about thirty-two miles.

In the Rotorua Road District one of the most important works we have in hand is the road from Rotorua to Opotiki *viâ* Te Teko, the opening of which will afford a large number of settlers in the latter district an easy access to Rotorua–Auckland Railway, and which will be largely taken advantage of for stock-driving and for coach traffic. At the end of the year the unformed portion of the road between Te Teko and Rotoma Lake was in hand, and plans preparing for bridging the Tarawera River. On completion of this, and improvements on the part between Te Teko and Whakatane, together with a gap between Whakatane and Ohiwa now in hand by the Whakatane County Council, this road will be open

Another important road, especially from the tourist's point of view, is that leading from Rotorua to Waikaremoana Lake and onwards to Gisborne. During the year that portion of the road which runs across the Kaingaroa Plains has been nearly completed, and a good deal of clearing in advance has been done near Ruatahuna. There are several miles yet to make to effect a junction with the formed part at Waikare-moana. This work ought to be pushed on, and then the bridle-road from the lake should be widened out towards Hangaroa, thus allowing of wheeled traffic from Gisborne to Rotorua.

Since the end of the year the bridge over the Waikato River, on the road from Wai-o-tapu to Wairakei, has been completed, and this road has become the main line of communication between Rotorua and the south. It is constantly used by coaches and other vehicles, and is a much more attractive route than the old one *viâ* Ateamuri.

In the Hawke's Bay District the Rotorua–Waikare-moana Road, referred to in the paragraph before last, has been extended for about seven miles and a half along the lake, and clearing in advance of formation has been done also. The continuation of the above road from Waikare-moana towards Gisborne has been completed as a bridle-road, though the culverts are not all in, 25½ miles having been made during the year. On the Napier–Wairoa Road, which is intended to give an overland outlet to the County of Wairoa, about twelve miles have been added to the work done in previous years, leaving twenty-three miles to make before communication is established. The bridge over the Opoiti River, on the road from Wairoa to Gisborne, has been completed, and that over the Mohaka, on the Napier–Taupo Road, is in process of erection.

In Taranaki a number of useful roads have been under construction, amongst which may be mentioned the main road running parallel with the coast north of Mimi, which forms a continuation of the Kuiti–Awakino Road referred to above, on which about three miles and three-quarters have been completed as a dray-road. The road is open for summer traffic now to Tongaporutu, a distance of 39½ miles from Waitara. It is important that this road be pushed on to a junction with the northern end of the road.

The branch from the Main Ohura Road (Stratford to Ongaruhe), which is intended to connect with the navigable part of the Tangarakau River, has been extended to within four miles of that river. Its completion will afford an outlet for produce from a considerable area of inland country by water-carriage to Wanganui. On the Main Ohura Road itself, contracts for three additional miles of metalling were let, which will make 12½ miles of metalling extending northward from Stratford. This road is now open—part cart- and part bridle-road—to near Tangarakau River, a distance from Stratford of 57½ miles. It is important, in the interests of settlement and of through traffic with Auckland, that this road be pushed on, and the gap of thirty-two miles be completed.

Much work has been done in the Wanganui Road District in the extension and maintenance of a large number of roads, some of them very important ones. On the Pipiriki–Wai-o-uru Road the metalling has been extended about two miles and a half, covering some of the worst parts, but there is still one portion near Mangawhero which is bad in winter. This road requires metalling as far as Ohakune, in order to carry the heavy coach traffic, due to this being one of the favourite tourists routes in connection with the Wanganui River. On the main road from Mangaweka to Tokaanu, which is also one of the principal roads of the country, further metalling has been done, a bridge rebuilt over the Hautapu, and the whole length of road kept in repair. As the traffic is increasing rapidly on this line, the metalling should be pushed on. This road is the main thoroughfare through this part of the North Island, and passes through a district where more new settlement has taken place within the last few years than any other.

The works in the Wellington Road District have consisted principally in what may be termed "settlement roads" rather than main roads, and a very large amount of work has been done in extension of previously formed roads and in the forming of new ones. The generally small size of the holdings in parts of this district entails a very large proportion of road to the total acreage. Much of the country is also subject to slips, which are a constant source of expense. The Alfredton–Weber Road is an example of this. This road is now formed as a cart-road throughout, but requires metalling in places, in order to carry the traffic of a considerable number of settlers. For information as to the large number of roadworks carried out in this district, reference must be made to Captain Turner's report in the Appendix hereto.

In addition to many useful works in connection with settlement roads in the Nelson District, the department has continued to maintain the Belgrove–Westport–Reefton Road, on which many bridges have been repaired and renewed, and, in places, the road widened. The Buller River is being bridged at Mangles, on a branch line from this road, but, owing to difficulties as to obtaining the timber from Australia, the progress has been slow.

The principal work in Marlborough—in addition to numerous settlement roads—has been the continuation of the Cheviot–Kaikoura Road, which is now in process of formation round the Kahutara Bluff, where the works are very heavy, entailing in one place a tunnel of 56 yards in length. On completion right through this will become one of the main roads of the colony.

Maintenance of existing main roads has been the principal work in the Westland District, which includes the Hokitika–Christchurch and the Reefton–Hokitika–Ross Roads, on both of which a great deal of work has been done, besides the extension and formation of short lengths of other roads, and also of bridges.

In Canterbury the maintenance of part of the Hokitika–Christchurch Road and roads leading to Mount Cook have been the principal works undertaken. Works have also been in hand in connection with some of the estates acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts.

In Otago the works have consisted principally in the improvement of the main road Catlin's–Waikawa, and of settlement roads in that neighbourhood. It is important that the above road should be metalled throughout, as it is one of the main roads of the colony, and leads through a district where a great deal of settlement has taken place during the last few years.

Of the considerable number of works carried out in Southland, either by the department or the local authorities under Government grants, the most important, from the colonial point of view, is the suspension-bridge over the Waiau River, which was built by contract under Mr. Howorth's direction. The span is 366 ft., with a width of roadway of 12 ft. The cost of the bridge was £5,468, without inspection, &c., and it is a handsome structure, as will be seen from the picture given in the Appendix. It affords ready means of access to a large stretch of country on the west side of the Waiau, a river that is one of the most impassable in the country.

The following is a return of the number of men employed on co-operative works during the year:—

RETURN of CO-OPERATIVE and other LABOURERS employed by the LANDS AND SURVEY DEPARTMENT on works for the Year ended 31st March, 1899, showing Average per Month for each District, and Average for the Year ended 31st March.

District.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	Average.
Auckland ..	366	376	399	424	412	387	376	379	332	244	329	336	363
Taranaki ..	224	269	309	346	352	307	283	245	182	112	126	143	241
Hawke's Bay ..	137	167	230	244	281	307	305	289	204	153	176	196	224
Wellington ..	518	482	508	570	621	622	618	513	462	450	429	447	520
Marlborough ..	75	71	60	56	56	59	101	105	15	13	16	13	53
Nelson ..	6	..	..	1	6	3	9	3	..	..	9	15	6
Westland ..	26	36	30	21	12	12	14	15	18	23	39	53	25
Canterbury ..	2	..	..	18	16	10	10	9	9	11	23	24	13
Otago ..	122	99	80	88	88	90	99	93	139	109	132	73	101
Southland ..	66	53	47	58	77	85	62	49	38	45	78	71	61
Nurseries ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	26	23	25
Totals ..	1,542	1,553	1,663	1,826	1,921	1,882	1,877	1,700	1,399	1,185	1,383	1,394	1,632

Average for the year, 1,632.

HEAD OFFICE.

MAPS, ETC.

Mr. F. W. FLANAGAN, Chief Draughtsman, reports:—

The demands on the drawing office continue to increase both in volume and variety of work. Urgent miscellaneous duties which included requisitions from other departments have occasionally taxed the full strength of the staff. While, however, these duties and the routine duties of the office have been satisfactorily performed the publication of the 80-chain maps and the compilation of new county maps have been temporarily delayed. The new ten-mile map of the colony has been proceeded with uninterruptedly, its early publication being regarded as essential. Two, and frequently three, lithographic draughtsmen have been kept fully employed in the photo-litho. office. The demands for "process" illustrations by other departments have now reached that stage when, for the sake of economy and expedition in turning out creditable work, it should be regarded as essential that the photograph to be operated upon be one which will allow of clear reticulation, or, in other words, the photograph must not be a sunlight picture throwing dense shadows. The class of photographs operated upon have been very inferior, necessitating laborious improving in 197 instances.

Under your instructions I inspected the local survey offices at Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill during March, and reported on the draughting branches of each office.

Fifteen new 80-chain maps of survey districts have been published, viz.: Makuri, Cobden, Brighton, Kaiteriteri, Maungatapu, Pakawau, Mawhera-nui, Lyndon, Waimea, and Steeples, compiled and drawn in the district survey offices, and Weber, Totara, Southbridge, Waipori, and Benger, compiled and drawn in the Head Office.

New editions of 80-chain maps of the following districts have been printed and published, viz.: Wairau, Cape, Waitara, Wairaki, Winton, New River, and Taringatura.

The 80-chain map of Wairarapa South County, referred to in last year's report, has been prepared for publication in four sheets. This map contains fifteen survey districts, and, although primarily a county map, the data is sufficiently reliable to admit of the districts being accepted as preparatory to the issue of maps of each district separately.

The following 80-chain district maps are in hand and nearly completed, viz.: Oparara, French Pass, Kawatiri, Inangahua, Ellesmere, Akaroa, Hutt, Fighting Hill, Rolleston, Okain's, Pourerere, and Blackhead, and the nine districts comprised in the Counties of Wairarapa North, Eketahuna, and Akitio.

The maps of towns and villages published include Toka-anu, Huiakama, Whangamomona, Taihape, Raetihi, Mangamingi, Mangaweka, Mangawhararíki, Reefton, Morven, Opawa, Alexandra, Kelso, Ranfurly, Komako, Waikouaiti, Niagara, Limehills, and Winton.

The miscellaneous maps published include Kermadec Islands, tourist map of City of Auckland, and 188 maps in three colours for the Tourist Guides.

The ten-mile map of New Zealand, which has been under preparation for twelve months, is well advanced. The Middle Island portion will probably be completed in September next. The North Island sheet contains all of the data in pencil, and Mr. Wilson undertakes to finish the writing in six months. The maps should be ready for photo-lithographing in April, 1900. Concurrently with the map just mentioned, the school map of New Zealand is proceeding. This map is nearly completed. It is held in abeyance at present owing to pressure of other work.

A very large amount of drawing and photo-lithographing has been done as usual for other departments. There have been printed for the Mines Department 1,000 copies of fifty-one "process" illustrations for the *Mines Record*, 11,000 copies of map of New Zealand in three colours, 1,000 copies of Geological Map of New Zealand, and 92,300 copies of various diagrams; for the Year-book 5,000 copies of four "process" illustrations, and 5,000 copies of six diagrams in four colours; for the Railway Department 2,000 copies of seven "process" illustrations, and 58,100 maps in three colours for Railway Time-table; for the Government Insurance Department 6,000 policy forms; for the Telegraph Department 5,420 copies of map showing telegraph- and telephone-lines in two printings; for the Agricultural Department 7,500 copies of statistical diagram in four printings, and 17,350 copies of agricultural statistics; for Police Commission 3,900 copies of map showing police districts of the colony in three colours; for the Public Works Department 3,900 copies of maps of North and Middle Islands in five colours, and 2,000 copies of four "process" illustrations; for the Marine Department 1,100 copies of sight-testing diagram in seventeen printings, 1,250 copies of international flag-signals in four printings, 1,650 copies of New Zealand wreck chart in three printings, and 1,650 copies of "process" illustrations of lighthouses; for the Public Trust Office 900 copies of West Coast settlement sections in two printings; for Bureau of Information, London, 10,000 copies of map of New Zealand in three printings; for parliamentary committees 1,425 copies of diagram showing train and steamer routes; for Education Department examination-papers. The compilation and drawing of the work for the railway, telegraph, agricultural, police, Public Trust, parliamentary committee, and education authorities, and for the Year-book, have been performed by the draughtsmen in the Head Office.

The renewal of the 80-chain index county maps has been proceeded with, but it has not been found possible to complete more than the map of Clutha County. The maps of Wanganui, Waitotara, and Waitaki Counties are in hand. The frequent additions of new and the corresponding deletion of old work, in addition to the wear-and-tear occasioned by constant daily use, have rendered many of the old county maps almost too obscure for easy reference. The work of renewal would advance at a more rapid rate if the compilation of 80-chain district maps were carried on with more vigour in the district offices.

The publication of maps and pamphlets relating to the disposal of lands has been given precedence in the work of the office. Two hundred and seventy-one land-sale maps have been prepared, viz.: For Auckland, 71; for Hawke's Bay, 15; for Taranaki, 22; for Wellington, 36; for Marlborough, 17; for Nelson, 8; for Westland, 4; for Canterbury, 33; for Otago, 31; and for Southland, 34. 157,900 copies of these maps have been distributed among the district land offices. Exclusive of the above, pamphlets containing maps, illustrations, and conditions of settlement of the following estates purchased under the Land for Settlements Acts have been published, viz.: Karapiro, Starborough, Waikakahi, Rangiatea, and Pawaho. Reprints of former published land-sale maps on the 80-chain scale to the number of 19,500 copies have been printed, owing to the urgent demands for these prints for county map and correspondence purposes.

For the encouragement of tourist traffic ten "Guides" have been printed, and a first edition of 3,000 copies of each distributed from this office amongst the shipping companies, public libraries, clubs, leading hotels, and newspaper offices throughout Australasia. Copies were also forwarded to the Agent-General, and to the Union Steam Ship Company and to the Railway Department in New Zealand. These "Guides" contain 188 maps and 200 "process" illustrations; 140,000 copies of the former and 85,000 copies of the latter having been printed. Copies of pamphlet on the "Thermal Springs" and "The Resources of New Zealand" have been forwarded to the Agent-General. The distribution of tourist literature from the Head Office has been on a very liberal scale.

Ninety-one schedules and one hundred and forty-three plans for Proclamations under the Public Works Act have been examined.

Sixty-two schedules and sixty-seven plans, for purposes of the Land Act and Land for Settlements Act, have been prepared.

Twenty-six schedules and twenty-six plans for Proclamations under the Loans to Local Bodies Act have been prepared.

For purposes of the Native Land Acts seven schedules and nineteen plans have been prepared.

Eight plans of towns for Governor's approval have been examined.

Sixty-seven schedules of local and public Bills introduced into the House of Representatives have been revised and certified.

Sixty-six descriptions of boundaries for other departments have been written, and the districts coloured off on maps kept for the purpose. These maps are posted up to date weekly.

One hundred and sixty-seven tracings for correspondence and special subjects have been made.

The output of the lithographic office has exceeded that of any previous year. The printing-power was supplemented by a quad crown machine early in the year, otherwise the demands on the office could not have been met. There are now three machines and four hand-presses fully employed. The total number of subjects taken in hand was 1,687, or 240 more than last year; the total number of complete copies printed was 1,142,767, or 242,956 more than last year; and the number of impressions taken was 1,918,125, or 542,484 more than last year. This indicates the heavy pressure of work throughout the year.

For sets-off, corrections and additions, touching up, tinting, and etching 759 lithographic stones have been prepared.

One hundred and ninety-seven photographs have been retouched and improved prior to photographing as "process" illustrations.

Eight wash-drawings of landscape scenery have been made.

The out-turn of work from the photographic gallery by Mr. Ross and assistant, compared with previous years, shows a decline in the number of plates taken, although the work has increased correspondingly with that of the lithographic office. The decline is, however, only in number, for 18 in. by 24 in. and 30 in. by 30 in. plates have superseded the 12 in. by 15 in. plates, thus enabling a larger amount of work to be disposed of, and effecting considerable economy of cost and time. Details of photographing and lithographic printing done during the year are appended. With regard to the internal arrangements of the photographic gallery, the introduction of the electric light for enlargements by lantern, and a reflector, would be very desirable improvements. With the aid of the reflector negatives could be taken in any weather.

Abstract of lithographs printed during the twelve months:—

	Copies.
Head Office...	1,142,767
Auckland Office	5,350
Otago Office	2,400
Total	1,150,517

LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING.

Department.	Printing.				Photographing.			
	Number of Complete Copies printed.		Number of Impressions taken.	Number of Separate Printings.	Number of Plates.	Number of Silver Prints.	Number of Bromides.	Number of Bromide Enlargements.
	By Machine.	By Hand.						
Survey	816,270	34,313	1,343,158	1,677	734	496	50	23
Mines	136,705	840	197,063	120	57	...	...	...
Public Works	15,762	2,339	39,943	237	16	4	...	2
Marine	5,650	1,398	31,698	42	3	...	...	...
Postal	...	210	420	4	...	...	...	...
Telegraph	6,920	362	12,224	15	6	...	...	...
Government Printer ...	1,425	3,706	6,756	7	2	...	...	...
Meteorological	...	100	100	1	...	...	...	...
Public Trust	900	...	1,700	6	...	...	...	...
Premier's	750	148	898	18	6	...	...	...
Registrar-General ...	10,000	22	25,022	7	8	...	...	...
Education	400	10	400	1	2	...	...	...
Agricultural and Stock ...	21,500	12	47,512	13	17	...	...	...
Police...	1,800	...	7,200	4	...	...	...	...
Railway	73,480	42	194,728	28	6	...	...	...
Government Insurance ...	4,000	9	5,009	5	...	...	..	...
Customs	1,000	...	1,000	1	...	...	...	...
Defence	600	1,094	2,294	15	12	...	...	...
Colonial Secretary's ...	...	1,000	1,000	1	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	1,097,162	45,605	1,918,125	2,202	869	500	50	25

Number of subjects taken in hand and printed off, 1,687; number of plate-transfers pulled, 121; number of maps, tracings, and photographs mounted, 1,070.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. W. S. SHORT, Chief Clerk, reports as follows:—

As compared with previous years, there has been a considerable increase in the work. This was partly due to special circumstances, such as correspondence involved in dealing with bush-fires relief, and in the administration of the very large number of road votes intrusted to the department. Apart, however, from these, the correspondence, Proclamations, and formal documents necessarily arising in the administration of land continues to increase, and it would appear that this will probably become greater each year as more Crown land is leased to settlers under present tenures and

additional lands are purchased for settlement under the Land for Settlements and other Acts. It will be seen also that many more Proclamations, Orders in Council, warrants, and other statutory documents relating to roads and bridges have been issued than heretofore, and this has involved increased correspondence with the local bodies interested therein.

There were 19,112 letters received and 16,416 despatched, besides numerous forms, returns, posters, and other printed and written matter.

2,745 new subjects were started in the record books, and twenty-three circulars were issued to officers of the department.

The following Proclamations, Orders in Council, and warrants were issued:—

Land Acts.

Proclamations setting apart village-homestead lands	14
" withdrawing village-homestead lands	1
" setting apart village allotments	3
" setting apart land as small grazing-runs	14
" reserving land as educational endowments	2
" miscellaneous	9
Orders in Council fixing terms and conditions of village-homestead lands	14
" increasing area that may be held in a village-homestead settlement	1
" fixing terms and conditions for village allotments	3
" altering boundaries of land districts	1
" miscellaneous	2
Warrants opening land under Part VI.	89
" of sales of land by auction	40
" temporarily reserving lands	24
" amending description of reserves	3
" permanently reserving lands	14
" miscellaneous	8

State Forests Acts.

Proclamations declaring land to be State forests	8
" withdrawing land from State forests	1

Land for Settlements Act.

Warrants opening lands for selection	5

Cemeteries Act.

Warrants appointing trustees	42

Public Domains Act.

Orders in Council bringing reserves under Act	17
" delegating powers under Act	43

Native Townships Act.

Proclamation amending description of township	1
Order in Council making additional regulations	1

Public Reserves Act.

Orders in Council authorising exchange of reserves	2
" changing purpose of reserves	3
" vesting reserves in local bodies	17
Warrants changing purposes of reserves	12

In respect to roads, bridges, and towns, the following instruments were prepared and issued:—

Public Works Act.

Proclamations for taking roads	32
" vesting control of bridges, &c.	7
Orders in Council: Roads declared county roads, Native land taken for roads, and sale of land	11
Warrants vesting control of roads, and vesting and authorising the construction of bridges	8
Notices of intention to take land for roads	3
Governor's warrants authorising taking and laying off roads through Native lands	20
Surveyor-General's warrants authorising taking and laying off roads through Native lands	4
By-laws regulating traffic on Government roads	4
Commissions revesting control and apportioning cost of maintenance of bridges among local bodies	5

Land Act.

Proclamations opening and closing roads	51
Orders in Council resuming land for public purposes	2
Governor's approval of names and plans of towns	10

Land for Settlements Act.

Proclamations closing roads 3

Government Loans to Local Bodies Acts.

Proclamations setting apart loan areas 35

"Wellington Harbour Board Empowering Act, 1898."

Proclamation taking land for streets and other purposes 1

"Wanganui River Trust Act, 1891."

Order in Council: Power to erect jetties, &c. 1

This makes a grand total of 182 Proclamations, 128 Orders in Council, five commissions, and 286 warrants, &c., issued. There was also a good deal of correspondence and work in connection with claims under the Naval and Military Land Acts, which still continued to be made.

The whole of the grass-seed issued to burnt-out settlers last year was weighed, mixed, and despatched principally under the supervision of an officer acquainted with seeds. The total quantity supplied to the settlers amounted to 270,817 lb., valued at £4,453 10s. The seed was issued to 230 settlers, who gave 532 promissory notes, amounting in all to the sum above mentioned. These promissory notes, after being signed, were forwarded to the Treasury for collection.

Acting on your instructions, I personally inspected the clerical work done in the Christchurch and Dunedin branches of the department; and also held statutory inquiries under the Governor's Commission in respect to the control and maintenance of the Hurunui Greta, Lower Waiau, Apiti, Coalgate, and Glentunnel Bridges, reports upon all of which have already been furnished to you.

The compilation and revision of the annual tables and report of the department, and many other returns and statements required by the General Assembly, now also require great care and time.

ACCOUNTS.

Mr. H. J. KNOWLES, Chief Accountant, reports as follows:—

The number of vouchers authorised for payment, credit, or refund during the year was—

		£	s.	d.
5,911	charged to Lands and Survey vote, covering gross expenditure of ...	133,763	15	10
834	charged to Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous, vote, covering gross expenditure of	16,753	6	1
302	charged to State Forests Account, covering gross expenditure of ...	4,044	3	2
3	charged to Cheviot Estate Expenses vote, covering gross expenditure of ...	113	1	7
105	charged to Land for Settlements Expenses vote, covering gross expenditure of	*3,476	18	2
7	charged to Immigration vote, covering gross expenditure of	508	11	4
9,860	charged to Settlement Roads, Bridges, and Other Public Works vote, covering gross expenditure of	250,421	19	5
685	charged to Government Loans to Local Bodies Account, covering gross expenditure of	16,971	12	3
26	charged to Cheviot Estate Account, covering gross expenditure of ...	16,383	15	5
713	charged to Land for Settlements Account, covering gross expenditure of ...	*518,412	18	1
5	charged to Unauthorised Account, Consolidated Fund, covering gross expenditure of	188	10	6
56	charged to Civil Service Act, and General, covering gross expenditure of...	1,703	14	5
94	charged to Refunds of Revenue, &c., covering gross refund of... ...	27,137	19	10
19	charged to Refunds of Contractors' Deposits, covering gross refund of ...	182	14	6
18,620		£990,063	0	7

Details of the *net* expenditure will be found in the various tables on other pages. In addition, 356 credit vouchers for work done by the department, 579 applications for imprest advances, and about 1,350 outward letters, memoranda, returns, &c., have been dealt with or prepared. The correspondence has been considered, and the necessary action taken in respect of some 6,000 subjects.

Three hundred and eighty-two agreements (prepared in triplicate) have been issued, representing grants to local bodies of £74,798 16s.; and the payments under agreements amounted to £47,977 1s. 2d., including payments under agreements of previous years.

A detailed statement (97 pages) of the expenditure, liabilities, &c., in respect of each of the 1,498 separate appropriations, and a full statement from the commencement of the position of the Government Loans to Local Bodies Account, has been issued within the department quarterly, and the various authority and expenditure registers have been balanced as between themselves, and also with the Treasury books.

A large amount of work has been performed during the year in preparing returns for departmental information, compilation of reports, statements and tables for the last annual report, supplying information daily as to the condition of road and other accounts, preparation of Consolidated Fund, Public Works Fund, and other estimates under the direction of the head of the department, and general supervision of the accounts of the district offices.

* Includes Land for Settlements Department charges.

The comparative statement below shows to some extent how the yearly increase of work in the department affects this branch :—

Year.	Number of Vouchers.	Gross Amount authorised for Payment, Credit, &c.	Number of Appropriations.	Number of Agreements with Local Bodies prepared.	Amount granted to Local Bodies.	Payments to Local Bodies under Agreements.
		£			£	£
1890–91	9,810	152,775	210	80	17,782	Not compiled.
1891–92 (9 months)	8,355	177,903	219	87	23,391	13,448
1892–93	10,676	260,498	252	108	21,568	20,388
1893–94	13,071	353,772	440	181	42,847	22,704
1894–95	14,367	420,531	592	215	52,892	45,302
1895–96	15,422	578,778	682	203	33,761	42,813
1896–97	15,689	711,660	932	248	59,712	32,419
1897–98	17,719	587,422	1,112	228	53,950	55,586
1898–99	18,620	990,063	1,498	382	74,799	47,977

Audit.

Mr. W. G. Runcie, Auditor of Land Revenue, reports as follows :—

I beg to state that the gross receipts for the year have been as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	273,799	7	4
Government loans to local bodies (interest and principal) ...	13,255	17	2
Land for Settlements	38,804	10	2
Cheviot Estate	17,043	8	1
State forests	5,844	6	6
Endowments	15,117	18	4
North Island Main Trunk Railway...	11,282	19	8
Thermal springs	1,351	13	6
Lakes Ellesmere and Forsyth	1,740	8	11
Lands and Survey vote	1,853	15	4
Crown-grant fees	1,228	12	0
Hanmer Sanatorium	796	5	5
Hanmer baths	376	6	2
Miscellaneous	2,649	12	2
	£385,145	0	9

It is satisfactory to know that the territorial revenue exceeds last year's revenue by £10,503 5s. 1d. In the comparative statement (Table 1) you will observe that there has been an increase in territorial revenue in Canterbury, Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Otago, Nelson and Westland, and a falling-off in Marlborough, Wellington, and Southland in the order named, leaving an increase of £10,503 5s. 1d. Besides the increase above mentioned, there has been a substantial swelling of receipts all round, notably under the heading of "Land for Settlements," seven new estates having been added during the year to the number already rent-producing.

Table No. 2 is a comparative statement of the gross revenue for the years 1897–98 and 1898–99. There has been included in this year's gross revenue the receipts from the Hanmer Plains Sanatorium and baths, the increase in favour of this year's transactions being £26,058 7s.

Table No. 1.—Comparative Statement of Territorial Revenue for Years 1897–98 and 1898–99.

Land District.	1897–98.	1898–99.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	30,889 19 2	29,182 2 0	...	1,707 17 2
Taranaki	21,407 12 5	26,066 14 10	4,659 2 5	...
Hawke's Bay	14,512 16 1	17,765 18 2	3,253 2 1	...
Wellington	49,284 8 4	48,751 3 10	...	533 4 6
Marlborough	13,689 16 7	9,903 18 11	...	3,785 17 8
Nelson	15,134 11 4	15,553 16 2	419 4 10	...
Westland	1,159 18 1	1,313 4 10	153 6 9	...
Canterbury	47,503 4 6	54,518 13 4	7,015 8 10	...
Otago	55,286 13 10	56,525 6 3	1,238 12 5	...
Southland	14,427 1 11	14,218 9 0	...	208 12 11
	263,296 2 3	273,799 7 4	16,738 17 4	6,235 12 3
	...	263,296 2 3	6,235 12 3	...
Increase for 1898–99 ...	...	10,503 5 1	10,503 5 1	...

TABLE No. 2.—Comparative Statement of Gross Revenue for Years 1897–98 and 1898–99.

Land District.	1897–98.			1898–99.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	263,296	2	3	273,799	7	4	10,503	5	1	...		
Land for settlements	27,667	0	10	38,804	10	2	11,137	9	4	...		
Cheviot	16,277	0	7	17,043	8	1	766	7	6	...		
State forests	10,995	13	1	5,844	6	6	...			5,151	6	7
North Island Main Trunk Railway	5,174	6	7	11,282	19	8	6,108	13	1	...		
Lakes Ellesmere and Forsyth ...	1,642	5	8	1,740	8	11	98	3	3	...		
Thermal springs	901	3	3	1,351	13	6	450	10	3	...		
Hanmer Plains baths ...	...			376	6	2	376	6	2	...		
Hanmer Sanatorium	...			796	5	5	796	5	5	...		
Survey vote	3,744	12	5	1,853	15	4	...			1,890	17	1
Crown grant fees	1,109	13	2	1,228	12	0	118	18	10	...		
Miscellaneous	1,870	3	7	2,649	12	2	779	8	7	...		
	332,678	1	5	356,771	5	2	31,135	7	6	7,042	3	8
Government loans to local bodies	10,742	1	1	13,255	17	2	2,513	16	1	...		
Endowments...	15,666	11	3	15,117	18	4	..			548	12	11
	359,086	13	9	385,145	0	9	33,649	3	7	7,590	16	7
	...			359,086	13	9	9,590	16	7	...		
Increase for year 1898–99 ...	...			26,058	7	0	26,058	7	0	...		

The balances at credit in the various Receivers of Land Revenues' Ordinary Deposit Accounts were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Auckland	997	0	5
New Plymouth	439	11	6
Napier	284	3	6
Gisborne	314	14	11
Wellington	883	14	6
Blenheim	151	5	11
Nelson	505	0	2
Ahaura	9	9	0
Reefton	44	19	0
Westport	28	4	6
Hokitika	30	1	0
Christchurch	45,692	5	4
Dunedin	669	7	7
Invercargill	1,145	9	2
	£51,195	6	6

I need scarcely state that the reason why the amount at credit in the Christchurch Receiver's account is so large is on account of the disposal of the Waikakahi Estate so near to the end of the financial year, and not sufficient time elapsing to allow it being brought to its normal state by the 31st March.

The balances at credit in the various Receivers' books of "thirds" and "fourths" due local bodies in the under-mentioned land districts were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Auckland	3,731	18	5
Taranaki	4,099	0	2
Hawke's Bay, Napier	4,180	19	6
Wellington	14,096	2	6
Marlborough	150	4	0
Nelson	1,166	16	2
Westland	44	4	4
Canterbury	1,130	4	11
Otago	3,352	1	1
Southland	1,472	7	0
	£33,423	18	11

This is a total increase upon last year of amounts due local bodies of £4,203 15s. 5d. With the exception of Taranaki, where the amount due has decreased, the other offices that have been notably increased are Wellington, Otago, Hawke's Bay, Southland, and Nelson.

During the past year I inspected the following offices—viz., Wellington, New Plymouth, Christchurch, Nelson, Blenheim, Auckland, Invercargill, and Dunedin, and went through the Receiver of Land Revenue's work in each office, and checked 1,383 cash-books, and prepared balance-sheets of their transactions from the date of their previous audits to time of visit, copies of which I furnished you with, also a report upon each office, on my return.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX No. 1.—ADMINISTRATION.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS ON SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED THE 31st MARCH, 1899.

AUCKLAND.

The land transactions and the progress of settlement for the past year have been very successful, as the usual summary appended below will disclose. It is true that the total area selected is not so great as last year by 17,149 acres, simply because the single pastoral run of 50,000 acres which appeared in last year's return brought up the area to a greater volume than this year; yet *bonâ fide* settlement has progressed at a much greater rate, as the following comparisons will show, by taking settlement under the two heads of "occupation with right of purchase" and "lease in perpetuity": Occupation with right of purchase—1897–98, 186 selectors, for 31,993 acres; 1898–99, 205 selectors, for 44,189 acres. Lease in perpetuity—1897–98, 75 selectors, for 16,355 acres; 1898–99, 105 selectors, for 25,702 acres. Showing that 21,543 acres have been selected by forty-nine *bonâ fide* settlers in excess of last year.

The revenue from all sources has exceeded the estimate by £5,000. Of course it is not equal to last year's by some £12,000, but this is entirely owing to the cessation of sales of kauri timber. Last year the revenue from this source was £15,774, whilst for the past year the total timber sales only amounted to £3,672. The ordinary revenue is therefore very much larger than last year's.

Summary of Land Transactions during the Year 1898–99.

Class of Selection.	Transactions during the Year.		Area held on 31st March, 1899.		Revenue received during the Year.
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	
Cash—		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Town	20	41 3 27			
Suburban	16	574 2 35			
Rural	93	11,025 1 24			
Total cash	129	11,642 0 6	...	...	*5,588 17 3
Deferred payment	...	...	168	19,109 2 5	2,096 17 8
Perpetual lease	...	...	648	148,788 1 34	3,724 15 4
Perpetual lease, freehold ...	30	18,547 0 24	...	...	8,378 12 0
Occupation, right of purchase	205	44,188 2 29	1,141	215,855 1 19	3,123 18 11
Lease in perpetuity ...	105	25,702 1 28	634	120,368 0 30	1,714 1 3
Lease in perpetuity under Land for Settlements Act	36	7,927 3 19	98	15,493 2 7	1,499 17 5
Mining districts occupation ...	9	555 0 0	32	1,743 0 1	12 14 0
Agricultural leases ...	...	...	7	625 2 7	...
Village - homestead special settlement	...	...	130	5,334 0 2	404 10 10
Special - settlement associations—					
Deferred payment ...	...	...	6	705 1 3	111 8 10
Perpetual lease ...	...	...	2	100 0 0	6 5 0
Lease in perpetuity ...	...	...	98	17,635 1 0	70 5 0
Improved-farm settlements ...	1	134 0 38	57	5,428 0 10	76 14 6
Homesteads	...	...	20	2,221 0 13	...
Small grazing-runs	...	...	10	58,061 0 0	437 7 6
Pastoral runs	8	5,549 0 0	19	120,460 0 27	56 10 0
Miscellaneous leases, lands for settlement, year-to-year lease	7	151 2 29	7	151 2 29	14 8 6
Miscellaneous leases ...	7	525 0 26	71	2,174 0 6	305 15 1
Timber sold (47 trees and 190	sleepers)	6,269,670 ft.	...	...	3,672 3 8
Tramway, Tokatoka Swamp...	...	...	...	...	151 3 11
Thermal springs	29	87 2 28	215	5,614 0 26	1,351 13 6
Coal	...	47,226 tons	...	...	810 12 0
Tanekaha bark	...	13·26 "	...	...	5 8 6
Other sources	...	...	...	...	1,906 11 2
Total areas, &c. ...	566	115,010 3 27	3,363	739,868 1 19	35,520 11 10
" coal	..	47,226 tons	...	...	...
" timber (47 trees, 190	sleepers)	6,269,670 ft.	...	...	...
" bark	...	13·26 tons	...	...	...

* Not including £150 in scrip.

Survey-fees not included in above received during year for—Cash, £204 12s. 8d.; occupation with right of purchase, £422 15s. 10d.; lease in perpetuity, £297 11s. 8d.; mining districts occupation leases, £85 10s.: total £810 15s. 2d.

The cash sales as noted above, including perpetual leases made freehold, amount to a total of £13,967, or some £2,453 in excess of last year's receipts.

Deferred-payment selectors have decreased to 168, holding 19,019 acres. Forty-eight selectors have acquired the freehold of 5,749 acres, and the forfeitures have been three in number, of 352 acres. There are forty-one selectors in arrears for instalments, amounting to £272.

Perpetual-lease selectors now only number 648, holding 148,788 acres. Thirty selectors have been allowed to acquire the freehold of 18,547 acres. Five selectors, holding 495 acres, have exchanged to other tenures. The forfeitures have been three, for an area of 384 acres, and two surrenders accepted for 208 acres. There are 119 selectors in arrear for rent, owing £839, which is less than last year.

Occupation with Right of Purchase under "Land Act, 1892."—The number of selectors and area leased is greater than for the previous year, as they number 205, holding an area of 44,189 acres, or an average of 215 acres to each selector. The forfeitures have been twenty-two, holding 6,234 acres; the surrenders eight, for 974 acres. There are, however, 161 selectors in arrear with rent, to the amount of £883.

Lease-in-perpetuity selectors also show an increase, as they number 105, leasing 25,702 acres, the average rental per acre being slightly over 5d. The average area held by each selector is nearly 243 acres. The forfeitures number eleven, and the area 3,409 acres. The surrenders are nine in number, the area surrendered being 1,779 acres. Ninety-seven selectors are in arrears with rent, amounting to £458.

Agricultural-lease Lands (within Goldfields.)—There are still only seven selectors, holding 625 acres, but their leases will shortly expire.

Lands held under Lease in Perpetuity acquired under Land for Settlements Acts.—The total number of selectors during the year for this improved class of land amount to thirty-six, and they have leased 7,927 acres, at an average rental of 2s. 8d. per acre.

Township and other Leases under Thermal Springs Act.—Twenty-nine more Rotorua town leases, for a total area of 87 acres, have been let during the year. There are now 215 lessees of this class of land, holding a total of town, suburban, and rural land of 5,614 acres, and paying a rental of £1,452 per annum.

"Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894."—There is an increase this year, as nine selectors have applied, and been granted a total of 555 acres. The total number of this class of selectors within the Hauraki Mining District is thirty-two, holding an area of 1,743 acres, and paying an annual rental of £69.

Village-homestead Special Settlements.—There are only 130 selectors remaining on the books of the department, holding a total of 5,334 acres. Ninety-two are in arrears for rent and interest, amounting to £550 for rent and £869 for interest.

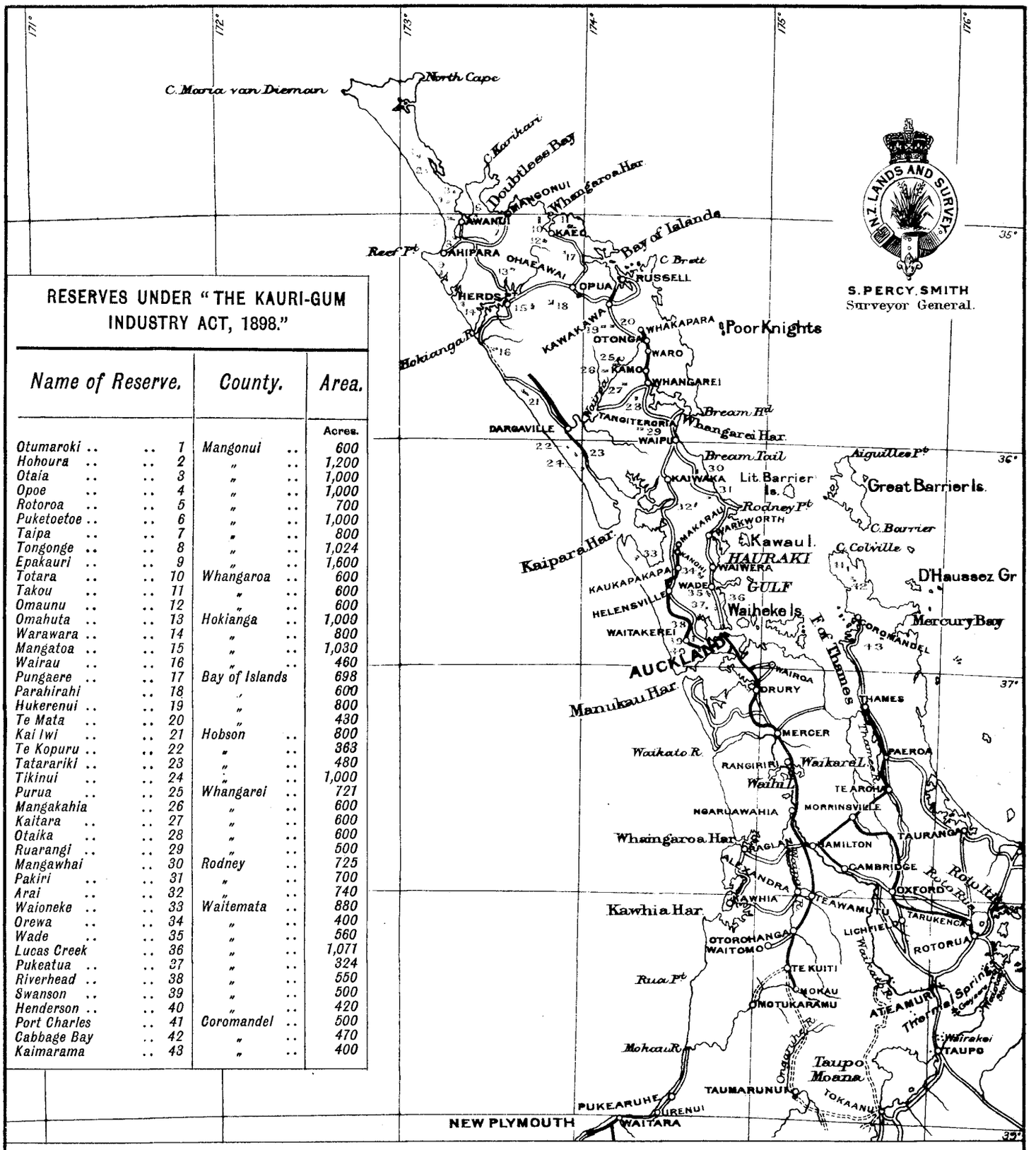
Mr. Ranger Bayly inspected the settlements in December last, and reports as follows: "I cannot, as a whole, report much improvement under this tenure. Some few are doing fairly well, rebuilding and making good improvements, indicating in these cases perpetuity. On the other hand, a few are leaving annually. In other cases the improvements are going back, and in some instances totally disappearing, whilst those settlers who remain are gradually acquiring the abandoned sections contiguous to their holdings. These, with the larger areas, may exist. The gum, upon which so many depend as their principal source of revenue, is becoming scarcer, and has to be travelled for a long distance. This induces many to throw up their holdings and take their families to the fields. But undoubtedly the great drawback to these settlements is the want of a local market for small produce; and were it not for casual and other public works matters would be very much worse than they are."

Special Settlements North of Auckland, consisting of the Auckland, Marlborough, and Avoca: I need only report generally this year that, being all heavy forest country, they are progressing but slowly as a whole. The four years' exemption from residence expires this year, and up to the present time very little more improvements than are actually required by law have been effected on most of the sections, and I fear that when residence becomes a necessity, or when the improvements for six years are due, not many of the original selectors will be left. There are no dairy factories or creameries established anywhere near them, nor any local market for produce except stock, and these are so low in price as to return hardly any profit to the breeder.

Special Settlements South of Auckland.—Tuakau and Gordon: The selectors in these two settlements have now, with two exceptions, acquired the freehold of their lands. Both are successful, and both have now practically passed out of the category of special settlements.

Papamoa Nos. 1 and 2 (near Tauranga): I have nothing to add to my remarks of last year. The same number of settlers mentioned as resident last year are the only members on the land this year—viz., three on No. 1 and one on No. 2 Settlement. In the Papamoa No. 2 the Land Board have forfeited the holdings of four selectors for making no attempt at settlement or improvement. These four held an area of 606 acres.

Inspection by Crown Rangers.—The total number of inspections made by the Rangers amount to 662, covering an area of 76,636 acres. Of these, 472 properties were inspected by Ranger Bayly, and 190 by Ranger H. S. Wilson. Improvements to the value of £26,722 should have been effected upon the 662 properties. The actual value disclosed by the inspections amounted to £72,486. Mr. Bayly reports that it is estimated that not more than 5,000 acres of bush have been felled for grassing during the past year, owing probably to the low price of cattle; and also that farmers have been growing more cereal and root crops, and this cannot be done on land where the stumps are still standing. Another reason which may fairly be adduced is that the estates opened under the lands-for-settlement conditions have offered to settlers lands already under cultivation, thus saving them the heavy labour and expense of bushfelling.



S. PERCY SMITH
Surveyor General.

RESERVES UNDER "THE KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY ACT, 1898."

Name of Reserve.		County.	Area.
			Acres.
Otumaroki	1	Mangonui ..	600
Hohoura	2	" ..	1,200
Otaia	3	" ..	1,000
Opoe	4	" ..	1,000
Rotoroa	5	" ..	700
Puketoetoe	6	" ..	1,000
Taipa	7	" ..	800
Tongonge	8	" ..	1,024
Epakauri	9	" ..	1,600
Totara	10	Whangaroa ..	600
Takou	11	" ..	600
Omaunu	12	" ..	600
Omahuta	13	Hokianga ..	1,000
Warawara	14	" ..	800
Mangatoa	15	" ..	1,030
Wairau	16	" ..	460
Pungaere	17	Bay of Islands	698
Parahirahi ..	18	"	600
Hukerenui	19	"	800
Te Mata	20	"	430
Kai Iwi	21	Hobson ..	800
Te Kopuru	22	" ..	363
Tatarariki	23	" ..	480
Tikinui	24	" ..	1,000
Purua	25	Whangarei ..	721
Mangakahia ..	26	" ..	600
Kaitara	27	" ..	600
Otaika	28	" ..	600
Ruarangi	29	" ..	500
Mangawhai ..	30	Rodney ..	725
Pakiri	31	" ..	700
Arai	32	" ..	740
Waioneke	33	Waitemata ..	880
Orewa	34	" ..	400
Wade	35	" ..	560
Lucas Creek ..	36	" ..	1,071
Pukeatua	37	" ..	324
Riverhead	38	" ..	550
Swanson	39	" ..	500
Henderson	40	" ..	420
Port Charles ..	41	Coromandel ..	500
Cabbage Bay ..	42	" ..	470
Kaimarama ..	43	" ..	400

MAP SHOWING
KAURI-GUM RESERVES.
AUCKLAND, N.Z.

UNDER "THE KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY ACT, 1898."

MARCH 31ST, 1899.

Scale: 40 Miles to an Inch

Note: Numbers of Reserves on Schedule correspond with those on Plan

Photo-Lithographed at the Head Office, Department of Lands and Survey Wellington, N.Z. June 1899.
F.W. Flanagan, Chief Draughtsman.

Forests—General.—The Crown forests have been under careful supervision during the past year, and Rangers H. S. Wilson and Maxwell report that no fires have taken place in any of the forests under their charge during the year, and gum-diggers have given very little trouble. The large area of State forests reservation, amounting to 7,225 acres, lying on the main watershed between Otamatea and Whangarei Counties, over which fires in the past had so frequently passed as practically to denude it of all timber, has been leased in suitable sections under clause 232 of "The Land Act, 1892," and is being used for grazing purposes by adjoining settlers. Owing to the several sawmill companies having heavy stocks of kauri on hand, very little timber of this kind has been disposed of either from Crown land or State forests. The total sales of timber only amount to £3,672 (against £16,566 for last year), and of this amount only £1,207 is for scorched timber from State forests; and, though the Whangarei Railway has now been extended and opened to the Waiotu River, I do not anticipate any considerable sales of dead timber out of the Puhipuhi Forest during the ensuing year. Ranger D. H. Lusk's whole time has been fully employed in connection with timber matters on Crown lands in the Hauraki Mining District. Amongst other duties he estimated the clumps of kauri timber lying between Te Aroha, Katikati, and Waihi, which turned out to be over 20,000,000 superficial feet. He also surveyed four sawmill areas under the regulations in the same district. Ranger Lusk also made a flying survey of the Te Tipi Block (Crown land), to prevent timber-cutters from encroaching. He also visited and estimated most of the kauri clumps on Crown land in the Thames County, and compiled a forest plan showing the total available amount of kauri timber on Crown land unfettered by timber leases to be about 50,000,000 superficial feet. The Rangers' services were also placed at the disposal of the Land- and Income-tax Department, for purposes of giving evidence as to the value of kauri timber held by various companies and private owners. In the Hauraki district this amounted to 150,000,000 superficial feet still in private hands. Some progress has been made in the reservation of forest areas to act as "sponges" to retain the moisture, as set forth in your report of last year. An area of 7,750 acres in the Tutamoe Survey District, Hokianga County, was gazetted under this heading.

Kauri-gum Reserves under "Kauri-gum Industry Act, 1898."—Immediately this Act (which was passed last session of Parliament) came into force areas in every county in which kauri-gum was known to exist were laid out on the office records, and plans and descriptions prepared for Proclamation. The total area so reserved to date amounts to 41,257 acres, and wherever necessary I intend to have all corners of the reserves marked and flagged within the next few months. The principal counties affected by such reservations are Mongonui, Bay of Islands, and Hokianga.

Expenditure of "Thirds" and "Fourths."—Some ninety schedules have been furnished by local bodies for approval of the Land Board, and, after check, have been passed for payment, amounting to a total of £4,316.

Town Areas.—Only two townships have been subdivided and offered during the past year—viz., Mamaku, for cash sale, on the railway-line near Rotorua; and the Township of Kaimakau, at Kennedy's Bay, under "The Native Township Act, 1895"—the last-named being for lease, but found no purchasers.

Lands for Future Settlement and Disposal.—The area open for immediate selection in the Land Guide totals 598,928 acres, much of it being inferior land, which will come in for close settlement, not only in the future, but is gradually being taken up day by day as the demand occurs. In addition to this there is only about 36,000 acres in the Mongonui County available for future subdivision, the balance of Crown land being all more or less known as gum-land, and operated upon more or less by gum-diggers. In the Bay of Islands and Whangarei Counties there is under 40,000 acres of additional available land; and here I would point out that between Purua, in Whangarei County, and Kaikohe, in the Bay of Islands County, there is over 100,000 acres of unajudicated Native land (most of it of very good quality, and fit for settlement) lying waste and unused, whilst the settlers' sons around Whangarei cannot get land to settle upon. Hokianga and Hobson Counties have about 120,000 acres of Crown land still unsubdivided, and which is nearly all broken forest land, and requires to be roaded before being opened. Most of it is only fit for pastoral purposes, even when the forest is cleared. In Otamatea County the reclamation of the Tokatoka Swamp has produced very satisfactory results; but, as most of the land so drained is covered by a valuable kahikatea or white-pine forest, it is evident that this asset must be realised before the land is available for settlement. I am in hopes that arrangements will be concluded shortly by which this will be done, and some 10,000 acres will then be available for close settlement. The Manukau, Waikato, and Raglan Counties have practically very little Crown land left fit for settlement. The demand in Raglan County is unsatisfied. There is, however, the land known as the Te Akau Run, on the West Coast, which there is some probability of being able to acquire for settlement purposes in the near future. In the Thames and Ohinemuri Counties there are some 80,000 acres of available Crown lands, the greater portion being swamp, and requiring a very extensive drainage scheme to be initiated before the lands can be settled upon. Most probably the best way would be a local Drainage Board, with full powers of rating adjoining lands benefited by the expenditure.

The land most suitable for settlement in the coming and succeeding years is that recently acquired in the so-called "King-country," in Kawhia County, and to which the energies of the department are now being devoted. About 80,000 acres is now being roaded and subdivided into suitable sections, and I hope to have 20,000 opened for settlement by January, or soon after. It must be borne in mind that nearly all this land is covered with heavy forest, and is generally more or less broken by limestone formations, thus making the progress of road exploration and grading necessarily slow if anything like good grades are to be obtained. As this land is served by the Main Trunk Railway line it should meet with a ready demand, and carry shortly a considerable population, more especially if the freight rates are reduced, as proposed. There are still very large

areas of forest Crown lands in the Whakatane County available for selection, and most of it now open as "unsurveyed" land, so that any selector can procure the land immediately he applies. The area is 254,000 acres, but the land, though good, is very broken and difficult of access, and requires a very large expenditure for roads before being really available to would-be settlers.

Lands under Land for Settlements Acts.

Opouriao Estate, Whakatane.—Practically the whole area of this estate is occupied, as there are only two sections without tenants, which were surrendered, and will be selected again directly they are opened. The population now residing upon the estate numbers 199 souls. The season this year so far has been a prosperous one, and the maize yield is estimated at some 80,000 bushels. This, together with wool and other products, should give a gross return of some £8,000 from the estate for the year. At the time of Ranger Bayly's visit in February the establishment of a creamery was mooted, and, if established, will thoroughly insure the success of the settlement.

Okauia Estate (5,920 acres), across the Waihou River from Matamata.—I am glad to say that very few of the sections remain unselected. The area at present under lease is 3,566 acres, held by seven selectors. The area remaining unleased, but which I expect shortly to be taken up, is 1,000 acres 3 roods 30 perches, divided into three sections. The road now being formed into the estate and the repair of the main county road will probably be a further inducement to settlers to select.

Rangiatea Estate (4,004 acres).—I mentioned last year that this estate had just been acquired. It was opened for selection during the year, with the result that 3,101 acres have been selected by seventeen selectors; and of the remaining 753 acres, 521 acres are just about to be taken up, which will leave only 232 acres unselected. The land, though of a light soil, has the advantage of being on the main railway-line to Te Aroha and the Thames.

Karapiro Estate (2,270 acres).—This estate is also a recent purchase (near Cambridge), and directly it was opened for selection, in November, nearly every section was applied for. The area under lease is 2,111 acres, and the balance of two sections will be probably selected very shortly. There are no other estates at present under negotiation for purchase in this district.

GERHARD MUELLER,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

HAWKE'S BAY.

The total area open for sale or selection during the year was 48,737 acres, classified as follows: Under the optional system, 18,552 acres; cash by auction, 2 acres; lease by auction, 336 acres; village lots, 45 acres; and small runs, 29,802 acres.

Summary of Selections.—The total area taken up during the year was 36,964 acres by 117 selectors, lease in perpetuity being the favourite tenure. We have now 767 selectors on our books, an increase of fifty-three over last year, representing an annual rental of £15,553, and an area of 473,130 acres.

Cash Sales.—Five sales have been made, three of them being town sections in Tarawera, Frasertown, and Hampden, one suburban section at Ormondville, and one rural selection in the Tahoraiti district, while an excess of area on a previous selection was also paid for.

Deferred Payments.—Nine licensees have acquired their freeholds over 1,465 acres, leaving seventeen tenants now on our books with 4,658½ acres.

Perpetual Lease.—Thirty selectors have acquired their freeholds over 12,342 acres, and five have exchanged to lease in perpetuity, leaving ninety-one tenants on our books, holding 45,506 acres.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—Thirty-eight selectors have taken up land under this tenure, comprising an area of 13,122½ acres, the land being situated chiefly in the Mangatoro district. Four selectors have forfeited their holdings, leaving 105 tenants with 38,549 acres.

Lease in Perpetuity.—Seventeen selectors have taken up 9,083 acres, situated principally in the Mangatoro district (Ngapaeruru Block), and the Motu district, in Poverty Bay. One selector has forfeited his holding, there now being 139 tenants, with 77,511 acres, in occupation.

Village Settlements.—One selection under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system of 1 acre, and two selections under lease in perpetuity of an area of 11 acres 1 rood 25 perches, have been made, while one section of 2 roods 27 perches was purchased for cash. Two selectors under occupation with right of purchase and two under lease in perpetuity have forfeited their holdings, containing 3¼ acres.

Village Settlements under Section 169 of "The Land Act, 1892."—Under this heading are included sections in the villages of Buckley, Norsewood, Tiniroto, Patutahi, Havelock, Weber, Whetukura, and Motu, the total area being 194 acres, occupied by thirty-three selectors, twenty-two of whom are residing. Improvements to the value of £1,213 have been effected.

Village-homestead Special Settlements.—We have two settlements, Woodville and Puketitiri. At Woodville (100 acres) there are twenty-six selectors, twenty-four of whom are residing with their families, ten being original selectors. Improvements to the value of £3,511 10s. have been effected, the total advances to the settlers remaining unpaid being £482. There has been one forfeiture during the year of a 2-acre section. Woodville is a flourishing settlement, there being twenty-six houses built, with cowsheds, gardens, orchards, &c., and at present there are 101 persons residing, all of whom are in comfortable homes.

At Puketitiri there are four tenants holding 88 acres, all of whom are residing. The advances remaining unpaid amount to £40, whilst improvements to the value of £617 have been made. There have been no forfeitures or surrenders during the year.

Special-settlement Associations.—We have four of these settlements—viz., Waipawa, Dannevirke, Liberal, and Ruahine. The Waipawa and Dannevirke were first taken up in 1886, and fifty-four of the original fifty-eight selectors have now acquired their freeholds over an area of 4,810 acres.

The Liberal Settlement was formed in 1891, and all the original fourteen selectors have either surrendered their leases or have transferred their interests to other settlers, and the surrendered sections have, with one exception, been taken up by other settlers.

The Ruahine Settlement was formed in 1893, and contains 2,400 acres, held by twelve tenants, six of whom are residing, whilst improvements to the value of £3,121 have been effected. Until lately road-access has been difficult, owing to the want of a bridge, but now that it is built access is easy, and more settlers will reside and the settlement flourish.

Improved-farm Settlements.—We have two of these settlements—Waikopiro and Akitio—only two sections of the latter, however, being in this district, most of the settlement being in the Wellington District.

Waikopiro was founded in 1895, when fifteen seletcors were put on 1,771 acres, the country generally being broken forest land, with fair soil. All the settlers are residing, 806 acres having been felled and grassed, and 143 acres felled ready for burning, &c. The settlement is making fair progress, considering that up to the present it has had bad road-access, but now that a bridge is being built over the Manawatu River, if the main road is metalled during the next summer good communication will be established with Ormondville, and the settlement should advance and be flourishing.

Akitio was founded in 1896, and, as before mentioned, only two selectors, holding 145½ acres, are within this land district. They have felled and grassed 69 acres, and felled 33 acres ready for grassing when burnt off. Both tenants are living on their selections.

Small Grazing-runs.—Two have been taken up during the year, of a total area of 11,619 acres, with an annual rental of £91 7s. 6d. We have now fifty-four tenants under this system, holding 150,816 acres, of an annual rental of £1,580 17s. 8d.

Pastoral Licenses.—No transactions have taken place during the year, and we have now sixteen selectors on our books, holding 123,359 acres, at a total rental of £593 3s.

Miscellaneous Leases and Licenses.—Four leases have been issued, of a total area of 336½ acres, at an annual rental of £31 15s. Under this heading we have now seventy-three tenants, with a total area of 5,486½ acres, at an annual rental of £505 7s. 4d. The leases chiefly comprise odd bits of Crown land let from year to year till required for settlement, and small sections leased for short periods, while two of the leases are for copper-mining.

Land acquired under Land for Settlements Acts.

There are seven settlements in Hawke's Bay under the Land for Settlements Acts, viz., Raureka, Elsthorpe, Waimarie, Pouparae, Tomoana, Mahora, and Willows, of a total area of 12,957 acres, 12,260½ of which have been taken up by 139 selectors, at an annual rental of £5,683 17s., leaving 463½ acres unlet and 232½ acres occupied by roads and reserves.

Raureka.—This settlement, which is situated near Hastings and was part of the Frimley Estate, was opened for selection in May, 1896, and has made satisfactory progress. There are twenty selectors, holding 416 acres, at an annual rental of £543 2s., and seventeen of them are residing, representing eighty-four persons. The improvements required under the Act are £543 4s., but these have been effected to the value of £1,821 5s.; 101 acres are in crop, the remainder being in gardens, orchards, and grass.

Elsthorpe.—This is a settlement in the Oero district, and was opened for selection in June, 1896. It has made great progress, there now being thirty-six selectors, holding 9,543 acres, at a rental of £2,302 13s. The improvements required to be made by the Act are £2,082 4s. 6d., but they have been effected to the value of £5,836 17s.; twenty-three houses have been built, and twenty-two of the selectors are residing, there being ninety-two persons living on the estate. 233 acres are down in crop, consisting of oats, rape, potatoes, turnips, mangolds, and carrots, the remainder, with the exception of a few acres in orchards and gardens, being in grass.

Waimarie.—A settlement in the Poverty Bay district near Gisborne. It was opened for selection in September, 1896, and contains eighteen selections, with an area of 425 acres 3 roods, held at a rental of £463. Improvements to the value of £1,413 18s. have been made, whilst fifteen buildings have been erected, and thirteen selectors are now residing on their sections; two others live on adjoining land, and three have to take up residence at once. There are 140 acres under crop of maize, barley, and potatoes; the remainder, with the exception of a few acres in orchards and gardens, being in grass. The live-stock consists of twenty-seven horses, thirty-six cows, 250 sheep, three pigs, and two goats. Seven miles of fencing have been erected, and other improvements made. This settlement is making fair progress, and during the year a grant of £185 has been expended by the Ormond Road Board in forming and metalling 1 mile 18 chains of the road through the settlement. One section forfeited last year has been taken up during the past twelve months.

Pouparae.—A settlement near Gisborne, in Poverty Bay. It was opened for selection in April, 1897, and contains 338 acres, taken up by nine selectors, at an annual rental of £405 8s. The total improvements to date are £786 15s., of which £381 7s. have been effected during the past year. The area under crop is 66 acres of maize and potatoes, while a few acres are in gardens and orchards, and the balance under grass. Three miles and a quarter of fencing have been put up, and eight buildings erected. Five selectors are residing, and the stock consists of fourteen horses, ninety-nine head of cattle, 750 sheep, and twelve pigs, so that the settlement is making steady progress.

Tomoana.—A settlement situated near Hastings and the Tomoana Freezing-works, originally part of the Frimley Estate. It contains 110 acres, and was opened for selection in March, 1898, being taken up by thirteen selectors, at an annual rental of £135 2s. Improvements have been effected to the value of £1,314 15s., as against £67 6s. required by the Act, which shows very satisfactory progress. Nine houses have been built, and eight selectors are already residing, there being thirty-four persons living on the block; 60 acres are down in maize, potatoes, barley, oats, and mangolds, the remainder being in gardens, orchards, and grass.

Mahora.—A settlement adjoining Raureka and Tomoana, being another portion of the Frimley Estate. The land was purchased from Mr. J. N. Williams, and opened for selection on the 22nd March, 1899. It contains 1,134 acres, which were subdivided into thirty-four sections from 6½ to 71 acres in extent. One hundred and sixty-two applications were received, and twenty-seven sections disposed of by the end of the month, with an area of 844 acres and an annual rental of £1,260 1s. 8d. Since the 31st March the remaining sections have all been taken up. From its proximity to Hastings, and having good soil suitable for grain- or fruit-growing, this settlement should make rapid progress.

Willows.—This settlement is situated near Gisborne, in Poverty Bay, and was purchased from the Bank of New Zealand. It contains 775 acres, and was opened for selection in March last. The settlement is divided into twenty-two sections, ranging in area from 20 to 71 acres, and fifty applications were received for them, sixteen allotments being selected, comprising 585 acres, with an annual rental of £573 10s. 4d., while since the 31st March all the remaining sections but one have been taken up. From its favourable position the settlement should flourish.

General.—Taking the settlements generally, they are making satisfactory progress, improvements to the value of £11,173 10s. having been made against £3,358 19s. 6d. required by the Act, this being an excess of £7,814 10s. 6d. over the requirements, showing that the settlers are pushing on with energy which should lead to success.

Revenue.—The total revenue this year is £23,291 3s. 11d., as against £18,507 12s. 6d. last year, showing a satisfactory increase of £4,783 11s. 5d., and being £4,750 over the estimate. The increase is partly accounted for by the large blocks of Crown land put into the market, and also by the large increase of perpetual leases made freehold, no less than £9,023 5s. 10d. being received from the latter source.

Arrears.—Fifteen selectors were in arrears to the amount of £161 2s. 2d., and considering the number of tenants now on our books—viz., 767—and the low price at present obtainable for wool and all farm produce, the amount is very small, and the prompt payment of rents is creditable to the Crown tenants.

Improvements.—We have had only one Ranger in the district this year, who is stationed at Poverty Bay, and have not therefore been able to have many inspections made in the Hawke's Bay portion of the district. Sixty inspections have been made, covering an area of 17,252 acres, principally in Poverty Bay. The total value of improvements effected is £12,972 5s. 6d., as against £5,765 2s. 8d. required by the Land Acts, thus showing that improvements to the value of £7,207 2s. 10d. have been made in excess of what was necessary. Eight selectors are behindhand in their improvements, but not to any extent. I have now, however, made arrangements for the Hawke's Bay portion of the district to be inspected, Mr. Mouat being detailed for this duty, and this next year will see a considerable increase in the number of holdings inspected and reported on.

Land available for Settlement.—We have some 400,000 acres available for settlement, a large portion of this being broken forest country difficult to road. We have, however, 225,023 acres now under survey, which will be thrown open for selection during the year. Of this area, 30,000 acres are in the Waiapu district, 120,000 acres the Crown portion of the Tahora No. 2 Block, 20,500 acres in the Nuhaka No. 2 Block, 20,000 acres being the balance of the Ngapaeruru and Waikopiro Blocks; and 35,023 acres of the Tauwharetoi Block at Hangaroa completes the list.

General.—The past year has been a very satisfactory one in this district, everything showing a steady progress. There is a good demand for suitable country, instanced by the rush we had on the Ngapaeruru sections. The portion offered for selection contained 13,730 acres of broken forest country with fair soil, subdivided into forty sections. For these we received no less than 2,342 applications, which constitutes a record for Hawke's Bay, and, I believe, for the colony. For one section we had 377 applications, and for others 263, 216, and so on, so that the balloting took a considerable time, and it was difficult to accommodate so many applicants, the Courthouse at which the ballot was held being too small to hold them. However, Mr. Jourdain and all the officers employed worked with great energy, and we were able to carry out everything to the satisfaction of the public.

There has been a steady increase in office-work in all branches, we having received and recorded 2,601 applications for land, had an addition to our books of 117 selectors holding 36,964 acres, while the land revenue received was £23,291 3s. 11d. The number of vouchers for expenditure was 2,064, representing a total amount of £53,279 17s. 11d., and in addition vouchers to the amount of £2,590 13s. 11d. were also passed through for payment of accrued revenue to local bodies. There were fifty-three transfers of leases and sixty reports furnished to the Government Advances to Settlers Department, while seventeen meetings of the Land Board were held. The number of letters and telegrams received was 8,833, and the number despatched was 9,325. It will be seen by this that Mr. Bull, the Receiver of Land Revenue, and Mr. Jourdain, the Land Clerk, together with other officers, have had a busy time, and it has been necessary to employ temporary assistance to enable us to get through the work.

ERIC C. GOLD SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

The land transactions for the year ended 31st March, 1899, are shown in the subjoined summary:—

Class of Selection.	Transactions during the Year.		Area held at 31st March, 1899.		Revenue received during the Year.
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Cash	85	416 1 11	...	...	3,487 15 10
Deferred payment ...	1	13 0 0	152	15,546 3 35	1,380 15 4
Deferred payment made freehold	33	5,036 2 29	...	...	2,506 0 5
Perpetual lease	...	...	158	40,324 1 33	2,480 13 1
Perpetual lease made freehold	52	13,748 0 25	...	...	11,956 0 5
Occupation with right of purchase	29	9,131 2 17	140	37,487 2 2	1,959 9 0
Lease in perpetuity ...	34	8,761 0 0	175	47,827 3 2	2,139 0 2
Village settlements—					
Occupation with right of purchase	...	...	17	13 2 0	3 3 0
Lease in perpetuity ...	...	...	9	68 0 8	8 9 11
Special settlements—Lease in perpetuity	..	...	95	18,862 1 5	1,190 16 10
Improved-farm settlements	5	544 3 24	143	11,193 3 13	755 1 9
Small grazing-runs ...	...	...	14	14,043 0 0	153 18 6
Miscellaneous leases ...	8	15 3 0	86	971 2 14	228 12 9
Survey-fees	...	...	...	...	95 14 8
Lease, &c., fees	...	...	...	...	180 10 0 6 1 5
Crown-grant fees	...	...	...	...	171 17 5
Totals	247	37,667 1 26	989	186,338 3 32	28,704 0 6
Endowments	1	720 0 0	16	8,021 2 14	405 13 4
Gross totals ...	248	38,387 1 26	1,005	194,360 2 6	29,109 13 10

Lands offered and disposed of during Year.—More than twice the area of land has been offered for selection this year as compared with that of the previous year, but there is only an increase of 2,000 acres in the selections, or about one-third of the area put into the market. A great portion of the land opened and as yet unselected is comprised in the Taumatamahoe Block, adjacent to the future coach-road, Stratford to Auckland. Another large area of unselected land lies at the back of Waverley. None of the small grazing-runs put in the market have been applied for. Some sixteen sections were surrendered under section 159 of "The Land Act, 1892," and eleven of them have been reselected during the year. A very successful sale of lands for cash by public auction was held at Stratford in October last, when, out of 311 sections in the Towns of Stratford, Whangamomona, the villages and suburbs of Mangamingi, Huiakama, and a small rural section, 132 of them were sold, some at considerable advances on the upset prices.

Deferred-payment Lands.—There has been a great shrinkage in the areas converted to freehold, to the extent of one-third of the previous year's transactions. The amount received from this source is £2,506, or less than half the amount received last year. One selector added 13 acres to his present holding under section 114 of the Act of 1892.

Perpetual-lease Lands.—The conversions to freehold under this heading show a great increase, equal to about one-half more than last year's figures.

Occupation with Right of Purchase Lands.—Although the number of selectors is not so great as last year by two, the area is more by 1,481 acres. Forfeitures and surrenders have increased by three only.

Lease in Perpetuity.—There were three selectors more than last year, and a slight increase in area of 572 acres. The number of forfeitures and surrenders decreased by three. One selector divided his holding, thus bringing an additional selector on the books.

Village-settlement Lands.—There have been no dealings under this heading during the year.

Special Settlements.—In this district these are all held on lease in perpetuity, the number of persons holding being 154 on the 31st March, 1898, the area being 29,654 acres 1 rood 7 perches, and the annual rental payable £1,336 16s. 10d. There were 46 forfeitures, of 9,192 acres and 2 perches, and ten surrenders, of 1,600 acres, reducing the number holding on the 31st March, 1899, to ninety-five, the area to 18,862 acres 1 rood 5 perches, and the annual rental payable to £981 17s. 6d. Forty of the forfeitures were in the Moeawatea Special Settlement, which is in Omona and Taurakawa Survey District, I found upon survey to be too rough for settlement in small areas. The ten surrenders were under section 159 of "The Land Act, 1892," the object being a reduction of

rent. A commission was appointed, which visited and valued the ground and improvements, the result being a reduction in prices. Henceforth any forfeitures or surrenders under the special-settlement system will be dealt with upon their individual merits, and will be comparatively few in number. The number of settlers required to reside is thirty-three, and the number actually resident sixty-four, which discloses a satisfactory progress in settlement made by those who have kept their sections. Forty-eight of the number resident are original holders. The rent paid during the year amounted to £1,190 16s. 10d.

Miscellaneous Leases.—These comprise yearly tenancies of town lands which have not been sold at public auction, and portions of the Eltham–Opunake Railway Reserve.

Revenue.—This shows an increase of £4,955 3s. 6d. on previous year's receipts, and an excess of £7,569 over the estimate, being due to an unexpected large sale of lands for cash, and perpetual leases converted to freehold. The revenue from lands selected on optional conditions has increased by £765 10s. 5d., that from special settlements by £327 13s. 3d., and from improved-farm settlements by £578 19s. 10d.; this last-mentioned increase being occasioned by all except two settlements having become rent-producing on the 1st January, 1898. The total amount creditable to territorial revenue is £26,103 17s. 5d., out of which the local bodies have been credited with £4,640 7s. The amount payable to Government Loans to Local Bodies Account is £2,248 1s. 6d., and the amount payable to North Island Main Trunk Railway Account £84 9s. 6d.

Arrears.—On the 31st March, 1898, there were 106 selectors owing £949 15s. 5d., and this year the number stands at 133 selectors owing £957 14s. 8d., most of these holding under the perpetual-lease, special-settlement, and improved-farm-settlement systems; in the latter, however, the rents have only been payable for practically one year, and a comparison cannot be made.

Lands reserved and alienated under Acts.—These comprised the usual reservations for primary education, forest preservation, school-sites, &c., and the lands alienated comprised closed roads and a few reserves for Natives vested in the Public Trustee under the West Coast Settlement Reserves Act.

Selectors on the Books.—There were 1,121 selectors left on the books at the close of the year ended 31st March, 1898, of which eighty-five were converted to freehold, ninety-five surrendered or forfeited, leaving 941. Twelve of these included the Tawai Improved-farm Settlement in the Auckland Land District, and now appearing under its own heading, thus further reducing the number to 929; while two special settlers transferred to present holders, leaving 927. Add to this the seventy-eight selections during the year, and the result is 1,005 selectors remaining on the books on the 31st March, 1899.

Endowment Lands.—The only selection was one section of the Opaku University Reserve, which was tendered for and obtained at the upset rental of 6d. per acre per annum. Two other sections were tendered for, but the tenders were afterwards withdrawn.

Ranger's Inspections.—101 properties were visited, comprising an area of 30,130 acres, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with improvement conditions. Value of improvements required, £8,466; value of improvements made, £19,711. Out of this number only thirteen were deficient; fifty were resident and fifty-one non-resident, but residence was not due in these latter cases. There were sixty-two further inspections made to see how residence conditions were being complied with, resulting in twenty-three being found resident and thirty-nine non-resident. A great number of these have either since built on their sections or are about to build, and the Land Board has dealt with nearly every case brought under notice. Seventy-four special inspections in various parts of the district were made during the year.

Probable Future of Crown Lands.—The area open for sale or selection at the close of this year was 112,850 acres, mostly second-class land. Of this area there are some 32,000 acres in the Rawhitiroa Block, which were opened as small grazing-runs in October, 1896, and no applications have as yet been received. This land is wholly unfit for settlement, and it is intended to recommend its withdrawal for the purpose of setting it aside as a forest reserve. A large portion of the Taumatamahoe Block—some 16,000 acres—lying adjacent to the Ohura Road, and tapped by side-roads leading on the east side towards the Waitara River, and on the west towards the Tangarakau (a possibly navigable branch of the Wanganui River), were offered during the year, and for which there will be a fair demand as soon as they are opened up by roads. An area of 3,190 acres in the same block opened on the 3rd March, 1898, has nearly all been taken up. A block of 10,276 acres second-class sheep country in the Waitara and Upper Waitara district, and about seven to ten miles from the Urenui Township, opened in December last, has been fairly well inquired after. Out of a block of 11,073 acres in the Opaku and Kapara Survey Districts, adjoining the Wellington Land District, and from eleven to twenty miles from Waverley and Waitotara, only 3,209 acres have been selected, all of it being very rough and broken country. With the completion of the bridge over the Waitara River at Purangi may possibly come a demand for some of the 8,000 acres of forfeited sections in the Milsom, Tanner, and Oxford Special Settlements. The remaining land available for selection, some 38,500 acres, comprises second-class grazing country scattered over the land district, and for which there has been no inquiry ever since the land was opened, this period commencing with the year 1892.

The following blocks are being prepared for notification: 10,025 acres second-class land, Opaku and Kapara Survey Districts; 6,000 acres second-class land, Kapara, Taurakawa, and Omona; 10,000 acres second-class, Omona, Taurakawa, and Mahoe. I do not anticipate much demand for these. Surveys are well advanced of 8,000 acres inland of Hawera and adjacent to the Patea River; 7,000 acres between Mokau Road and Waitara River, Mimi and Upper Waitara Survey Districts; 6,000 acres Mahoe Survey District: all second-class grazing country.

The lands being prepared for settlement are: About 12,000 acres inland of Eltham and Hawera; about 20,000 acres adjacent to the head-waters of the Waitara River, and lying mainly between the Mokau Road (New Plymouth to Auckland) and the Ohura (Stratford to Auckland) Road. These will be for the greater part found upon survey to be second-class lands.

About 10,000 acres of the Maraekowhai Block, recently purchased by the Crown from the Native owners, and to be opened by the Ohura and branch roads, are at present under survey, and will in all probability be competed for, as some of the land is of very good quality, although about sixty miles from Stratford Railway-station.

I would urge, as in former years, the speedy acquisition of Native lands by the Crown, more especially in the Whitianga and the Mohakatino-Parininihi Blocks.

Office-work.—The letters dealt with, inward and outward, numbered 10,660; circulars to selectors and others, about 1,250; applications for land, 228; reports to the Advances Office, 77; cheques drawn, 1,412; vouchers, 1,541; transfers, 83; a subdivision under the Amendment Act of 1895; 2,022 receipts in duplicate, 158 provisional titles in triplicate, 148 cards forwarded to Auditor, the necessary calculations for 125 sections to be notified for selection. On the whole, the year's operations in this branch show only an increase of 874 documents dealt with in comparison with the previous year.

JOHN STRAUCHON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WELLINGTON.

Lands offered and disposed of.—Notwithstanding the increasing scarcity of Crown lands suitable for settlement the following blocks were placed upon the market, with the results indicated:—

Date offered.	Name of Block.	District.	Area offered	Number of Sections selected.	Area disposed of to 31st March, 1899.
May 25, 1898 ...	Raetihi Village Settlement	Makotuku ...	86	7	86
" ...	Taihape "	Ohinewairua	191	7	191
June 8, 1898 ...	Hawaenga "	Hautapu ...	164	4	164
Nov. 22, 1898 ...	Taihape Experimental Farm Block	Ohinewairua	876	9	876
Nov. 23, 1898 ...	Rangiwaea Block	Ngamatea ... Maungakaretu	8,657	19	5,515
Dec. 7, 1898 ...	Mangaweka Village Settlement Extension	Hautapu ...	281	6	281
Jan. 24, 1899 ...	Awarua 2c No. 1 ...	Hautapu ...	3,409	3	1,121
Mar. 29, 1899 ...	Oraukura	Ohinewairua	3,534	12	3,534
" ...	Ruanui	Maungakaretu	1,545	1	362
" ...	White Rock	Kaiwaka ...	1,980	...	...
		Totals ...	20,723	68	12,130

The foregoing were supplemented by opening for selection 40,677 acres, comprising sections scattered throughout the land district, of which 21,800 acres were disposed of. Fortunately the remnants of Crown lands available from the preceding year attracted such attention that 34,409 acres more were disposed of; aggregating 68,339 acres, nearly. To this total must be added the area of deferred payment (7,463 acres) and perpetual-lease land (35,491 acres) made freehold, constituting a grand total of 111,293 acres selected or absolutely alienated from the Crown during the financial year; exclusive of 1,143 acres converted from the perpetual-lease to the lease-in-perpetuity system, as shown in the tables, and exclusive also of forty-seven unregistered improved-farm holdings, of an area of 5,948 acres.

Summary of Land Transactions for 1898–99.—Following the practice of previous years, the statement below is submitted for consideration :—

System.	Transactions during the Year.			Area under Lease at 31st March, 1899.			Revenue received during the Year.
	Number.	Area.		Number.	Area.		
		A. R. P.			A. R. P.		£ s. d.
Cash—							
Rural	12	1,984 3 13		...	...		...
Suburban	30	98 0 2		...	...		...
Town	106	33 0 7		...	...		...
	148	2,115 3 22		...	...		3,734 15 6
Deferred-payment holders...	...	...		29	10,256 2 17		1,685 11 8
Deferred payment made freehold	24	3,548 1 28		...	...		*732 19 1
Perpetual-lease holders ...	1	640 0 0		203	81,601 1 15		5,201 6 11
Perpetual lease made freehold	85	35,481 3 25		...	...		31,685 5 9
Occupation with right of purchase	120	32,106 3 0		493	139,876 0 3		6,752 9 2
Lease in perpetuity ...	87	24,241 2 36		369	106,226 3 14		3,896 17 2
Conversions to lease in perpetuity	3	1,052 0 0					
Village settlement—							
Deferred payment ...	...	...		7	14 0 28		...
Perpetual lease ...	...	...		3	29 1 27		4 15 8
Perpetual lease made freehold	2	9 0 0		...	...		38 0 0
Lease in perpetuity ...	65	1,554 2 33		333	6,397 3 1		†779 2 6
Conversions to village settlement, lease in perpetuity	7	90 2 4					‡127 7 2
Village-homestead special settlement	1	1 3 36		120	1,440 2 26		†280 12 1 ‡155 17 8
Special settlement, deferred payment	...	...		62	6,029 2 15		1,096 7 8
Special settlement, deferred payment made freehold ...	39	3,914 3 4		...	...		
Farm homestead, lease in perpetuity	5	607 1 10		479	88,835 0 15		5,903 3 6
Improved farm	43	2,404 0 36		§124	10,881 2 32		†520 14 4 ‡30 13 6
Small grazing-runs ...	...	...		74	72,284 3 4		1,840 14 8
Pastoral runs	...	...		21	26,791 0 0		186 5 2
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	26	4,483 2 3		79	31,118 0 6		824 11 3 *7 8 3
Land for settlement, lease in perpetuity	13	72 3 31		32	285 1 21		146 12 9
Ditto, miscellaneous ...	...	...		...	...		23 6 0
Native townships	29	109 2 34		44	163 2 1		250 18 10
State forests	...	...		...	...		1,978 19 6
Survey-fees which form part payment for land ...	...	...		...	...		63 3 11
Survey-fees which do not form part payment for land ...	...	...		...	...		1,132 12 5
Other sources	...	...		...	...		1,012 7 7
Total	698	112,435 1 22		2,472	582,231 3 25		70,092 19 8

* Endowment revenue. † Rent. ‡ Interest. § Not including 47 selections balloted for but not registered.

NOTE.—Excluding freeholds under deferred payment and perpetual lease and conversions, the new transactions are reduced to: Number, 538; area selected, 68,338 acres 3 roods 1 perch; the annual rental payable being £3,830 15s. 10d.

The chief points calling for notice in the foregoing statement are that the transactions—698—exceed those of the previous year by 200, made up principally of town and suburban cash sales in Raetihi and Taihape, and the increase in sections on the occupation-with-right-of-purchase, lease-in-perpetuity, and village-settlement systems. The gross area dealt with shows a falling-off of about 7,000 acres compared with the year 1897–98, but the revenue collected increased by £5,621, notwithstanding the fact that 140 holdings on the deferred-payment and perpetual-lease systems were made freeholds. The number of settlers whose names stand on the Land Office registers is 2,472, a net increase of 111. Touching the question of annual revenue, it will be noticed that nearly one-half, £33,680, was derived from the sale of the freeholds of deferred-payment and perpetual-lease holdings. This aid to revenue has been a feature of the transactions for several years past.

It is not possible to estimate with exactness for any one year the probable receipts under the deferred-payment and perpetual-lease systems; but activity in the acquisition of the freehold may be expected during the next few years, when the right lapses, either by extinction of the system or the time-limit fixed by section 150 of "The Land Act, 1885." Other disturbing elements tending to a falling-off in revenue in future years are probable, such as failure in supply of Crown lands suitable for townships, and an expected reduction in miscellaneous receipts.

Before closing this part of the report I wish to draw attention to the summary of applications received for land, which is as follows:—

	Number of Applications received.	Number of Applications approved.
Cash	27	6
Occupation with right of purchase	471	120
Lease in perpetuity	356	92
Lease in perpetuity, land for settlement	14	13
Village homestead, lease in perpetuity	128	65
Perpetual lease	1	1
Village homestead, perpetual lease	1	1
Miscellaneous licenses	37	26
Improved farms	43	43
Native townships	29	29
Totals	1,107	396

The 120 occupation-with-right-of-purchase selections show an increase on the previous year, whilst the selections on the lease-in-perpetuity system, including all subdivisions thereof, amounted to 170. The total of 396 excludes auction cash sales, conversions, deferred-payment and perpetual-lease freeholds, and consequently does not harmonize with the general table, where the figures are given as 698.

This current financial year began with 99,086 acres of Crown lands available for selection, a considerable portion of which, however, is not such as to attract settlers.

For the future, the Crown lands suitable in character and quality, facility of access, position, and moderate elevation for ordinary settlement purposes are not extensive.

The Crown still possesses in the Wellington Land District about 831,235 acres, but after making allowance to give effect to the forest-conservation proposals I had the honour to submit for your consideration on the 13th October last, the balance will be found to embrace generally high, hilly, broken, forest, and scrub-clad country, in most instances remote from existing main lines of communication and centres of population. Moreover, these Crown lands are frequently isolated and shut in by Maori and other freehold properties, and the existence of the latter enhances the difficulties and cost of opening such Crown lands for sale, yet they as a rule benefit vastly in the process, at the cost of the country.

Attention is proposed to be given to surveying and opening for selection the following:—

Class.	Area.	Block.	Locality.
	Acres.		
First and second ...	25,000	Tauakira	Near Athens, Wanganui River.
First	680	Awarua 3D No. 1 ...	Near Taihape.
"	1,120	Ngaurekehu ...	Maungakaretu Survey District.
Second	10,000	Kaiparoro... ...	West of Eketahuna.
		Kaitangata ...	West of Carterton.
		Te Mare	West of Mauriceville.
"	800	Mangapapa ...	Momohaki Survey District.
"	25,000	Retaruke and Kirikau	On Wanganui River, in Retaruke Survey District.
First and second ...	25,000	Waimarino ...	Kaitieke Survey District.
First	922	Oraukura	Near Taihape.
First and second ...	5,000	Rangitatau ...	Nukumaru Survey District.
" ...	5,000	Undisposed-of sections	Throughout the district.

Last year's published schedules of Native lands under negotiation by the Crown include a number of blocks in the Wellington Land District. These should be handed over at as early a date as possible to the Land Department.

Cash Sales.—The 1,984 acres of rural land taken up under this system comprise five selections, of 1,169 acres, opened under the optional system of the Land Act; six lots, aggregating 415 acres, being lands of special value weighted in some instances with valuable timber or improvements; and a 400-acre lot disposed of to an aboriginal native under special legislative power. The thirty suburban lots disposed of resulted chiefly from auction sales at Raetihi and Taihape. The same remark applies to the 106 town lots sold.

Deferred Payment, Rural.—Deducting the twenty-four holdings made freehold last year, there remain on the books twenty-seven holdings of Crown lands, comprising 10,005 acres and 17 perches, and two holdings on the Wanganui Harbour Board Endowment Block, comprising 251 acres 2 roods. I have to report that there were no forfeitures, but one license was converted to the lease-in-perpetuity system (section 150, "Land Act, 1892").

Perpetual Lease, Rural.—The continual drain upon this system caused by purchase of the freehold has reduced the holdings to 203, the area to 81,601, and the annual rental payable to £4,534 19s. 3d. None of the lessees converted to the lease-in-perpetuity system.

Occupation with Right of Purchase, Rural.—The new transactions during the past year are 120 selections, and aggregate 32,106 acres. The number (493), area (139,876 acres), and annual rental (£8,369) of the holdings on the register exceed that of any single system.

Lease in Perpetuity, Rural, Village, &c.—Total area held on the 31st March, 1899: Number of holdings, 1,214; area, 201,745 acres. Annual rental payable, £11,018.

Village Settlement, Deferred Payment.—The sections held on this system stand at the same figure—seven—as last year, and represent the last of the holdings in the Hunterville, Alfredton, Levin, Bunnythorpe, and Marshall Settlements, all the others having been converted to freehold.

Village Settlement, Perpetual Lease.—The holdings under this system, situated in the Levin, Marshall, and Hunterville Settlements, have been reduced by two freehold purchases to three, and the area to 29 acres 1 rood 27 perches.

Village Homestead, Lease in Perpetuity.—The increase in the selections last year raised the total area held under this tenure to 6,398 acres, the number of holdings to 333, and the rental and interest payable to £843. Seven conversions from the perpetual-lease system were effected, apparently with the object of securing reduction in rental by one-fifth.

Village Homestead, Perpetual Lease.—The holdings under this system have fallen from 126 to 120, caused by seven conversions, partly counteracted by one additional selection.

The following summary of the foregoing village settlements is submitted:—

System.	Holdings.	Area.	Annual Rent.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment	7	14 0 28	130 4 5
Perpetual lease	3	29 1 27	3 13 0
Perpetual lease, village homestead	120	1,440 2 26	499 5 2
Lease in perpetuity, village homestead	333	6,397 3 1	843 7 5
Totals	463	7,882 0 2	1,476 10 0

This shows an increase of fifty-three holdings compared with the previous year. To expand this system more land of the quality and other necessary essentials making for success is at present lacking.

Special Settlement Associations.—Deferred payment: By completion of payments on thirty-nine holdings the number of selectors on the register is reduced to sixty-two, comprising 6,029 acres, returning a rental of £226 annually. Lease in perpetuity (farm homestead): These show a falling-off from 521 to 479 holdings, the reduction being accounted for by forty-seven forfeitures, counteracted by five fresh selections.

Improved Farms.—124 holdings are on the register, an increase of thirty-two compared with the year 1897–98. These figures do not take into account forty-seven lots which have been balloted but not yet finally allotted.

This helpful system has been utilised in the Wellington Land District to the utmost, and would have been applied still further but for the lack of land adapted by quality and position to afford selectors reasonable prospects of success. As it is, many of the holdings fall short of the recognised requisites to afford the selectors all the advantages proposed under this system. Here, as in other walks of life, ultimate success or failure depends mainly upon the industry, capability, energy, and thrift of the individual.

Small Grazing-runs.—These holdings have fallen from seventy-seven to seventy-four. The difference is accounted for by one forfeiture and two conversions to lease in perpetuity. There were no fresh selections under this system last year. The provision of "The Land Act, 1892," section 160, induced several lessees under this system to apply to the Land Board to be allowed to convert from the present twenty-one-years lease to a lease in perpetuity (999 years). It was contended in one instance that the conversion was a right, and should be granted by the Board at 4 per cent. on the original price under small-grazing-run system, and not upon a revaluation to ascertain the present unimproved value of the holding. Another question raised was the classification of such lands, which determines whether 640 acres or 2,000 acres is to be the maximum area to be included in the proposed lease under the perpetuity system. The following principles were submitted for discussion at the Land Board meetings: (1.) The conversion of a lease under the small-grazing-run system to one under the lease-in-perpetuity system is absolutely at the discretion of the Land Board. (2.) Such conversion only to be allowed in cases where the Land Board were of opinion that the lands were not likely to be required on the termination of the twenty-one-years lease for general settlement purposes, as provided by section 209 of "The Land Act, 1885." (3.) If approved, the conversion only to be allowed conditionally upon a definite revaluation to determine the present unimproved value and the future fair rental of the holding to be held under a fresh lease for 999 years. These principles and conditions are held to be equitable, and in accordance with the Land Acts, and to conserve the interests of the Crown, and consequently of the public.

Pastoral Runs.—The licenses under this system suffered a reduction—twenty-two to twenty-one. There were no fresh leases granted during the year. The falling-off was due to one run being transferred to the control of the Auckland Land Board.

Miscellaneous Leases and Licenses.—These were increased by twenty-six, and now comprise seventy-nine, an area of 31,118 acres and 6 perches, and brought in £831 19s. 6d. during the year. This satisfactory extension of the system is due to efforts to utilise the multitude of reserves and Crown sections scattered throughout the land district.

Native Townships under the Provisions of "The Native Townships Act, 1895."—The Pipiriki Township, on the Wanganui River, was established on the 27th July, 1897. Up to the 31st March last the sections disposed of amounted to sixty-five, the area being 189 acres and 6 perches; but, owing to abandonment of leases, the number actually held is thirty-two, and the area 54 acres 3 roods 19 perches. The Tokaanu Township, situated at the south-western corner of Lake Taupo, and including the celebrated thermal springs, was opened for sale at Tokaanu on the 7th June, 1898. Of the 154 lots, of an area of 198 acres, comprising the township, forty-two lots, of a gross area of 92 acres, were disposed of; the balance was offered for sale in Wellington on the 8th of last February, but only three lots, containing 1 acre 2 roods, were quitted. The result is that the leases disposed of comprise forty-five lots, and an area of 108 acres 2 roods 22 perches. The expenses of survey and administration having been made a first charge upon the rentals reduces the annual payments to the Native owners to very small figures; and, as there are 211 registered owners of the Pipiriki Township, holding 1,020 shares, some only owning a quarter-share, several individual dividends amount to an insignificant amount, and considerable difficulty will be experienced by the Commissioner of Crown Lands in finding the owners, and paying each his rental. A third township —that of Potaka—is about to be established. It is situated on the North Island Main Trunk Railway, near Taihape.

Forest Conservation.—The Land Board had this subject frequently under consideration, and, with the concurrence of the members, I drew up a report, compiled schedules illustrated by a plan, which were submitted for your consideration on the 13th October, 1898. The report was also laid before the Land Board. In substance it dealt with the following points: (1) The area of the Crown lands in the Wellington Land District; (2) the area of forest lands already conserved; (3) the insufficiency of existing reservations; (4) objects generally of forest conservation; (5) proposed resumption or acquisition of forest lands; (6) proposals for systematic and general conservation of forests in the Wellington District, and especially the localities and areas thereof; (7) the general objects to be kept in view; (8) objections and difficulties to be overcome; (9) necessary precautions to be taken, &c.; (10) the financial and general aspect of the proposals. The Board were pleased to give a general approval to the whole scheme, and desire to arouse public interest in order that prompt steps may be taken to deal with the whole subject in a wise and practical manner.

Forfeitures.—The Land Board, after full consideration, reluctantly forfeited the interests of 118 selectors, chiefly amongst the special settlements and the lease-in-perpetuity settlements. The principal causes were accumulation of arrears, reluctance to expend money in effecting improvements upon rough, remote, inaccessible, or unattractive holdings. Full inquiry was made in each case, the forfeiture frequently being made with the concurrence of the tenant.

Surrenders.—The five surrenders comprise three cases in which the selectors, finding their selections unsuitable, were allowed to abandon them, and two reserve licenses relinquished by the holders.

Arrears.—There were 131 defaulters in this respect who were indebted to the Crown for at least the preceding half-year's rent; their holdings comprise 31,260 acres, and the amount due was £1,594 0s. 2d., which represents about one-nineteenth of the total annual rental. This shows relatively a more satisfactory financial position than in previous years. The chief items making up the amount fall upon the special-settlement, occupation-with-right-of-purchase, small grazing-run, lease-in-perpetuity, and perpetual-lease systems. The collection of the annual rental involves an immense amount of correspondence. By order of the Land Board notice after notice has to be sent to many of the tenants, and even threats of forfeiture have reluctantly to be resorted to before they can be induced to pay their instalments. During the past year the Board granted extensions of time to 342 tenants, owing £3,269 9s. 8d. In addition to these, a large number of applications for slight extensions of time were granted. Great trouble and inconvenience have resulted from the fact that numbers of tenants neither pay nor reply to the numerous notices issued by the Board.

Revenue.—This subject has already been touched upon, but it may be of interest to mention that it is composed of the following items: Cash sales, £3,734 15s. 6d.; deferred payments made freehold, £1,067 16s. 6d.; perperual lease made freehold, £31,723 5s. 9d.; rentals, £29,172 10s. 8d.; survey-fees, £1,195 16s. 4d.; royalty on timber, £2,163 1s. 4d.; miscellaneous fees and deposits, £1,035 13s. 7d.: total, £70,092 19s. 8d. It is allotted as follows: Territorial revenue, £37,865 6s. 6d.; "thirds" and "fourths," £10,799 13s. 11d.; loans to local bodies, £6,384 14s. 7d.; endowments, £740 7s. 4d.; North Island Main Trunk Railway, £11,198 10s. 2d.; Land for Settlements Account, £169 18s. 9d.; State Forest Account, £1,978 19s. 6d.; Crown grant fees, £291 6s. 6d.; miscellaneous, £413 3s. 7d.; Native Township Account, £250 18s. 10d.: total, £70,092 19s. 8d.

Condition and Progress of Settlements.—During the last financial year the Crown Lands Rangers inspected 875 holdings, comprising 185,544 acres, and report that though only improvements to the value of £44,818 were required at the hands of the selectors, the latter had expended £127,453 in bushfelling, grassing, fencing, building, &c. There were fifty-one defaulters as to improvements, and fifty-two non-residents, who were called upon to explain their non-compliance; they, however, have since complied, or will be compelled to do so. As statutory inspections were not required of numerous settlements it is only possible to report in a general manner in such cases.

Mr. Kavanagh, who is Ranger for North Wairarapa, returns 586 valuations and reports, including twenty-eight deferred-payment and perpetual-lease, twenty-eight occupation-with-right-of-purchase, seventy-four lease-in-perpetuity, thirty-one farm-homestead, and fifty-nine village-homestead holdings, containing a total area of 37,345 acres. The required improvements

amount to £13,882, whereas the value of those effected by the selectors was £29,477, showing a surplus of £15,595. There were only seven defaulters as to residence, and five as to improvements. It will thus be seen that the conditions of the Land Act in these respects have been amply complied with, except in the twelve instances noted; especially is this the case with resident selectors, who have the incentive of improving, embellishing, and making their homes comfortable, and their holdings productive and remunerative. For the great majority of non-residents the time rapidly approaches when they should be living on their holdings. Many find this the crucial test, as they have to relinquish business and occupations in settled districts, and give up other homes. This difficulty has been the cause in the past of so many farm-homestead selectors surrendering or forfeiting their sections. Others have voluntarily taken up the abandoned holdings, and have proved by their personal occupation, improvement, and stocking thereof their thorough fitness for and earnestness in pioneer settlement. A large area of bush has been felled, especially in the Makuri and Mount Cerberus districts. The settlers generally were fortunate in securing good burns, but those on and adjacent to the Puketoi Range were unsatisfactory. Reports to hand state that the holdings which suffered most from the "bush fires" in the summer of 1898 have a luxuriant growth of grass. The past season was wet, and unfavourable for harvesting operations, but, on the other hand, the growth of grass in the Forty-mile Bush districts has been abundant to an unprecedented degree. The output of milk is expected to be a record, and the price of stock more favourable to the settler. With regard to the special and farm-homestead settlements, Mr. Kavanagh's report divides them into two classes—viz.: (1) Those which are situated conveniently to main roads and railways and are well served and opened up by dray-roads; and (2) settlements which are remote from centres of population, and in addition are only accessible by means of indifferent dray-roads or horse-tracks. The settlements in class 1 may be described generally as being examples of industry and thrift, supported and prospering mainly by dairying; whilst class 2 comprises settlers struggling, under great difficulties, drawbacks, and hardships, to bring their holdings into profitable occupation, although they have not as yet received any return for their outlay. The residents on the latter complain of incomplete and indifferent roads, and the inconvenience caused by their absentee neighbours. On the subject of the village settlements in his district, Mr. Kavanagh reports satisfactory progress in Pongaroa, where the local school had to be enlarged; a public hall has also been erected. At Rakaunui also the villagers have improved their extended holdings, and a cheese-factory is contemplated. The Mangaramarama settlers, who engage in dairying, have well-improved holdings and are doing well, only one out of twenty-four being non-resident. In Mangatainoka, twenty-three out of twenty-seven are resident, and as the settlement is contiguous to creameries, railway, and good roads, it is still progressing. At Makuri thirteen villagers out of seventeen are complying satisfactorily, and are actively engaged on their holdings, adjacent farms, and roads. The small villages of Paa Creek, Mangaone, Makairo, Upper Makuri, and Tutaekara are occupied by industrious settlers and their families, but the holdings are rather small. The most important of the villages are those at Pahiatua, comprising seventy-nine holdings and 993 acres, on which all but six selectors are resident; these settlements are splendidly situated adjacent to the railway, main roads, dairy, school, and other public institutions. They combine dairying, fruit-growing, and farming pursuits generally with their trades and other business. These villagers appear axious still to secure the freehold of their lots, and many claim the right to sublet their sections in part or whole.

Mr. Lundius, Ranger for the northern and western districts, has furnished the usual annual reports and returns, showing that he made 483 inspections and special reports, comprising the following holdings: Deferred payment, 3; perpetual lease, 21; small grazing-runs, 2; lease in perpetuity, 54; occupation with right of purchase, 126; farm homestead, 70; village homestead, lease in perpetuity, 69; land for settlements, 28; miscellaneous, 110: total, 483. The gross area of the holdings equal 90,703 acres, upon which the requirements of the Land Act are: Cultivations, 1,679 acres; other improvements, £18,844; which have been largely exceeded owing to the industry and energy of the settlers, who have brought 11,476 acres into cultivation at a cost of £31,606, and erected houses, fencing, &c., to the value of £19,908, representing a total expenditure on improvements of £51,514, and showing a surplus over requirements of £31,323. There were only thirty-two settlers in default as to their improvements, to the extent in all of £852, whilst twenty-nine selectors had not complied with the residential conditions. It should be noted that 167 settlers were actually residing on their holdings, whereas only 104 were required by law to do so. About five-sixths of the defaulters are to be found amongst the occupation-with-right-of-purchase free selectors and the farm-homestead settlers. The Ranger reports that the occupation-with-right-of-purchase and lease-in-perpetuity selectors have made good progress, especially in the Pukeokahu, Hautapu, and Kawatau-Rangitikei districts, where the settlers appear to possess sufficient capital to effect improvements. Large areas of bush were being felled, and this notwithstanding the inevitable delay which has occurred in the opening-up of these districts by roads. The lands taken up in other parts of the northern district under the above systems are reported to have been improved satisfactorily. With regard to the farm-homestead settlements, the reports indicate, as usual, that all those settlements which are remote from centres of population, and labour under the disadvantage of being only served by tracks or partly formed roads, are still in the undeveloped and unremunerative stage. Amongst settlements of this class may be mentioned the Malton, Wanganui United West, Clifton No. 2, Marton Nos. 3 and 4. It is but right to call attention to the fact that in some of these settlements forfeited sections have been allotted to and are occupied by settlers, many of whom have made substantial improvements, and are evidently determined to establish homes in the back country. The Ranger points out, on the other hand, that the farm homesteads which have been opened up to a reasonable extent by roads, and which are situated in the vicinity of dairy factories and creameries, have made excellent progress, and are well established, supporting industrious producers. Under this category fall the Waimarino, Wanganui United East, and Clifton No. 1. A large proportion of the other

settlements have not yet been thoroughly opened up by roads. The present access consists in the main of horse-tracks, only suitable for horse and stock traffic in the summer, and which are almost impracticable in the winter. In the face of these formidable drawbacks, some of the associations have made good progress. Amongst these may be mentioned the Hunterville, Sommerville, Palmerston North Knights of Labour, Stirling, Delaware, Pohangina, and Umutoi Blocks. In reporting on the village settlements the Ranger states that as a whole they continue to make steady progress. Notably is this the case in regard to Horowhenua and Levin, which are splendidly situated, well provided with railway and road access, and other essentials which make for success. Of the more remote settlements, the villagers in the Makohine, Mangaweka, and Rakautoru are gradually improving their holdings. Most of them have the advantage of securing employment on the co-operative railway- and road-works. The Pakihikura and Karewarewa villagers, who are far back from the settled districts, are progressing more slowly. Their holdings are far too small for such a distant locality, and they are compelled to wander about in search of work. In the case of Rewa, where the holdings are also too small, the establishment of a dairy factory will render the holdings more attractive and profitable.

Mr. John McKay, the Acting Crown Lands Ranger in South Wairarapa, reports that in every instance the selectors in his district have complied amply as regards the improvement conditions of the Land Act. He states that the settlers are of a superior class, and deserve great credit for the manner in which they have overcome the difficulties of pioneer settlement.

A full consideration of the Rangers' reports, confirmed by my own inspections and observations, leads to the conclusion that, under ordinarily favourable conditions previously referred to, the settlements in the Wellington District continue to make good progress, and, with the advantages following upon the establishment of dairy factories and creameries, the higher prices lately ruling for stock and wool, they have every prospect of complete success. On the other hand, those settlements which have been started upon distant, inaccessible country, much of it comprising rough forest hills of considerable altitude, subdivided as they are into small holdings, cannot be expected to be highly improved and profitably stocked and occupied until the present disadvantages and drawbacks have been overcome or remedied.

The members of the Land Board have had the advantage during the past year of visiting various portions of the Wellington Land District, and were much impressed with the excellent roads provided in many of the districts. In several instances, however, they found the back-country settlers inadequately served in this respect. It is admitted that well graded and constructed horse-roads suffice in the early days of settlement; but, when the time arrives for the stocking and actual occupation of the holdings by the settlers and their families, it is essential that at least the main road shall be a practicable dray-road.

Lands for Settlement.

Paparangi, near Johnsonville, acquired in terms of the Land for Settlements Act in July, 1897, is the single acquisition by the Crown in this district. The settlement comprises thirty-nine sections, the area being 310 acres and 8 perches. It was thrown open for selection on the 2nd February, 1898. By the 31st March, 1898, nineteen selections, comprising 212 acres 1 rood 30 perches, had been made; thirteen lots, containing 72 acres 3 roods 31 perches, were taken up last year, making the totals thirty-two holdings and 285 acres 1 rood 21 perches. There were three forfeitures during the year; in one case the selector is a South Island resident and never appeared; two others neglected to comply with preliminary conditions. Excluding two sections reserved for the Stock Department, there remained for disposal on the 31st March last eight lots, of an area of 23 acres 3 roods 15 perches, which are gradually going off.

The Ranger's report of the 13th March last shows satisfactory progress; it runs as follows: Twenty-eight sections, with a total area of 267 acres 2 roods 1 perch, have been inspected; twenty settlers with their families (ninety-two souls in all) are residing, and eight settlers are not residing; five of the latter, however, have not held their sections a year, consequently residence is not due; probably when it is due they will comply. There are twenty-two substantial weatherboard houses, valued at £898. The values of six of these houses are slightly below £30; but they are built in such a manner that it is quite evident that the owners intend to add to them (probably as soon as funds will permit). Twenty-two sections are ring-fenced, and three sections are almost ring-fenced. A few sections are subdivided by fences. The total length of fencing erected by settlers on the estate is about 6 miles 52 chains, valued at £343 19s., but, owing to the want of good posts, &c., a large portion of the fencing is below the average standard. On three sections no improvements have been effected, and I was told that the selectors do not intend to retain their holdings.

At the time of inspection there were forty-two head of cattle, seven horses, and six pigs on the estate. Only about 5 acres have been ploughed, and the soil seems to turn up very well. Most of the settlers have dug up small patches of ground for gardens, but they find it almost useless attempting to grow vegetables, owing to the strong winds experienced here, until shelter-trees have grown up. When this is done I feel sure gardening will be a success, as the soil is good, and will gradually improve by working.

The majority of the settlers are labourers possessing limited means. Some are working in Wellington, some at the Ngahauranga freezing-works, some for settlers in the district, and others again are at present in Canterbury harvesting; some are railway porters, platelayers, cabinet-makers, and there is an engineer and a commercial traveller—all leave their families on the land whilst they follow their different occupations. I may mention I only saw three of the settlers on their sections; all the others were away working; but the wives and familes were there. This shows that the settlers are all in employment. I did not hear of any serious complaints; they all spoke cheerfully of the future, and I think they acknowledge and appreciate the benefit of being able to secure a home in a healthy locality and at a moderate rent. My own opinion is that this

settlement is a decided success, and next year I shall be able to furnish you with a still more satisfactory report.

Clerical Branch.

The Chief Clerk reports that the number of letters, &c., received and despatched during the year amounted to 54,167, or an average of about 180 per working-day. This shows an increase of 1,025 over the preceding year, when the numbers were 53,142, and an average of about 177 per day. The number of vouchers passed through the books was 1,025, amounting to £21,770 3s. 7d.; 418 cheques for £2,606 11s. were drawn on the Chief Surveyor's Imprest Account for wages, &c. There are 2,519 selectors holding land on settlement conditions now on the books. This is a slight increase of eighty-five over last year's return, when there were 2,434.

J. W. A. MARCHANT,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

For some years past efforts have been made by the community interested to have the south-eastern part of the district, including Culverden, Waiau, and Hanmer Springs, severed, and administered from Christchurch, both as regards this department and the Deeds Registration and Land Transfer Department. The alteration, which is undoubtedly a desirable one from a settlers' standpoint, as that part of the country is served by the Christchurch railways, and all its interests lie that way, was, as far as it affected this district, made on the 18th January last; but, for departmental reasons, it was found advisable to continue to administer it from Nelson until the end of the financial year, and in the annual returns to treat the districts as unaltered, which has been done. The number of tenants on the books at the present time is 1,435, who hold 1,154,577 acres and 26 perches, as against 1,660, with 1,145,826 acres 2 roods 2 perches, last year—a reduction in number, notwithstanding that there have been 163 selections of all classes, comprising 56,490 acres, during the year. The decrease in the number of tenants is attributable to so very many of the deferred-payment selectors and lessees under the Nelson Leasing Acts having acquired the freeholds during the year, together with the large number of expiries of leases under the Public Reserves Act and licenses under the Land Act.

Cash Sales.—The return shows thirty-five purchasers, of 13,820 acres and 26 perches, four of them being for town lots. The remaining thirty-one are made up of twenty-three on the optional system; five under the old Nelson Leasing Acts, which gave the right to purchase during the period of the lease; and three perpetual leases made freehold. It is somewhat surprising that of the fifty selections made under the optional system during the year, twenty-three were for cash, and the area purchased was the same as the lease in perpetuity and occupation with right of purchase combined. Of the 106 purchasers for cash under the optional system since the coming into force of the Act of 1892, only nine have applied for and obtained Crown grants, these having effected the amount of improvements required by law.

Deferred Payment.—At the end of last year 66,919 acres 3 roods 27 perches was held by 640 licensees, but no less than 149 of them have completed during the year, and one has forfeited; consequently the numbers have been reduced to 490, holding 51,554 acres 3 roods 25 perches; and, as so many are on the eve of completion in the ordinary course, very few will be remaining in three years' time. In addition to the foregoing there are eight deferred-payment holders of endowment lands, with an area of 270 acres 2 roods 36 perches. The single forfeiture during the year was that of a 17-acre section which had been abandoned by the selector, who had made no improvements. Of the 498 licensees under this tenure only one is in arrear with his instalment of rent, to the amount of £3 0s. 6d.

Perpetual Leases.—Three have been made freehold during this year, reducing the number of holdings to thirty-eight, with a total area of 10,087 acres 3 roods 36 perches. Apparently there is no great desire on the part of the lessees to change their tenure by exchange or purchase, for there have been only five such cases since the commencement of the system.

Occupation with Right of Purchase and Lease in Perpetuity.—Preference appears to have been given to the former tenure this year, for there have been twenty selections to seven of the latter. At the end of last year the holdings of each were precisely the same number, but now occupation with right of purchase leads by seventeen. During the year there has been one forfeiture of an occupation license, but in the case of leases in perpetuity there were two surrenders and three forfeitures.

Mining Districts Land Occupation.—There have been eighteen selections during this year, and the total number under this tenure is forty-five, whose holdings average 21 acres. These are restricted to a narrow strip of country within the Buller Coalfields Reserve, along the coast between Granity Creek and Seddonville, at Mokihinui. It is true that of the forty-five selectors about one-third are not residing on their sections; but whilst a few, who will shortly be dealt with by the Land Board, are intentionally evading the Act in this respect, a number of the more recent selectors have not yet had time to fell and burn the forest off a sufficient area to make it safe to build. There is no doubt that the number of holdings under this tenure would have been much greater had the country in the southern part of the district, excepting the restricted area of the Buller Coalfields Reserve, not been barred from the operations of the Act by the Midland Railway reservation.

Village Homestead Special Settlement.—The only settlement of this character, which is at Mokihinui, has slightly retrograded during the past twelve months. In the year 1897–98 the reports showed general improvement, and I can only attribute the present want of progress to the facilities offered by the Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, which have been largely availed of in this locality, there having been as many as thirty-three selectors near Mokihinui. One less section is occupied, there are fewer souls on the land, and the improvements—owing to depreciation on about half of the holdings—have fallen in value from £1,279 to £1,175. Were the coal-mines formerly held by the Mokihinui Coal Company to resume working, this place would very likely revive again.

Pastoral Runs.—The area returned as held under license—viz., 988,586 acres—is practically the same as last year, though the licenses are eight more in number, there having been sixteen new ones and eight expiries.

Westport Colliery Reserve.—This includes the whole of the business part of the Town of Westport, and the revenue received as rents is paid over to the Westport Harbour Board. Last year there were 224 tenants, but the number has been reduced to 201, with an annual rental of £791 5s. 4d. This reserve was originally cut up into town lots and taken up on twenty-one-year leases, but under the provisions of "The Westland and Nelson Coalfields Administration Act 1877 Amendment Act, 1893," the leases could be surrendered, and others for forty-two years substituted, excepting over such portions of the reserve as were formally set apart for railway purposes subsequent to the issue of the first leases. Full advantage has been taken of this privilege, and the present tenants, with one or two exceptions, hold on a forty-two years' term. During the year there have been twenty-nine expiries of old twenty-one-year leases, most of them within the railway reservation, and also eleven cancellations of abandoned leases, no rent having been paid on them for many years. Seventeen forty-two-year leases were issued, nine of which were sold at auction, the remainder in substitution of twenty-one-year leases. When the department took over the administration of the endowment two years ago the books showed considerably over £1,000 of rent in arrear. In last year's report it was stated that the arrears had been reduced to £600; they now stand at £99 5s.

Residence and Improvements.—Through there being no Crown Lands Ranger attached to the district, the inspections have unavoidably been few. The staff surveyors, when opportunity offered, visited and reported on cases, but the great bulk of the holdings have not been inspected this year. Seventy-four properties were visited, and, taken as a whole, the value of the improvements effected were found to be three times the amount required by law, notwithstanding that in nine cases they were deficient. There were twenty-four cases of non-residence—several of them, however, showed good reasons for not living on the land at the time—but, in consequence of the action taken by the Land Board, this state of things has improved since the date of the inspections.

Coal-mines.—The output of the Coalbrookdale and Granity Creek Coal-mines has largely increased, the amount of royalty that was paid being £7,002 19s. 10d., less dead-rent £1,358—*i.e.*, £5,644 19s. 10d. on 208,118 tons. The Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Company has not yet succeeded in getting to work at the mine, as a portion of the railway-bridge over the Grey River was destroyed by a flood just as the work was drawing near completion. On account of the difficulties that have attended the preliminary work—chiefly the construction of a railway from Greymouth to the mine—the Government has permitted the rent owing to date—amounting to £1,780 14s.—to stand in abeyance. At the Mokihinui Mine work is at a standstill. The company went into liquidation a short time ago, and the lease and plant were sold by auction, but £752 arrears of rent have not yet been paid.

Forest Reserves.—Though no considerable extent of country has been set apart for this purpose during the year the matter has not been lost sight of, for a reserve has been made between Wangamoa and Croixelles Harbour; another is about to be proclaimed on the dividing range between Riwaka and Takaka; and it is further intended, as soon as the necessary survey is made, to set apart about thirteen miles of the beautifully wooded range, from 3,000 ft. to 4,000 ft. high, between Maungatapu and the Rai Saddle. The timbered country in this district—for the most part birch—is estimated at about 3,000,000 acres, a large proportion of which is unfit for settlement of any kind. The extensive topographical surveys that have lately been made will afford information for making judicious selections, and it is anticipated that during the coming year large reserves will be made of otherwise useless country (except perhaps for mining), with a view of preserving the forest from destruction.

Arrears.—Of the sum of £2,714 4s. 5d. that appears in Table 28 as arrears due to the Crown owing by seventy-four tenants, not less than £2,532 14s. belongs to the Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Coal Company and Mokihinui Coal Leases, as previously explained. With these exceptions, there has been a general all-round reduction of arrears. As before stated, in the Westport Colliery Reserve alone about £500 has been cleared off, but of the large number of tenants under the ordinary settlement conditions there are only twenty-two in arrear, to the extent of £43.

Revenue.—The revenue of the district from all sources, including royalties on timber cut on the Arnold River, which passed through the Receiver's books at Hokitika, amounted to £25,917 3s. 10d., showing an increase of £3,380 on the previous year. There will, however, be considerably less during the ensuing year, as the rents from runs and other tenures in the Amuri country, now attached to Canterbury, and one run to Marlborough, amount to £2,922 12s. 2d.

THOS. HUMPHRIES,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

The total area open for sale or selection during the year was 195,865 acres, classified as follows: Optional system, 13,566 acres; cash by auction, 4,117 acres; leases by auction and application, 335 acres; pastoral runs, 139,632 acres; small grazing-runs, 17,138 acres; and lease in perpetuity, 21,077 acres.

Summary of Land taken up.—This table shows that 51,824 acres was disposed of, the number of selectors being ninety-seven.

Cash Sales.—5,141 acres was sold for cash to four purchasers, 1,014 acres being sold under the optional system, and 4,127 acres by auction.

Deferred Payments.—One holding, of 72 acres, was converted into freehold during the year. There are now only ten selectors under this tenure, holding an area of 580 acres.

Perpetual Leases.—This table is the same as last year.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—There were nine new selectors during the year, and the area taken up was 3,081 acres. Under this system we have now twenty-six selectors, holding an area of 7,580 acres.

Lease in Perpetuity.—The area taken up this year was 7,432 acres, by twenty-five selectors. The total area now held is 66,355 acres, and the number of selectors 137.

Land under Land for Settlements Acts.

Blind River Estate.—The present season has been the most favourable since 1895-96. The Ranger reports that instead of blighted crops, parched-up pastures, and starving stock, as was the case last year, he found on his last visit that (with a few exceptions, mainly due to inferior cultivation) the grain-crops were good, the root-crops (especially onions) were promising well, and of grass there was everywhere more than the stock could consume. Since the present occupant of the accommodation-house took possession there has been a marked improvement in the conduct of the house—good meals, comfortable beds, and plenty of horse-feed can be obtained at Blenheim charges. The total value of improvements required was £596 10s., and the total value effected £4,201 15s. 6d. All the sections on the estate are now taken up. The following abstract shows the present position of the estate: Dwellings, 16; persons residing, 95; horses, 52; cattle, 46; sheep, 3,557; pigs, 67. Value of buildings, £2,010. Value of fencing, £2,191 15s. 6d. Area cultivated, 1,175 acres. Crops: Wheat—346 acres, 7,823 bushels, value £782 6s.; oats—109 acres, 972 bushels, and 83 tons chaff, value £238 18s.; barley—221 acres, 4,970 bushels, value £750; peas—117 acres, 1,889 bushels, value £379 16s.; beans—2 acres, 20 bushels, value £3; potatoes—10 acres, 58 tons, value £116; onions—34½ acres, 114 tons, value £456: total, £2,726.

Omaka Estate.—Notwithstanding the favourable season, the crops on this estate were light, the greatest yield being 27 bushels per acre, and the average 16½ bushels to the acre. This seems to indicate that portions of the land were overcropped by the previous owner. The total value of improvements required was £589 6s. 8d., and the total value effected £3,987 5s. The present condition of the estate is shown in the following abstract: Dwellings, 12; persons residing, 55; horses, 52; cattle, 36; sheep, 2,513; pigs, 4. Area cultivated, 1,223½ acres. Value of buildings and fencing, £3,348 15s. Crops: Wheat—431 acres, 7,377 bushels, value £737 14s.; oats—210 acres, 2,703 bushels, and 73 tons of chaff, value £348 19s. 6d.; barley—50 acres, 644 bushels, value £96 12s.; peas—19 acres, 216 bushels, value £43 4s.; potatoes—1 acre, 5 tons, value £10: total, £1,236 9s. 6d. Sown grasses, 396 acres; green crops, 117 acres.

Puhipuhi Estate.—This estate is now merged into the Puhipuhi Block, which has recently been subdivided for settlement, and will be offered for selection in May.

Starborough Estate.—This estate is situated on the south bank of the Awatere River, about eighteen miles from Blenheim. Both the main coach-road and the railway now under construction pass through the estate. The total area of the estate as purchased is 35,849 acres. Of this area, 33,691 acres, in fifty allotments, was offered for disposal on the 13th March, as follows: 20,825 acres under lease in perpetuity, 12,531 acres as small grazing-runs, and 335 acres under temporary grazing licenses. All the grazing-runs were taken up at once, as also 18,472 acres of the lease-in-perpetuity sections and 289 acres of the temporary grazing licenses. 131 acres on the estate has been set apart for the Township of Seddon, and will be offered shortly, as also will be 1,006 acres subdivided into suburban allotments, ranging from 46 acres to 169 acres.

Richmond Brook Estate.—Arrangements to acquire this estate have been made, and the survey of it into sections is now in hand. It will be ready to be opened for selection shortly.

Mining Districts Land Occupation Act.—There were not any new transactions this year.

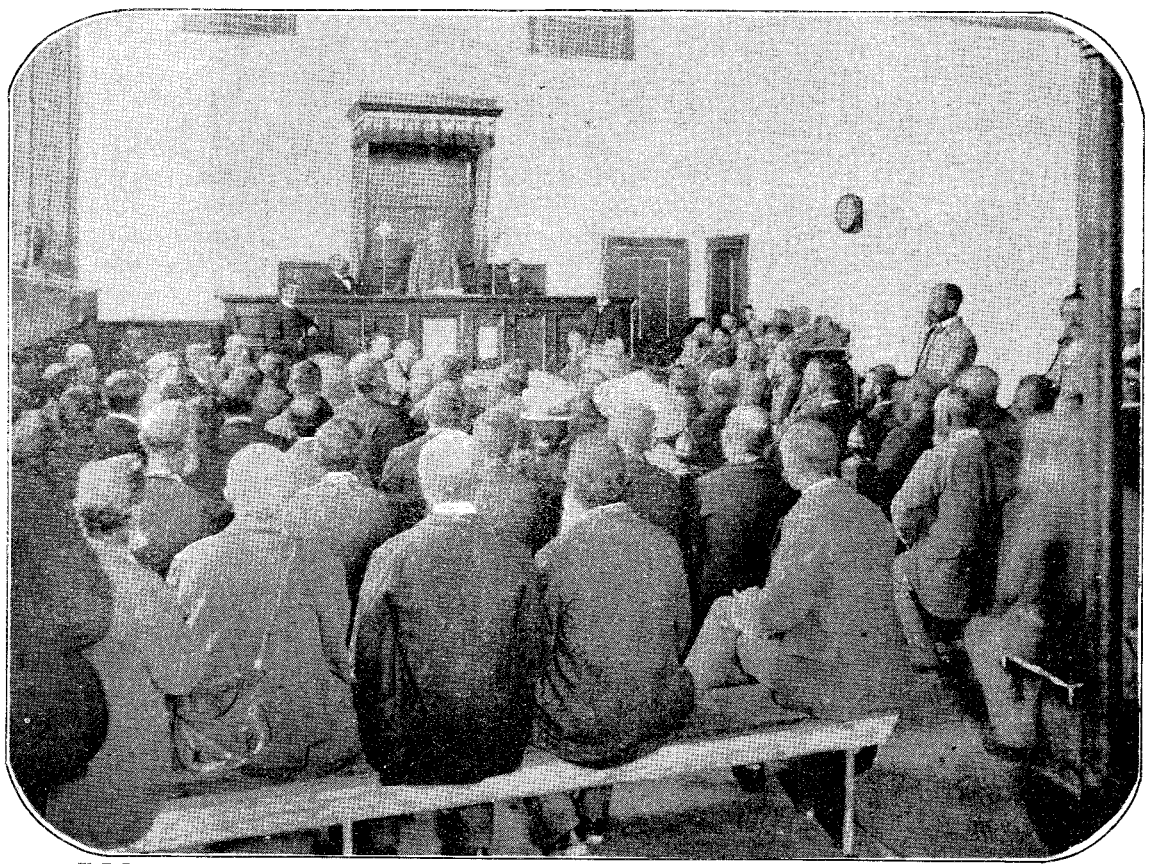
Village-homestead Special Settlements.—This table is also the same as last year as regards the number of holders and area held. Of the fourteen selectors, eleven are resident and three are not. Of the 234 acres held, 186 acres is laid down in pasture or cultivated. The value of improvements is £1,363, and the number of souls is sixty-two.

Small Grazing-runs.—5,166 acres was taken up this year, by four selectors. The total number now holding under this tenure is seventy-six, and the area held is 69,178 acres.

Pastoral Runs.—There were nine runs taken up this year, of an aggregate area of 86,067 acres. One run was forfeited, four have expired, one was surrendered, and three exchanged for leases in perpetuity; the total area of forfeitures, expiries, and surrenders being 46,168 acres. The total area now held is 798,255 acres, and the number of selectors seventy-five.

Miscellaneous Leases.—Three of these leases were issued during the year, one being a timber license, and the other two are reserves.

Revenue.—This was £1,237 less than that collected last year. Under the heading "Cash lands" £3,000 less was received than last year; consequently some of the other tenures show a



W. F. Burgess.

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Ballot for Sections in Starborough Estate.

Held in the Courthouse, Blenheim, 16th March, 1899.

Land under Land for Settlements Act.—(Westland.)

Poerua Estate.—Most of the settlers upon this estate have made good headway in clearing and fencing portions of their holdings, and the locality now assumes a prosperous appearance; eight settlers reside on the land. The crops of grass and turnips came on remarkably well, which will enable the settlers to fatten their stock for market. The selectors are building cottages; but, as all the material for building has to be carted from the Poerua Railway-station, a distance of five miles, along the Bell Hill Road, which at present is partly a 5 ft. horse-track, the work has been delayed. This track has been widened from the railway-station to Deep Creek, and a sum is now in hand to continue the widening, which will be of great benefit to the settlers and others when completed. Most of the settlers have been employed either upon the Government road- or railway-works in the district.

Under the Land for Settlements Act an offer has been made by the Commissioners for an estate in the Kokatahi district, but up to the present no satisfactory arrangements have been come to.

[To face page 19, C.–1

marked increase over last year's figures. The chief increases in revenue are in the items "occupation with right of purchase," "lease in perpetuity," and "small grazing-runs."

Arrears.—Twenty-five selectors are in arrears this year, as against sixteen last year, the amount owing being £824 8s. 6d., as against £486 6s. 9d. Seven of the selectors are small-grazing-run lessees, and the others are selectors on the Blind River and Omaka Estates.

Reserves.—1,051 acres was reserved this year for various purposes, and 11,636 acres was granted under Acts. These latter are lands which have been given by the Land Purchase Board in exchange for other freehold lands.

Selectors on the Books.—These now amount to 505, being an increase of seventy-six over last year's figures.

Lands selected under Sections 114, 115, and 117 of the Act.—Only two selections were made this year, both of them being under section 117 of the Act, the area taken up being 10½ acres.

Rangers' Inspections.—253 properties were visited during the year. The total value of improvements required was £28,137, and the total value effected was £67,478. The number of defaulters was twelve. There was only one defaulter in improvements, the others being for non-residence.

Land for Future Settlement.—The areas to be opened for disposal during the coming year are as follows: 6,764 acres in the Puhipuhi Block, to be disposed of in May. The remainder of this block is now being got ready, and will be offered shortly. The area being prepared for settlement in this part of the district is about 45,000 acres. On the north bank of the Wairau a block of 20,449 acres will be offered in June, the low country under lease in perpetuity and the remainder as small grazing-runs. 2,460 acres in Cloudy Bay and Onamalutu districts is to be sold by auction for cash in April, and a small grazing-run of 3,600 acres, near the Clarence River, will be opened for selection shortly. The unsold sections in the Town of Kaikoura will be offered for sale as soon as they have been repegged. The Clarence Run, containing 123,200 acres, till recently in the occupation of the Assets Realisation Board, is at present unoccupied. Surveyors are at work exploring for a suitable road through this country, with a view to subdividing it into two or more runs. As soon as the Land Board is in possession of the reports the question of dealing with the land to the best advantage will be gone into. In addition to these areas, there will be the usual "spotting" applications in various parts of the district.

C. W. Adams,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

Land open for Selection.—The total area which is open for selection in this district is 77,461 acres.

Cash.—During the year no lands were disposed of for cash, the most of the settlers preferring it under other tenures.

Deferred Payment.—Under this tenure several settlers in special settlement, Teremakau Valley, have acquired their freehold, and arrears have been reduced.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—One selection was made under this heading.

Lease in Perpetuity.—305 acres were taken up under this tenure.

Pastoral Runs.—It will be seen from tables accompanying this report that the area held as above amounts to 605,651 acres, being an increase of 94,663 acres as compared with last year, with a corresponding increase of revenue. A large proportion is under the 219th clause of the Act, this being the only tenure possible while the Midland Railway holds possession. The removal of this restriction will lead to the conversion of these temporary leaseholds into freeholds or leaseholds under one or other of the more permanent systems.

The Crown Lands Ranger reports that during the year he has inspected in South Westland the holdings under the various tenures, which are all doing well, and within the requirements of the Act. He has also inspected and reported to the Land Board on all applications made under the 219th section of the Land Act. These are very much scattered, and take up a deal of his time in travelling through the country. He also reports that during the year he has visited the various sawmills under his charge in Westland and the southern portion of the Nelson District.

The following is a statement of the timber cut and royalties collected thereon within the Westland District:—

Mining Blocks.—Red-pine, 725,842 ft., £90 14s. 7d.; red-pine blocks for tail-races, 306,338 ft., £25 10s. 5d.: total, £116 5s.

Crown Lands.—Silver-pine, 73,465 ft., £18 7s. 4d.; silver-pine, 260,900 ft., £130 9s.; red-pine, 40,000 ft., £10: total, £158 16s. 4d.

Education Reserves.—Red-pine, 1,260,930 ft., £315 4s. 8d.

Grey Coal Reserve (collected by Mr. Boase).—Red-pine, 191,333 ft., £47 16s. 8d.

About seventy men are employed in working the above mills.

W. G. Murray,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

CANTERBURY.

LAND TRANSACTIONS, 1898–99.

Class of Selection.	Transactions during the Year.		Area held at 31st March, 1899.		Revenue received during the Year.
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Cash lands—					
Rural	6	142 1 27	...	...	425 7 2
Town	4	1 3 0	...	...	47 0 0
Deferred payments—					
Ordinary and pastoral deferred payment	...	...	25	12,957 3 12	2,300 11 9
Village	...	...	15	224 1 33	112 12 1
Made freehold	8	1,319 3 23	...	...	...
Perpetual lease—					
Ordinary	...	...	82	14,427 2 8	1,031 12 4
Village	...	...	53	1,052 2 23	518 18 11
Made freehold	7	1,334 2 6	...	...	2,080 5 0
Occupation with right of purchase—					
Ordinary	2	533 3 33	14	1,613 1 39	82 6 4
Village	2	1 0 0	5	1 3 0	3 0 0
Lease in perpetuity—					
Ordinary, Crown	11	2,960 3 6	146	72,681 1 11	3,829 15 5
Lake Ellesmere...	1	573 0 0	58	13,943 2 5	1,399 10 6
Village	...	...	18	8 3 11	5 13 6
Conversions to lease in perpetuity ...	14	555 2 32	...	...	...
Village-homestead special settlement—					
Perpetual lease	...	...	134	3,813 2 39	643 1 2
Lease in perpetuity, Crown ...	11	131 3 0	100	4,152 1 18	355 11 1
Lease in perpetuity, Lake Ellesmere	2	12 0 0	48	2,480 1 0	286 10 1
Farm homesteads—					
Perpetual lease	...	...	23	2,107 0 11	221 14 2
Lease in perpetuity, Crown ...	...	...	3	211 0 26	13 16 10
Small grazing-runs, Crown	3	5,641 0 0	48	112,966 3 25	4,631 8 9
Pastoral licenses—					
Crown...	35	119,728 2 36	103	3,128,841 3 14	35,802 10 2
State forests	...	...	1	746 0 0	6 4 0
Miscellaneous occupation licenses—					
Crown	52	10,526 3 13	305	43,644 1 6	2,328 14 11
Lake Ellesmere...	2	28 0 26	15	916 3 2	52 10 3
Endowment, University	...	...	1	1,480 2 8	129 11 0
State forests	...	...	9	8,185 0 0	271 12 9
Other sources	1	200 0 0	13	980 0 0	1,127 1 0
Cheviot Estate—					
Rural lands for cash	6	1,210 3 14	...	...	3,234 2 0
Lease in perpetuity	...	...	106	23,903 0 33	5,956 19 10
Village homestead	...	...	76	1,429 1 3	813 11 4
Grazing-farms	...	...	41	45,691 0 9	6,275 5 0
Pastoral licenses	...	...	2	2,102 0 0	262 3 8
Miscellaneous	6	196 0 0	63	1,668 2 0	540 13 2
Land for settlements—					
Lease in perpetuity	160	25,924 3 23	560	65,526 1 7	15,856 11 0
Farm homestead	...	...	11	2,114 1 9	170 18 4
Small grazing-runs	15	16,290 3 19	18	25,731 1 20	2,258 4 2
Miscellaneous	11	783 0 7	11	788 0 10	124 12 4
Total	359	188,097 0 25	2,107	3,596,391 1 22	93,200 0 0

The above table shows concisely the total land transactions during the year, the number of Crown tenants and area held at the 31st March, 1899, and the revenue derived from all sources for the year, amounting to £93,200.

Cash Lands.—It will be noticed that the sales of land for cash during the year have been very small, amounting to only 144 acres, exclusive of the 1,210 acres on the Cheviot Estate, which represent the completed alienation of six blocks sold in 1893 on five years' purchase.

Deferred Payments.—The number of holdings under this system has been further reduced from fifty to forty, representing a reduction in area of about 1,400 acres. The extinction of this system, either by conversion into freehold or by exchanges to other tenures, is only a question of time.

Perpetual Lease.—The number of holders under this tenure has fallen during the year from 162 to 135, and the area from 17,031 to 15,480 acres. Conversions to freehold and to lease in perpetuity account for most of the difference.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—This system finds only limited favour in this district, but there has been a small increase during the year, the number of selectors having increased from fifteen to nineteen, and the area from 1,081 to 1,615 acres.

Lease in Perpetuity.—The principal increase under this head has been in respect of lands acquired under the Land for Settlements Act, which will be noticed elsewhere. With regard to other lands, the area held at 31st March shows an increase of 1,659 acres of ordinary Crown lands, the areas of Cheviot and Lake Ellesmere lands remaining practically unchanged.

Village-homestead Settlements.—These show a decrease of five selectors and about 250 acres under the perpetual-lease class, nearly the whole of these having been transferred by exchanges of tenure to the lease-in-perpetuity class, which has been further increased by eleven new selections, representing 131 acres. The Lake Ellesmere leases have also been increased by two selections, comprising 12 acres. The number and area of Cheviot leaseholds under this tenure remain unchanged.

Farm Homesteads.—The number of leases and area held under this system remain practically the same as last year, one lessee, whose lease had been forfeited, having been reinstated in his holding.

Small Grazing-runs —Two runs, comprising 7,514 acres, have been surrendered during the year, so that, despite three new selections of 5,641 acres, the total area of Crown lands held has fallen by nearly 1,900 acres. A considerable increase of runs held under the Land for Settlements Act has resulted from the disposal of the Waikakahi Settlement.

Pastoral Licenses.—Thirty-five new licenses, comprising 119,728 acres, have been disposed of during the year, but, as the majority of these were sold in advance for terms commencing on the 1st March, 1900, they do not materially increase the area held at the 31st March.

Crown Lands opened for Selection.—Exclusive of lands offered for selection under the Land for Settlements Acts, the land-selections during the year present few features worthy of note, with the exception of the auction sales of pastoral licenses of runs the existing licenses of which expire on the 1st March, 1900. Under other systems the areas offered during the year consist for the most part of forfeited or surrendered holdings. The following are the principal areas placed in the market:—

Under the optional system (Part III. of "The Land Act, 1892"): Eleven lots, aggregating 6,209 acres, of which 3,600 acres were withdrawn prior to selection. The whole of the remainder, with the exception of one small lot of 20 acres, was selected, the lease-in-perpetuity system being the tenure favoured by all the applicants except one.

Pastoral runs: Forty pastoral runs, of an aggregate area of 153,059 acres, were offered for lease by public auction. Four of these comprised burnt bush country on Mount Oxford; three were small grazing areas of flat land near Oxford; one run of 3,937 acres near Hakataramea, re-offered after surrender of the previous license; and the remaining thirty-two runs were reoffered for license in terms of "The Land Act, 1892," one year before the termination, on the 1st March, 1900, of the existing licenses. For the purpose of classifying these runs previous to disposal, Commissioners were appointed, who thoroughly inspected all the runs lying south of the Rakaia River, those northward of that boundary having been inspected and classified as recently as 1896, so that it was not deemed necessary to revisit them. These runs were distributed over the whole of the pastoral area of Canterbury, 70,828 acres being situated between the Hurunui and Rakaia Rivers; 17,488 acres between the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers; and 53,843 acres between the Rangitata and Waitaki Rivers. For the most favourably situated runs there was keen competition, and the rentals realised will enhance the pastoral revenue of the district. A few runs remain unsold, and will be reoffered during the ensuing year.

Other lands: The other lands offered include two small grazing-runs of 5,478 acres in South Canterbury; one lease-in-perpetuity allotment of 573 acres at Lake Ellesmere; six village-homestead lease-in-perpetuity allotments, comprising 162 acres, in various localities; nine lots, totalling about 19 acres, offered for cash sale at auction; and sixteen lots, comprising about 227 acres, offered for temporary occupation.

Arrears of Rents.—The arrears of rents due at the 31st March, 1899, amount to £1,992 4s. 8d., out of a total annual rent-roll of £91,018 18s. 8d., or about 2·19 per cent. of the total. This is an excess of £734 over the arrears returned at the corresponding period last year, the increase being principally under the small grazing-run and land-for-settlement tenures. In the latter case it is undoubtedly due to the unfavourable season experienced last year, which pressed hardly upon many of the new settlers at the very commencement of their efforts to establish new homes.

Transfers, Exchanges, Forfeitures.—During the year transfers have been completed of eighty holdings occupied under settlement conditions, comprising about 17,780 acres. The principal numbers are as follows:—

Lease in perpetuity	45,	comprising	6,949 acres,
Small grazing-runs	4,	"	8,542 "
Village-homestead leases	22,	"	929 "

The number of exchanges during the year has been small, comprising only fourteen holdings, having an area of 555 acres.

The tenants of the Crown having generally complied very satisfactorily with the conditions of their leases in respect of residence and improvements, as well as payment of rents, but few forfeitures have occurred during the year. The figures are as follows: Leases in perpetuity, Crown—two selectors, holding 610 acres, forfeited, and two, holding 954 acres 2 roods 9 perches, surrendered; village-settlement perpetual lease—two, holding 38 acres and 32 perches, forfeited; village homestead—two, holding 44 acres 3 roods 38 perches, forfeited; small grazing-runs—two, comprising 7,514 acres 2 roods, surrendered. Two leases in perpetuity, comprising 573 acres 1 rood 34 perches, at Lake Ellesmere, and ten leases under the Land for Settlements Acts, comprising 323 acres and

34 perches, were also forfeited; making a total of twenty-two holdings, representing 10,058 acres 3 roods 27 perches, reverted to the Crown. The majority of these sections, when reoffered for disposal, readily find new selectors.

Revaluation of Surrendered Holdings.—In November, 1898, a commission of inquiry, consisting of three members of the Land Board and the Crown Lands Ranger, was appointed to examine and report on the cases of tenants who agreed to surrender their holdings with a view to having them revalued. Forty-five tenants who had applied for reductions were offered relief upon the terms fixed, which included the payment of all arrears on the existing leases, which were then to be surrendered, and the lands reoffered for selection after revaluation. The majority of the tenants, however, appeared indisposed to incur the risk of losing their holdings by public competition when reoffered, and seven only availed themselves of the opportunity. The holdings were very carefully inspected and revalued previous to the new disposal of the lands.

Forests.—During the year an area of 371,695 acres, comprising all the principal blocks of Crown bush land throughout the district, has been set apart as State forest reserves, and it is to be hoped that the timber on these reserves will, for scenic and climatic considerations, secure exemption from destruction. It is satisfactory to record that, owing partly to the damper season, and partly, it is hoped, to increased care by residents in bush localities, there has been an absence this year of the destructive fires which have in past seasons wrought such havoc in bush belonging both to the State and to private owners.

Alteration of District Boundaries.—By an alteration of district boundaries gazetted in January last an approximate area of 1,305,390 acres, comprising the greater portion of the Amuri County, has been added to this district, whose northern boundary now touches the Conway and Clarence Rivers, and extends as far north as Lake Tennyson. An area of 478,000 acres in the south, comprising the watershed of the rivers flowing into Lakes Wanaka and Hawea, has similarly been deducted from Canterbury and added to the Otago District. As the transfers of records, &c., had not been perfected at the end of the financial year, the returns are made on the basis of the former boundaries.

Crown Lands Rangers' Reports.—The reports received from Crown Lands Rangers during the year show that, except in a very small minority of cases, genuine and *bonâ fide* settlement is progressing very favourably in this district. A good season, with satisfactory yields of crops and abundance of pasturage for stock, has helped settlers to recover from the effects of the previous bad season. In cases where settlers are reported as not resident on their holdings it is usually the case that they reside with relatives, or on other properties in the neighbourhood; or, in the case of some of the smaller holdings which are insufficient for maintenance, that they are obliged to be so much away at work that they can scarcely be classed as resident. Improvements have been generally maintained well up to, and in most cases considerably beyond, the amounts prescribed by law, although it is probable that when inspections at the end of the sixth year become due there will be found a good many who will have been unable remuneratively to effect the 30 per cent. of capital value and £1 per acre required by "The Land Act, 1892," from holders whose selections comprise land of nominally first-class quality. Especially is this likely to be the case with settlers around Lake Ellesmere, of whom, however, it may be noted that, with increased immunity from floods, there is also an increase of permanent residence on their leaseholds.

The work done by the Crown Lands Rangers, whose manifold duties comprise inspecting settlement holdings, reporting on transfers, applications for leases of Crown lands, reserves, riverbeds, &c., resuming possession of forfeited holdings, inspecting pastoral runs, and watching over the preservation of bush lands, &c., can only be very imperfectly indicated in any tabular statements. There are now in Canterbury 589 leaseholds under the Land for Settlements Acts, besides the 236 leaseholds on the Cheviot Estate, and all of these require especially careful and detailed inspection to see that the special regulations as to cultivation of the lands, maintenance of buildings, &c., are properly carried out.

Lands under Land for Settlements Acts.

Lands offered during the Year.—Two estates have, during the period covered by this report, been placed on the market for selection.

The *Pawaho Hamlet* may almost be termed a suburban settlement, being situated at Heathcote Valley, abutting on the railway-line from Christchurch to Port Lyttelton. It comprises a total area of 50 acres 1 rood 4 perches, which was opened on the 5th April, 1898, under the workmen's homes regulations, in twenty-five lots, ranging from half an acre upwards. Eight of the lots, aggregating nearly 16 acres, consist principally of hill-slope, the balance being flat land. Eight lots were disposed of at the first ballot, and most of the remainder have since been taken up; at the present time four of the hill-side sections only remain unselected. Many of the sections have been taken up by workmen employed at the Port, to whom the settlement offered a good opportunity of obtaining cultivable land on which to occupy their enforced leisure.

The other estate offered is known as the *Waikakahi Settlement*, and is situated in South Canterbury, between the Waihao and Waitaki Rivers, consisting partly of the flat land which skirts the coast, and which is for the most part of excellent agricultural quality, and partly of low downs and hills of superior pastoral character. The property was purchased from Allan McLean, Esq., and was opened for selection on the 20th March, 1899, the area offered comprising 31,976 acres, in 126 allotments, on lease in perpetuity; 15,318 acres, in fourteen small grazing-runs; 313 acres, in two lots, on temporary grazing license (these lots being destined to be used for plantation purposes); and 25 acres, in forty-seven lots, in the Township of Morven, adjoining the Waihao Railway-station. 384 acres were withheld for further subdivision and disposal in the future. Seven hundred and forty-one applications were received on and before the date of opening, the bulk of these coming from all parts of Canterbury and Otago, though a few other districts were also represented. The examination of all the applicants within the limited time available entailed very

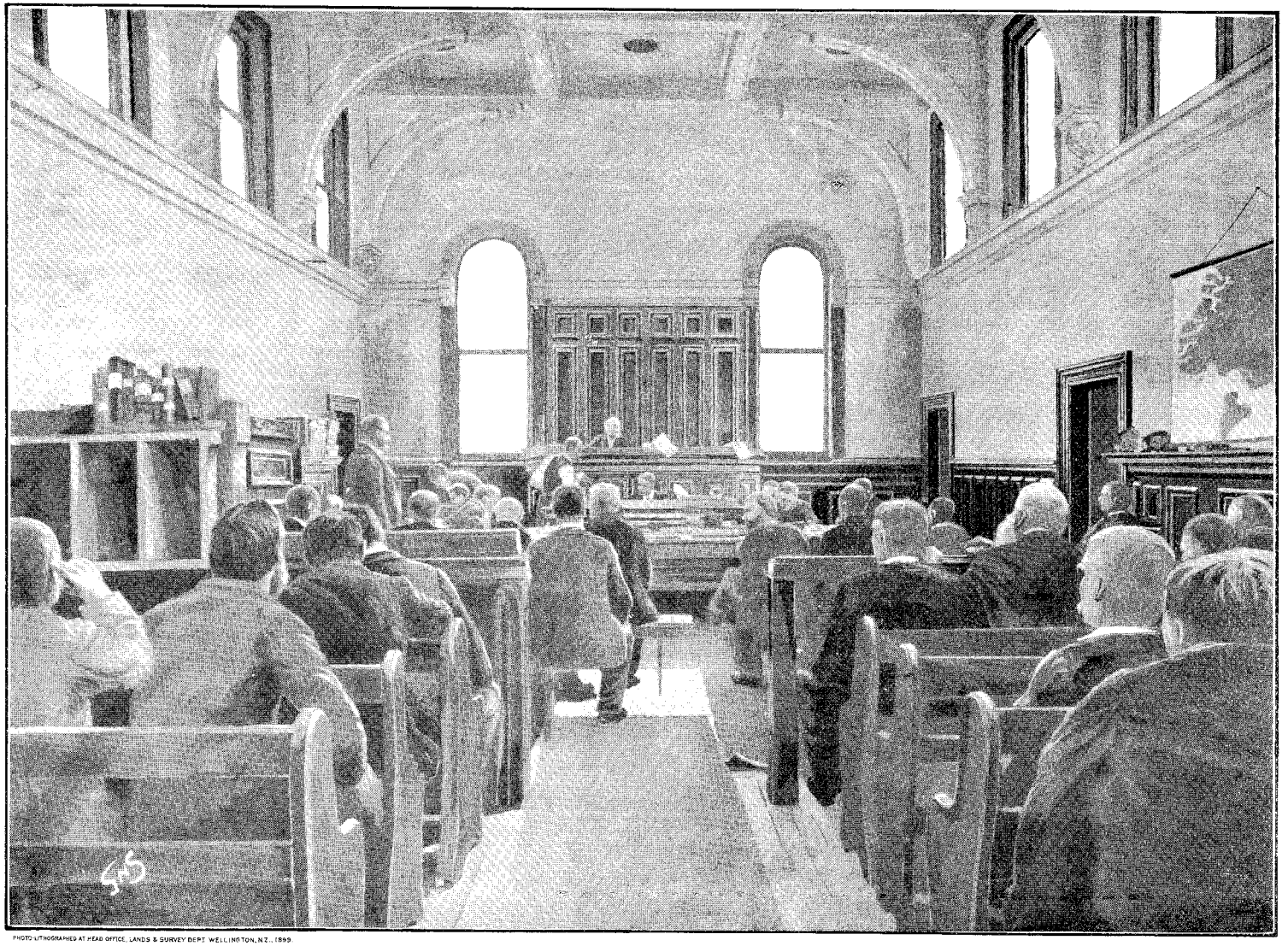


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Balloting for Sections in Waikakahi Estate, Canterbury.

heavy work on the Land Board and its officers, the total time occupied being fifty-three hours within five days, exclusive of the time consumed in travelling from Christchurch to Ashburton, Timaru, and Waimate, at each of which places sittings of the Board were held. At the first ballot, held on the 29th and 30th March, at Waimate, 115 of the lease-in-perpetuity allotments, all of the small grazing-runs, and thirteen township sections were allotted, and the remaining lease-in-perpetuity sections have all since been selected. The applications received were, generally speaking, made by a very good stamp of settlers, and there is every reason to anticipate that the settlement will prove an unqualified success.

Besides the foregoing there were offered for reselection during the year six small forfeited lots in the Otarakaro, Roimata, Orakipaoa, and Pareora Settlements, comprising a total area of 96 acres, and one small grazing-run of 977 acres in the Peaks and Patoa Settlements. All of these have been selected.

General Condition of Settlements.—The reports furnished by the Crown Lands Rangers, a few particulars from which are appended, show that, generally speaking, all of the settlements are in a very satisfactory condition, the proportion of defaulters being very small, while many of these have fulfilled in part, though not completely, the requirements of their leases. The past season has been, for nearly all of the settlements, a fruitful and prosperous one, and this has naturally helped to produce the good results recorded. The small holdings on rural settlements still furnish the principal unsatisfactory features of the reports, permanent settlement being difficult to secure on rural holdings of 30 acres downwards, while in some localities even 50 acres is too small an area. The holders of these small sections are obliged to travel far and wide to obtain employment, and though their families may remain on the section, the interests of the family and the holding must necessarily suffer from the protracted absences of the breadwinner.

Taking the settlements in the order of seniority from January, 1894, downwards, the following notes may be of interest :—

Pareora Settlement (near St. Andrew's).—Twenty-eight holders, of whom twenty-five are resident, while on one reselected section residence is not yet due. Improvements effected, £1,950 4s. 6d., as against £348 10s. required.

Studholme Junction.—Four holders, all of whom are resident and keeping their holdings well. Improvements effected, £257 18s., as against £73 4s. 6d. required.

Kapua Settlement (near Waimate).—Twelve holders, all of whom are complying. Improvements effected, £1,102 5s., as against £270 4s. required.

Rosebrook Settlement (near Timaru).—Fourteen holders, of whom twelve are in permanent residence. Improvements effected, £1,667 17s. 6d., as against £307 13s. 6d. required.

Otaio Settlement (near St. Andrew's).—Nine holders, all of whom have complied. Improvements effected, £842 14s. 6d., as against £216 14s. 8d. required.

The Peaks and Patoa Settlements (near Hurunui).—Sixteen holders, of whom four reside on their holdings and ten on other Crown leaseholds in the vicinity. Improvements effected, £1,955, as against £502 7s. 1d. required.

Roimata Settlement (near Christchurch).—Twenty-six holders, all fully complying. Improvements effected, £3,406, as against £553 18s. required.

Braco Settlement (also near Christchurch).—Fourteen holders, twelve of whom are complying. Improvements effected, £773, as against £247 18s. 2d. required.

Kereta Settlement (near Timaru).—Four settlers, all of whom have complied. Improvements effected, £523 5s. 6d., as against £72 18s. required.

Epworth Settlement (near Temuka).—Two small sections, held by a married couple, who are residing, and have improvements valued at £80, as against £6 15s. 7d. required

Ashley Gorge Settlement (near Oxford).—Ten leaseholders in perpetuity and two small-grazing-run holders, of whom eleven are in permanent residence. Improvements effected, £2,405, as against £683 6s. 8d. required.

Orakipaoa Settlement (near Temuka).—Twenty-seven settlers, of whom thirteen have settled on their holdings, and twelve others are specially exempted by regulation from residence while they live on their own small properties in the neighbouring township. These latter effect few improvements, and consequently bring down the average, the total improvements effected being £1,363 18s., as against £678 1s. 1d. required.

Highbank Settlement (between Methven and Rakaia).—Seventy-two holders, of whom fifty-seven have fully complied, the defaulters being principally holders of 10-acre lots. Improvements effected, £9,323 17s., as against £3,235 14s. 1d. required. This settlement, with the neighbouring one (Marawiti) was visited in September last by a very destructive north-west gale, which did considerable damage to about 2,900 acres of newly-sown crops, the majority of the sections being more or less affected. Seeds to the value of £626, to be paid for on promissory notes extending over one, two, and three years, were distributed to settlers to assist them in resowing, but the yield of many of the crops was considerably reduced.

Waiapi and Rakitairi Settlements (near Temuka and Geraldine).—Thirty-six holders, of whom twenty-eight have resided and complied. The small holdings here are also unsatisfactory. Improvements effected, £4,814 10s. 1d., as against £1,463 13s. 6d. required.

Otarakaro Settlement (near Christchurch).—Seven holders, all complying very satisfactorily. Improvements effected, £770, as against £54 required.

Wharenui Hamlet (a workmen's-homes settlement, near Christchurch).—Twenty-five selectors, of whom seventeen are in permanent residence and making good homes. Improvements effected, £1,444, as against £630 required.

Albury Settlement.—Seventy-four holders, forty-eight of whom are in residence on their own holdings, and four others are exempt for the time being. Improvements effected, £9,226 13s. 6d., as against £3,555 4s. 11d. required.

Marawiti Settlement (near Rakaia).—Thirteen settlers, all of whom have built and resided. The crops on this settlement suffered, though in a less degree, from the gale which did so much damage at Highbank. Improvements effected, £1,743 9s., as against £748 15s. 10d. required.

Horsley Down Settlement (near Waikari).—Twenty-five settlers, of whom twenty-four reside on their holdings, and one on another contiguous leasehold. Improvements effected, £7,508, as against £507 17s. 1d. required.

Hekeao Settlement (near Mount Somers).—Ten holders, of whom six have entered into residence. Improvements effected, £1,718 5s. 6d., as against £308 10s. 1d. required. Of the 5-acre and 10-acre sections laid off in this settlement one only has been selected, and the holder has not complied. These sections require grouping.

Pawaho Hamlet (workmen's-homes settlement, between Christchurch and Lyttelton).—In this settlement the first year's tenancy had in no case fully expired, so that definite compliance with requirements was not enforceable. There are twenty-one holders, seven of whom are already in residence. The value of improvements already effected is £385 10s.

Settlements to be offered in 1899–1900.—The Government has recently acquired a suburban block of 41 acres, named "Tamai," close to Christchurch, and this will shortly be offered on workmen's-homes conditions. Other estates are under offer and consideration, but in no case have definite arrangements been concluded.

Cheviot Estate.

At the end of the year 1898 Mr. Ranger Ward visited the Cheviot Estate, and has furnished a full report of the result of his inspection. Of the 236 leases which are held by 201 separate selectors under conditions requiring residence and improvements, the requirements have been complied with in all cases, so far as improvements are concerned, with the exception of two grazing-farms, where the improvements are deficient.

As regards residence, there are twenty-five holders who are not actually living upon the sections in respect of which residence is due. Only one of these, however, is absent from the estate; the others are living either on contiguous holdings or with relatives elsewhere on the estate, while a few reside most frequently where their usual employment is obtained. The total value of improvements required is £16,832 9s., and the value effected is £49,738, or nearly treble the amount of requirements. The number of souls resident upon the settlement holdings is 838. The amount of arrears of rents is very small, being only £171 18s. 8d., owing by nineteen holders of all tenures, out of a total rental of £14,397 14s. 5d. payable by 260 lessees. There is on the part of some settlers on the estate a disposition to sell out with a view to migrating to larger holdings elsewhere, as they contend that their areas are not sufficient to enable them to marry and bring up their families suitably. The Waiau River has continued during the year to make its encroachments felt on the agricultural lands of the Waiau Flats. Unfortunately the lessees, whose title to their holdings is, for practical purposes, equal to freehold, neglected the precautions which almost any freeholder would have taken to protect his property, and which might, if adopted early enough, have saved some valuable land from destruction. The dairy factory, which has proved itself most useful and valuable, especially to the smaller settlers near Mackenzie, has been able to maintain its operations during the year, though considerably hampered by the want of an efficient water-supply. The crops on the flats this year have been to some extent damaged by caterpillars, which have reduced the yield by over 10 bushels per acre in some cases. Notwithstanding this, however, the average yield has been very good, and rape- and turnip-crops have also proved successful. The approximate total areas of crops have been as follows: Cereals, 4,019 acres; green and root crops, 7,374 acres; English grasses, 11,430 acres. The plantations established by the former owner of Cheviot in the vicinity of Mackenzie and Domett, together with the hill-slopes near Port Robinson, which were reserved with a view to the protection of the native bush and the making of further plantations, have been placed under the control of the local Domain Boards, to be used and conserved for the enjoyment of the inhabitants of Cheviot. Some further finds of petroleum have been made during the year on a grazing-farm leasehold on the Seaward Range to the east of Mackenzie. The analysis of the oil has yielded favourable results, and if it can be payably worked it would naturally tend to enhance the prosperity of the estate.

Mr. John Sinclair, Harbourmaster at Port Robinson, reports that the increase in the volume of trade during the year has exceeded the ratio of previous years, and a large addition to the original store has been erected by the Cheviot County Council. It is also proposed, when certain groins for the protection of reclamation-works are completed, to construct a short tram-line, with trollies, for the purpose of securing greater despatch in loading and unloading cargo. The ss. "Wakatu" made forty-three trips each from Lyttelton and Wellington, but on twelve occasions was obliged to pass on account of the sea being too rough to work her; the steamers "Beautiful Star" and "Jane Douglas" made one trip each, and the "Dayspring," schooner, two trips. The following are a few details of the working: Revenue, £1,731 2s. 7d.; expenditure, £1,518 2s. 11d. (including £450 for additions to store); inwards cargo—general merchandise, 1,720 tons, besides fencing-posts and miscellaneous packages; outwards cargo—2,731 bales wool, 16 sacks wool, 97 bales skins, 8,811 sacks wheat, 696 sacks barley, oats, potatoes, peas, &c., and 447 miscellaneous packages.

Crown Lands for Disposal, 1899–1900.—Except for lands acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts, Canterbury has practically no lands for disposal, except the generally unsatisfactory remnants of the free selection system. The Crown lands available for disposal at the 31st March, 1899, are as follows:—

AREA of CROWN LANDS available for SETTLEMENT, 31st March, 1899.

County.	System.	Area (First Class).	Area (Second Class).	Total Area.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Geraldine ...	Village lots	1 1 0	...	1 1 0
Ashburton ...	Village homestead ...	71 2 0	...	
Geraldine ...	" ...	36 3 3	...	128 1 3
Waimate ...	" ...	20 0 0	...	
Selwyn ...	Rural lands under Part III., "Land Act, 1892"	282 0 30	...	
Ashburton ...	Ditto	278 0 34	1,413 2 11	
Geraldine ...	"	5 0 36	659 3 18	3,646 0 9
Mackenzie ...	"	...	990 0 0	
Waimate ...	"	...	17 0 0	
" ...	Small grazing-runs ...	...	2,331 0 0	2,331 0 0
Selwyn ...	Land for settlement ...	7 1 4	...	
Ashburton ...	" ...	39 0 0	...	5,465 1 29
Waimate ...	" ...	5,419 0 25	...	
Totals ...	... ...	6,160 2 12	5,411 1 29	11,572 0 1

Departmental.—During the year thirty-five ordinary and special meetings of the Land Board have been held, and the steady increase in the number of permanent tenants tends to correspondingly enlarge the number of questions which have to be dealt with by the Board at its fortnightly meetings. The number of statutory applications lodged for lands offered for selection was 1,003, of which 216 were granted. The following approximate figures will serve to represent in part the amount of clerical work passed through the offices: Letters received and despatched, 18,350, including ordinary recorded correspondence and rent notices; about 8,500 lithographs and sale-plans distributed; 950 vouchers dealing with an expenditure of about £18,500, and 650 cheques representing an imprest account of £5,500, were passed through the Accountant's Office. In the Receiver of Land Revenue's Office, besides the revenue actually received, a sum of £57,698 12s. 5d. was passed through the Deposit Account, and 4,832 receipts given for payments, &c.

SIDNEY WEETMAN,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

Revenue.—The estimated gross amount of receipts for the year, including land for settlements, was £66,883 18s. 9d. The amount realised is £68,762 9s. 2d., there being a surplus over the estimates of £1,878 10s. 5d. Divided into ordinary Crown lands, lands for settlements, and endowments, the estimated and actual receipts were as follows: Crown lands—Estimate, £53,602; receipts, £58,132 0s. 7d.; surplus, £4,530 0s. 7d. Land for settlements—Estimate, £11,901 18s. 9d.; receipts, £9,249 17s. 3d.; deficiency, £2,652 1s. 6d. Endowments—Estimate, £1,380; receipts, £1,380 11s. 4d.; surplus, 11s. 4d. Totals—Estimate, £66,883 18s. 9d.; receipts, £68,762 9s. 2d.; surplus, £1,878 10s. 5d.

As compared with the previous year, last year's receipts are greater by the sum of £1,010 13s. 1d. Next year a shrinkage in revenue must for several reasons be expected, unless further estates are acquired under the Land for Settlements Act, as, for instance, the lessening of rental by exchanges from the perpetual-lease system to the lease-in-perpetuity system; the lowering of the capital value in a large number of cases of surrendered and forfeited lands; and the gradually diminishing value of pastoral lands by the rabbit-pest and curtailment of wintering country. The gross annual rental of all classes of tenure at 31st March, 1898, was £67,167 10s. 8d., and at 31st March last, £64,822 10s. 5d., or £2,345 0s. 3d. less at the latter than the former date. The surplus in Crown lands from last year's receipts was chiefly in cash, perpetual-lease lands made freehold, and deferred payments. The deficiency in land for settlements must be attributable to the fact that, in consequence of the previous season having been so unfavourable, many of the lessees got behind in their payments, and, though the present season has been much more favourable, many selectors had not been able to realise upon their crops in time to pay their rents before the close of the financial year. On some of the estates, too, in the northern district, even this year, many promising crops were blasted by hot winds at an early stage of their growth, so that the harvest where that has happened has been less satisfactory in its results than was at first expected.

Summary of Transactions.—The following abstract of the year's transactions in tabular form is made up in the usual manner, and shows, when compared with that of the previous year, that the number of transactions are less by fifty-four, the area dealt with greater by 16,785 acres, while the total area held is shown to be less this year than last by thirty-nine selectors and 91,911 acres. This diminution is accounted for by the fact that a large number of selectors have either surrendered their holdings or allowed them to be forfeited in order that the land might be reopened at reduced rentals, there not having been sufficient time to admit of such surrendered or forfeited lands being reopened and again taken up before the close of the financial period.

SUMMARY of LAND TRANSACTIONS, 1898–99.

Class of Selection.	Transactions during Year.				Area held at 31st March, 1899.				Revenue received during the Year.		
	Number.	Area.			Number.	Area.					
		A.	R.	P.		A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.
Cash	96	2,152	2	33	...	...			1,834	1	8
Deferred payments	...	...			87	21,617	1	11	2,958	1	2
Deferred payments made freehold	26	4,495	0	34	...	...			...		
Perpetual lease	...	...			367	71,680	3	27	3,059	17	6
Perpetual lease made freehold ...	10	1,582	0	27	...	...			1,525	7	6
Occupation with right of purchase	20	2,911	2	17	98	17,130	1	10	647	13	6
Lease in perpetuity	57	14,008	3	9	566	149,391	1	18	3,838	3	4
Lease in perpetuity, exchange from other tenures	17	4,641	1	21							
Agricultural leases	2	114	1	11	20	637	0	6	79	19	0
Occupation leases (Mining Districts Land Occupation Act)	15	508	3	13	96	3,806	2	30	180	10	1
Village settlement—											
Deferred payment	...	...			5	187	2	36	9	13	3
Perpetual lease	..	...			42	933	2	33	73	15	8
Occupation with right of purchase	...	...			5	3	2	28	0	19	0
Lease in perpetuity	7	72	3	18	129	1,958	3	4	149	12	8
Village-homestead special settlement	...	...			84	1,341	1	5	R.103	1	1
									I. 65	13	2
Special - settlement association (lease in perpetuity)	...	...			15	2,955	1	12	130	3	7
Homestead lands	...	...			3	206	2	37	...		
Improved-farm settlement ...	3	513	3	36	73	9,879	1	4	...		
Small grazing-runs	9	18,644	0	24	239	479,843	3	32	11,806	19	6
Pastoral runs	19	317,170	3	22	244	4,068,424	0	16	29,584	5	11
Coal and mineral leases ...	...	...							189	9	4
Timber-cutting	13	360	0	0	420	163,226	1	37	46	11	0
Miscellaneous licenses	91	158,017	0	12					1,093	0	10
Survey-fees	...	...			...	...			96	13	4
Crown-grant fees	...	...			...	...			156	19	11
Other sources	...	...			...	...			501	8	7
Land for settlement—											
Lease in perpetuity (including Building Account)	13	1,656	0	31	266	34,457	1	34	8,122	4	1
Village lease in perpetuity ...	2	15	0	2	28	383	0	4	228	12	9
Small grazing-runs	...	...			3	3,667	1	30	265	6	2
Miscellaneous licenses ...	1	0	1	36	36	430	2	33	29	15	7
Miscellaneous receipts ...	...	...			...	...			603	18	8
Total Crown lands ...	401	526,865	2	26	2,826	5,032,163	1	7	67,381	17	10
Total endowments ...	4	348	2	27	53	45,523	2	21	1,380	11	4
Grand totals ...	405	527,214	1	13	2,879	5,077,686	3	28	68,762	9	2

Arrears.—The arrears on all classes at 31st March amounted to £3,221 7s. 3d., owing by 241 selectors or holders, occupying 93,070 acres, being an increase over the previous year of £903 7s. 1d. and thirty-two selectors, but a decrease in area of 100,888 acres. The increase in the amount of arrears is chiefly in land for settlements, and the decrease in area in pastoral lands. It is expected that the greater portion of these arrears will be paid at an early date, and that, should the next season prove as favourable as the present one, the arrears next year will be very much less than they are at present.

Surrenders and Forfeitures.—From the tables it will be seen that there have been no less than eighty forfeitures and eighty-eight surrenders, embracing a total area of 307,131 acres. In addition to this, the holdings have been diminished to a further extent by twenty-six deferred-payment holdings made freehold and ten perpetual leaseholds made freehold. The whole may be thus summarised: Forfeitures, 80; area, 169,671 acres 3 roods 5 perches. Surrenders, 88; area, 137,459 acres 1 rood 9 perches. Deferred payment made freehold, 26; area, 4,495 acres and 34 perches. Perpetual lease made freehold, 10; area, 1,582 acres and 27 perches. Totals, 204; area, 313,208 acres 1 rood 35 perches. The totals of similar transactions in 1897–98 were 162 selectors; area, 258,723 acres.

Transfers and Exchanges.—The transactions of the year also include a considerable number of transfers—viz., eighty-three, representing an area of 39,901 acres 2 roods 9 perches of all classes of tenure; and there were seventeen conversions to leases in perpetuity, over an area of 4,641 acres 1 rood 21 perches. In 1897–98 there were seventy-five transfers, with an area of 46,150 acres, and nine exchanges to lease in perpetuity, with an area of 3,516 acres.

Land opened for Selection.—The several classes of ordinary Crown lands opened for selection during the year comprised an area of 261,932 acres, as shown in the tables, a large portion of this being lands reopened after forfeiture, surrender, and expiry of former tenancies. In addition to this, an area of 16 acres and 25 perches was disposed of under section 114 of "The Land Act, 1892," to three selectors; 1,045 acres 2 roods 20 perches, under section 115, to ten selectors; and 5 acres 2 roods 16 perches, to one purchaser, under section 117 of the said Act.

Land to be opened.—Regarding the land to be opened for the future, as I have before pointed out, there is now very little Crown land left suitable for close settlement, as no further low country can be taken from existing pastoral runs without rendering them unworkable by depriving them of absolutely necessary winter country. The areas to be dealt with during the present year are approximately as follows: 136,000 acres now open for selection in various localities, as per Land Guide; 12,000 acres to be notified under the optional system, chiefly in the Clutha, Maniatoto, and Vincent Counties, nearly 8,000 acres of which are forfeited and surrendered lands to be reopened; 40,000 acres of small grazing-runs in various localities, the greater portion being forfeited and surrendered lands to be reopened; 221,000 acres of pastoral lands, now in hand, and to fall in during the year, in Tuapeka and Vincent Counties; and 100,000 acres of pastoral lands, the licenses over which expire in 1901, and which have to be dealt with during the current financial year; making a grand total of about 509,000 acres of ordinary Crown lands to be dealt with during the year.

In my last year's report I alluded to the difficulties that were looming up in regard to the bush lands in the Catlin's, Woodland, and adjacent districts, arising from the want of proper road-communication, poverty of soil, and aftergrowth of bush-fern on the cleared land. During the year a large number of holdings have fallen in by way of surrender or forfeiture, and considerable reductions have been made in capital values when reopening the same, to endeavour as far as possible to mitigate the drawbacks under which the settlers in these places are labouring. It is hoped that with these concessions, and the gradual improvement now being made in the roads, that many of the selectors will be able to struggle through, and ultimately to establish themselves in profitable and permanent occupation of their holdings. Several of the members of the Land Board, with myself, visited these districts recently, and satisfied themselves as to the difficulties referred to, and of the necessity of giving every possible assistance to the settlers. It has been suggested that the extension of the Catlin's Railway to the Tahakopa Valley would be of immense advantage to these districts, as it would enable the settlers to dispose of much of their timber in the shape of sleepers, fencing, and building material at good value—timber that is now absolutely wasted and destroyed. In that way many of the holdings would be self-supporting while the settlers were clearing their land preparatory to grassing or cropping. The railway would doubtless be the best and surest method of opening up that part of the Otago Land District.

The prospects of the Otago Central district are much more hopeful for the ensuing season than they were at this time last year, winter feed promising to be more abundant to a considerable degree, which will be of great advantage both to sheep-farmers and agriculturists. There can be no doubt also that the opening of the Otago Central Railway as far as Ranfurly will be of considerable assistance to settlers.

Swinburn Farm Homestead Block.—As compared with last year there has been a falling-off in this settlement, the result, doubtless, of the bad seasons through which the settlers have had to pass during the last two or three years. Should, however, the next season be a favourable one, it is hoped that the prospects of the settlement will improve. Ranger Atkinson reports, "The settlers on this settlement are only just beginning to slowly recover from the disastrous droughts experienced there and elsewhere for the last three years. The crops consist principally of oats and turnips, which are far above the average, and the settlers hope to recover a little lee-way and have something over and above the rent this year. Several of the original settlers were unable to tide over the past bad seasons, and sold out to others better acquainted with the district and climate."

Settlement Conditions and Rangers' Reports generally.—The Rangers report that settlement on ordinary Crown lands has made very fair progress during the year; that the high prices ruling last year enabled many of the settlers to carry out much-needed improvements; that the present season promises to yield large returns; and that, although prices are expected to be low, the abundance of the harvest will compensate therefor. They also state that conditions as to residence and improvements have been, generally speaking, well complied with, the exception being on holdings of high and inferior country, in respect of which it is next to impossible to effect improvements to the full extent required by regulations. Besides the work of regular and routine inspection, the Rangers have furnished during the year some 419 special reports, 195 of these being accompanied by statutory declarations. From the tables it will also be seen that out of 728 holdings visited, covering an area of 190,111 acres, there were not more than 114 defaulters, sixty-eight of these being in respect of improvements, forty-four for non-residence, and two for other reasons. In relation also to these holdings, the value of required improvements is estimated at £41,312, the value of those actually effected being £86,100, an excess over requirements of £44,788. Ranger Mackenzie, stationed at Queenstown, reports with respect to his district that "the generally good harvest this year will enable many struggling settlers to get into a better position. A good deal has been done during the year in the way of improvements, and, on the whole, everything is in a healthier condition than last year." This may also be said to apply generally throughout the whole of this land district on the present occasion. As in previous years, Ranger Mackenzie has rendered valuable assistance in connection with surveys, in making plans for the local office, and in placing diagrams, &c., on mining titles.

Martin's Bay.—I attach a report by Ranger Mackenzie of a recent visit to the settlement at Martin's Bay, which may be of interest.

State Forests.—A large amount of work has been done in this district during the year in connection with the State forest nurseries already established, a full report of which is being forwarded by the Forester, Mr. H. J. Matthews.

Resolution Island.—I am forwarding a report from Mr. Henry, the Curator on Resolution Island; as also a number of notes and memoranda made by him on various matters relating to his special work and explorations.

Lands under Land for Settlements Acts.

The operations of the year have been limited to the ten estates previously acquired, no new ones having been purchased in time for disposal during the year. The Elderslie Estate, near Oamaru, arrangements for the acquirement of which have recently been made, may possibly be brought into the market before the close of the financial year now current; but it is, of course, premature to furnish any particulars with regard thereto at the present time. Taking the estates in the order of purchase, I will briefly note a few particulars respecting their progress and present position.

(1.) *Pomahaka Downs Estate.*—Ranger Hughan reports that very good progress has been made on this estate in the erection of buildings, fencing, and other improvements; that the crops this season are very good, and promise to yield satisfactory returns; and that the conditions of the leases and Act have been well complied with. Only two sections are at present unlet, one containing 319 acres and 38 perches, and the other 4 acres 2 roods 19 perches. The receipts for the year were £2,080 15s. 7d., and the present annual rental of the land let being £1,143 0s. 8d. for an area of 6,919 acres 2 roods 26 perches, held by twenty-six selectors. The total receipts from inception have been £4,135 16s. 4d. The total area under cultivation is 2,688 acres, 2,305 acres being in oats, 16 in wheat, and 367 in root-crops. Total number of dwellinghouses, 23; total number of persons resident, 75; and total value of improvements now on the land, £4,751 18s. With another successful season this estate will have become fairly prosperous. It will be seen that the payments made during the year exceeded the annual rental by £936 14s. 11d.

(2.) *Teanaraki Estate.*—Ranger Atkinson reports that the settlers on this estate have had a successful year, having harvested better crops than for some years past, and that a few seasons similar to the present one would greatly improve their condition. Three sections, with a total area of 30 acres, are at present unlet, one of which has already been reopened, and the other two will be reopened at an early date. The receipts for the year were £194 17s. 5d.; total from inception, £1,131 15s. 1d. The present annual rental is £254 4s. 6d., for an area of 314 acres 1 rood 30 perches, held by twenty persons. Value of improvements on the land, £1,117; area under cultivation, 119 acres; number of houses, 15; number of persons resident, 54.

(3.) *Tahawai Estate.*—Regarding this estate of 69 acres, the Ranger states that it is a very good little settlement; that the crops are always good, and that the settlers are perfectly satisfied with their sections; this being mainly owing to the small water-race which enables the settlers to irrigate their holdings. Receipts for the year, £33 15s. 4d.; total from beginning, £119 15s. 1d.; present annual rental, £35 14s. 4d.; value of improvements, £667; cultivation, 26 acres; number of houses, 8; persons resident, 29.

(4.) *Maerewhenua Estate.*—Ranger Atkinson reports on this estate as follows: "With regard to this estate, everything is in much the same position as on the Tokarahi Estate. The north-west wind of November did a considerable amount of damage by checking the growth of wheat while in the shot-blade, and the rain later on had the effect of causing a certain amount of second growth. Notwithstanding this the crop is expected to yield about 20 bushels per acre. The oat-crop is very good, as is also the turnip-crop, which, with the grass, will enable stock to winter well. A number of settlers have done well in the sale of early lambs at 10s. a head." Only three small sections of one acre each remain unoccupied on this estate, the area occupied by seventy selectors being 10,910 acres 1 rood 28 perches, and 22 acres 3 roods 22 perches of reserves under temporary licenses, at an annual rental of £3,553 6s., the amount received during the year being £2,059 3s. 9d.; total receipts from commencement, £10,710 18s. 1d. The total value of the improvements now on the land is £9,764 5s. 9d.; the value of those effected by the tenants being £7,063. The cultivation this last season comprised 1,168 acres in oats, 2,354 acres in wheat, and 1,237 acres in root-crops; making a total of 4,759 acres. Fifty-nine houses have been erected, and there are 221 persons now resident. In every respect a favourable increase has been made during the year.

(5.) *Puketapu Estate.*—The settlers on this estate are reported to be doing well. The crops of oats and wheat, as well as root-crops, are very good, and the settlers appear well satisfied with their prospects. The whole of it is occupied, at an annual rental of £189 0s. 10d. for an area of 496 acres and 36 perches, held by eleven tenants. The year's receipts amounted to £159 14s. 6d., the total from commencement being £415 4s. 10d. Total value of improvements, £763 8s. 7d.; cultivation, 119 acres; number of houses, 8; number of persons resident, 23.

(6.) *Ardgowan Estate.*—On this estate the selectors are reported by the Ranger to be doing remarkably well, and being very well satisfied with their holdings and prospects. The crops generally have been very good, and are expected to yield fully up to the average in both wheat and oats. A larger area than usual has been planted with potatoes, which promises excellent returns. With the exception of one section containing 19 acres and 29 perches, the lease of which was recently declared forfeited for non-compliance with conditions, the whole of the estate is let—namely, 4,143 acres 2 roods 15 perches, and a reserve of 2 acres 3 roods 8 perches—at an annual rental of £1,894 19s. 8d., the receipts for the year being £1,257 4s. 11d., and the total from inception £4,889 8s. 7d. Value of improvements, £7,009 19s. 1d.; cultivation, 1,948 acres, 691 acres being in oats, 1,024 acres in wheat, and 233 acres in root-crops; number of houses, 50; persons resident, 199.

(7.) *Makareao Estate.*—Ranger Atkinson reports, "This estate, like those in the Oamaru and Maruwenua districts, has been greatly benefited by a favourable season. The crops of wheat are turning out well, as also the oats, while the root-crops are better than they have been for years past. The settlers generally are satisfied with their holdings." The whole of the estate is occupied

at an annual rental of £377 18s. 8d. The receipts for the year were £248 10s. 5d., those from the commencement amounting to £873 0s. 10d. Value of improvements, £1,494 11s. 9d.; cultivation, 548 acres; number of houses, 15; persons resident, 55. The area in occupation, including reserves under miscellaneous license, is 2,291 acres 3 roods.

(8.) *Makareao Extension.*—The Ranger's remarks on former estate apply to this also. The whole of the selection area of 2,570 acres 2 roods 9 perches is occupied by four tenants, at an annual rental of £296 15s. 4d., the rent paid during the year being £148 3s. 11d.; total to date, £296 15s. 4d. Value of improvements, £596 10s.; cultivation, 196 acres; number of houses, 3; persons resident, 6.

(9.) *Momona Estate.*—This small estate, with a present selection area of 219 acres and 15 perches, is all let to fourteen tenants, at an annual rental of £210 3s., including £25 5s. for Buildings Account. Ranger Hughan reports with regard to it as follows: "This is one of the best settlements for its size in Otago. Each settler has a dwellinghouse and all necessary improvements, which are far in excess of the requirements of the Act. There is a dairy factory and school adjoining the estate, and the selectors milk about eighty cows for the factory. The tenants are well satisfied with their position." The rent paid during the year amounted to £186 12s. 10d., including £25 5s. on account of buildings, the total to date being £398 11s. 6d. Value of improvements, £1,808 12s. 6d.; cultivation, 122 acres, 64 acres being in oats, 23 acres in wheat, and 35 acres in root-crops; number of houses, 14; persons resident, 49.

(10.) *Tokarahi Estate.*—Ranger Atkinson reports, "On this estate the settlers generally have had a fairly successful year. The wheat-crop will yield comparatively well, although in some instances on exposed places it is very poor, having been checked by a high north-west wind at the latter end of November. The oat-crop is very good, and will yield well. The turnip-crop is exceptionally good, and will provide abundance of food for stock during the winter." Only three sections, with an area of 4 acres and 27 perches, are unoccupied on this estate, there being an area of 10,781 acres 2 roods 36 perches held by fifty-one tenants, at an annual rental of £4,101 14s., including £96 1s. 10d. for buildings. There is also an aggregate area of 186 acres 3 roods 22 perches of reserves held under twenty-seven temporary licenses, at an annual rental of £16 9s. 10d., twenty-five of which licenses are held by lease-in-perpetuity tenants on the estate. The total annual rental is thus £4,118 3s. 10d. The receipts for the year amounted to £2,880 18s. 7d., the total from inception being £5,637 1s. 11d. Value of improvements on the land, £6,665 14s. 6d.; cultivation, 4,119 acres, 983 acres being in oats, 2,695 acres in wheat, and 441 acres in root-crops; number of houses, 39; persons resident, 116. The selectors on this estate had a very unfavourable year at the commencement, and hence are somewhat behind in their payments; but given another favourable season, there is every reason for believing that they will be put in a satisfactory position.

Summary.—The following summary of totals in respect of the several estates may be of interest: Number of estates, 10; number of selectors, 298; area in occupation (in addition to reserves, 390 acres 2 roods 11 perches) 38,548 acres and 10 perches; average to each selector, 129 acres 1 rood 16 perches. Annual rental, including temporary reserves and Building Account, £12,064 3s. 6d. Area unlet at 31st March last, 380 acres and 33 perches; annual rental of unlet area, £90 1s. 8d. Receipts during the year, £9,249 17s. 3d.; receipts from inception to 31st March last, £28,608 7s. 7d. Value of improvements on 31st March last, £34,639 0s. 2d. Area in cultivation—oats, 5,495 acres; wheat, 6,698 acres; root-crops, 2,451 acres: total, 14,644 acres. Number of dwellinghouses, 234; number of persons resident, 827.

Martin's Bay Settlement.

Ranger Mackenzie reports on this settlement on 17th April, 1899, as follows: I have the honour to forward report upon my recent visit to Martin's Bay Settlement. I left the Greenstone on the morning of the 20th March, and at 6 o'clock in the evening reached the Greenstone Hut, which stands about a mile after leaving the Greenstone Gorge. It is a slab hut with iron roof, erected last winter. This is always the first stage going this route, making an early start. The road is very good up the open valley; there is not the slightest difficulty for any one going for the first time to find the best road, as there are fifty poles, put up at every point where there would be any difficulty in river-crossings or swamps, also at the entrance of the bushes. Great improvements have been made on this portion of the track—I mean from the entrance of the bush to the saddle. It used to be dangerous crossing the deep bogs, but now there is a good firm track; indeed, the track all the way down to the head of the lake is in very good order. I then rode down the lake track to the settlement. This is the worst part of the journey, but I found little or no difficulty in getting through. One tree had fallen over it, but this was easily got round without using an axe. At the same time the track is a very rough one—so many high, steep bluffs rising up from the lake-side necessitate an abrupt ascent, rising sometimes 300 ft. or 400 ft. up a very steep grade. The track has been badly laid off, as many of these places could have been avoided altogether, or a better grade found. There is often, however, a boat at the head of the lake, and when there is none I would suggest that if a party have a guide with them he should be sent round by the lake track and bring up a boat. The party meanwhile could stay at Pyke's Creek hut, and be exploring Lake Alabaster, which is close to the Chair, the scenery around being very fine. I had a very wet day going down the lake-side, but on getting out on the white shingle-beach near the township one forgets all the hardships of the rough mountain-track. I had a very kind reception by the three settlers—Mackenzie, George, and Campbell. They are all moving along quietly. George has about 100 acres cleared and in grass. Their sheep are increasing, but they trust chiefly to their cattle, which feed in the bush, where there is plenty of feed all the year round. Their great difficulty is an outlet for their produce. Their wool has at times been left six, and sometimes eight, months on the beach. They made great complaints of the irregularity of the steamer, which is generally a month or six weeks behind the time it is supposed to be there; so that, instead of having it calling four times a year, it only makes three trips, and they are often out of provisions. One house had no sugar, and flour was getting scarce. The steamer, they said, should have been there three weeks before, but they did not know when it would come. They said a steamer calls

every month at Jackson's Bay. I have no doubt but in time this will become a thriving settlement. I believe there are several thousand acres of as fine land as is to be found in New Zealand, which could be easily cleared, and which is specially adapted for grass-growing. There are several places where sawmills could be erected, any quantity of timber—white- and red-pine, totara, red-birch, &c.—being procurable. The lake and river scenery is beautiful, and, from careful inquiries, I believe that steamers of two or three hundred tons could come in over the bar at any time without any danger, and this must be the outlet for the district. It is something to know that some of the best land in Otago is still open for selection.

J. P. MAITLAND,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

The subjoined table will show in a brief but comprehensive manner the result of the year's transactions and the several sources from which the revenue has been obtained:—

System.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Cash paid during the Year.	Arrears of Rents.	Number of Tenants on Books.	Area held by such Tenants.
Cash—		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.
Town, suburban, and village	31	49 3 12	462 4 3	...	...	...
Rural	8	968 2 26	637 13 7	...	...	...
Occupation with right of purchase	14	1,551 2 18	809 9 10	31 6 6	127	22,287 3 10
Lease in perpetuity ...	47	5,574 0 32	2,240 12 5	234 14 3	413	66,709 1 26
Deferred payment ...	...	...	2,165 3 11	33 8 0	154	24,284 3 5
Perpetual lease ...	...	...	1,421 9 2	84 16 8	302	27,636 1 38
Perpetual lease made freehold	4	1,257 3 29	804 5 0	...	...	...
Small grazing-runs ...	2	6,651 2 33	768 15 8	155 16 7	20	61,906 1 13
Pastoral runs	6	71,102 0 0	3,745 3 10	...	88	1,250 795 0 0
Miscellaneous* ...	38	9,279 2 6	731 3 8	28 19 7	282	45,355 2 13
Improved farms ...	12	1,225 2 10	...	...	52	4,977 2 14
Timber and State forests	...	...	2,826 15 1	...	...	...
Other sources... ...	...	...	527 13 8	...	...	...
Total Crown ...	162	97,661 0 6	17,140 10 1	569 1 7	1,438	1,503,952 3 39
Endowments	...	...	2,219 1 9	...	82	54,085 3 37
Total	162	97,661 0 6	19,359 11 10	569 1 7	1,520	1,558,038 3 36
Land for settlements—						
Lease in perpetuity ...	8	4,486 2 6	1,426 16 4	147 7 9	55	15,504 2 20
Miscellaneous ...	1	5 0 9	107 16 0	...	2	25 0 9
Grand total ...	171	102,152 2 21	20,894 4 2	716 9 4	1,577	1,573,568 2 25

* Includes licenses under Mining Districts Land Occupation Act.

It will be seen by the above return that the revenue is greatly in excess of my last year's estimate, and fully equal to that of the previous year. Another satisfactory feature is the small percentage of arrears.

Land for Selection.—There are several blocks in this district which might be placed in the market for selection, but as these are nearly all covered with bush the Land Board is not anxious to push settlement in this class of land, where it is recognised that the future, if not the present, value of the milling timber is more than the prairie value of the land. This is applicable to nearly all the Waikawa and Otara Blocks where sawmills have not yet been cutting. Of course it is recognised that the present value of the bush is not much so long as the more easily accessible timber is sufficient to supply the market. The time, however, is fast approaching when the back blocks will have to be drawn on for supplies. It appears, therefore, well to conserve them for future disposal. This question, however, affects second-class lands only, as land fairly good, and with only a limited amount of milling timber, would pay better if utilised for immediate settlement. In the latter class I include that lying on the east side of the Waiau River, in Longwood and Waiau districts. This land carries only sufficient timber for fencing and building purposes, and would consequently pay better were it felled and grassed; in the meantime it is either State forest or forest-preservation reserve, and therefore will require parliamentary approval for the removal of the reservation. The Land Board will recommend that a block in the locality referred to be thrown open for settlement.

Land open for Selection.—The land open for selection consists principally of that shown in the Land Guide, the greater part of which is inferior bush, swampy, cold, clay land. During the ensuing year I propose asking one of the members of the Land Board to accompany me in a thorough inspection of all the surveyed land for the purpose of reclassifying, valuing, and grouping these sections, and if possible place the lands at such a value as may secure their occupation in some way. The same remarks may also apply to township lands, the sections of which bulk largely in the Land Guide. Many of these were laid out anticipating a greater distribution of towns

throughout the district. The present-day tendency, however, is towards large centres, hence these small and presently paper townships are and will be of little value. I have no doubt we will be in a position to make recommendations for the disposal of these also.

Cash Lands.—Included under this heading it will be seen that thirty-nine selectors have acquired town and rural lands; thirty-one of these purchased sections principally in the townships of Winton and Limehills. The latter was one of those laid out years ago and offered at the usual township prices, but with the exception of a few sections the bulk of them remained unsold. During the year it was deemed advisable to lower the price and dispose of them as village lands at a fair upset. The result justified the action, as the greater part was then sold at satisfactory prices, and substantial improvements and cultivation will follow.

The Land Board brought forward a proposal to reduce the upset price of sections in Winton from £32 to £20 per acre, but the Borough Council strongly objected to a reduction, alleging with some force that this would lead to speculation and a reduction in the value of land previously bought at a higher price. Ultimately the Board gave way, and left the price as formerly. This discussion had, however, a good advertising effect, as the great majority of unsold sections have since been disposed of.

Deferred-payment Lands.—The old class of settlement is, of course, a diminishing quantity; every year the usual number complete purchase, and within a reasonable time the revenue from this source will not amount to much. It might be noted that the bulk of those who have capitalised are practically treating their holdings as perpetual lease—*i.e.*, continuing to pay the accruing interest without apparently a thought of completing the purchase within the period allowed. This is a question which might be dealt with in the future, as hitherto it has been deemed inadvisable by the Land Board to force a man to borrow for the purpose of completing his title. There is also the other side of the question—viz., that as long as a settler pays 5 per cent. regularly he should not be urged to complete purchase. This is the aspect most favourable to the present position.

Perpetual Lease.—During the year nineteen have exchanged to lease in perpetuity. This has been done in the case of many who were unable to pay the arrears of rent and have taken advantage of the lower rate to place themselves in credit. Four have acquired the freehold, and in this they have been assisted by the Advances to Settlers Department, the better security of freehold being a factor in the amount of advance. It will be noticed that the number of settlers in arrear in this system has decreased from fifty-four last year to twenty-three in the current year, and also the arrears from £236 0s. 6d. to £84 16s. 8d.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—This system is apparently unpopular in this district. Only fourteen selections have been made during the year, as against forty-seven under lease in perpetuity. At the same time it might be mentioned that since the introduction of these two systems, omitting the area in village settlements, the numbers of selectors are 135 and 213 under occupation with right of purchase and lease in perpetuity respectively. Six forfeitures and twelve surrenders have been made during the year.

Lease in Perpetuity.—As previously mentioned, the number of selectors is forty-seven, thirty of which were village-homestead allotments, the balance being rural lands. The forfeitures and surrenders have been unusually heavy, owing principally to the residence conditions being more strictly required. In some cases it was also found that on bush sections there was a tendency to cut out the timber and abandon the holding. The Land Board had therefore to prevent this by more stringently enforcing the requirements of the Act. It might also be noted that the arrears have decreased from £732 to £234.

Small Grazing-runs.—This class of settlement has not been in Southland the success anticipated when inaugurated. A considerable extent of pastoral land was set aside for this settlement. Forty-two sections or runs were surveyed, but only twenty are now held, and during next year it is anticipated that a few more will be given up. This will mean that the land will revert to its original purpose for pastoral leasing in larger areas.

Pastoral Runs.—During the year 71,102 acres have been taken up under this tenure. The total holding, as shown by table, represents a steady annual revenue, with which, as a rule, there is not much difficulty in the collection. The arrears, it will be noticed, are nil.

Small Holdings.—In this district there are a very large number of small settlers who hold their allotments under the various systems of village and village-homestead settlement. Including all the systems it will be found that there are 408 settlers holding 6,217 acres in about forty different villages—an average of 15 acres to each settler. Lease-in-perpetuity tenure, of course, claims by far the largest number. One of the settlements has over fifty settlers, while several possess but one single holding. The amount of work entailed in collecting small sums as rents twice every year, in Rangers' visits of inspection, and in reopening and dealing with the frequent forfeitures and surrenders in these small villages is considerable. Nevertheless the establishment of such settlements has enabled many labouring-men to secure comfortable homes. In no case is the rent-payment required nearly so great as would be demanded for a small cottage on a quarter-acre allotment in town or suburb. Besides this, living generally is much cheaper, and a settler is able to keep a cow, pigs, &c., and thus augment his income. In spare time and in the periods when work is not easily obtainable these small settlers, it was thought when these settlements were established, would apply themselves to the improvement of their holdings. The experience in this district goes to show that this has been fairly well carried out. Of course many have made failures, but this will occur in any new scheme of settlement. I am glad to state that the Ranger reports generally that these small holders have made improvements in excess of requirements, and are on the whole well contented with their prospects.

"*The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894.*"—During the year only eleven applications for occupation leases under this Act were received, for an area of 539 acres. Of these, two were granted, covering an area of 150 acres; one was withdrawn, five were refused, and two held over for further consideration. It is probable that the action of the Land Board in refusing, as a rule, to grant the applications of any but those directly interested in mining has deterred others from

making applications for leases under this Act. The leases of two selectors were forfeited for not residing upon their holdings. As residence is the only condition of occupation that is required and can be enforced under the Act, it is necessary that it should be strictly complied with.

Timber.—A glance at the timber revenue will show that the year has been a particularly busy one in this industry. Many sawmill areas have been taken up; new men have entered the business, and new mills have been erected in various parts of the district. The old firms have also increased their plant, the result of all this being a decided increase in the output. I have again obtained an approximate estimate of the quantity cut during the year, and this I understand constitutes a record far in excess of any similar period since the industry started. Taking all the large and small mills, with an output of from 2,000,000 ft. to 80,000 ft., I find there are forty-two at work, cutting about 35,000,000 ft. for the year. Comparing this with the return of last year, it will be seen that there is an increase of upwards of 5,000,000 ft., which at the present price of timber represents only £10,000 in value. I need not point out what this means to the district, but will simply mention that the employés connected with sawmilling number about 573 men, besides those indirectly dependent on the industry. During the year a somewhat sharp rise in the price of timber has been decided on. This was partly owing to the excessive demand, and partly to the increased royalties under the new regulations, although it appeared to me the latter hardly justified the substantial advance in price made by the sawmillers. Those who held large areas under the old regulations will materially benefit by this, but those whose applications were granted under the new regulations to a limited extent only. I might, however, point out one distinct benefit gained by a few settlers in connection with the demand, in that they have been enabled to sell the milling timber on their land, getting cash for it, and the heavy timber cleared from their holdings.

General.—The Ranger's return shows that he has made 443 inspections during the year, and so far he finds that settlers are generally complying with the conditions of their occupation. He reports also "that the improvements are fairly and satisfactorily carried out, and are considerably above the requirements of the Act, chiefly consisting of buildings, fencing, and cultivation, and the crops of wheat and oats have been abundant almost everywhere, and as I travelled through the various districts I heard very few complaints." There will always be some settlers in default. The Land Board, however, discriminates in these cases as carefully as possible between the settler with good intentions, and doing good work, and others who apparently do not intend or care to succeed with their selections. In the latter case forfeiture has in many instances been decided on. I can here make a brief mention only to the revaluations under the surrender conditions of the Act. A number, in accordance with the circular sent out, asked that surrender should be accepted. These have all been carefully gone into by the Commission appointed for the purpose, and substantial reductions have been accorded. This will be an immense benefit to the poorer parts of the district, and should, I think, give settlers more interest in their work.

Lands under "The Land for Settlements Act, 1894."

There are three estates in this district held under the above Act, all of which were surveyed and partly dealt with during previous years. The position of each is as follows:—

Merrivale.—During the year the settlers on this estate have been busily employed in cultivating and improving their holdings. Good houses are being erected on many of the holdings; considerable areas are being again broken up, cropped, and laid down in grass paddocks, and an oat-crop has been taken off (preparatory to turnips and grass). These and other crops show an area under cultivation of about 1,487 acres. In order to assist the Ranger in regulating the future cropping of the estate I sent a surveyor to approximately measure the area under cultivation, so that it will now be an easy matter to ascertain the improvements effected, and prevent overcropping at the same time. The above does not show the only source from which settlers derive their incomes, as, in addition to this, many are still cutting the grasses which were laid down by the previous owners, and the results so far have been particularly good. The following is a quotation from the Ranger's report: "I find that the settlers on the whole are complying with the requirements of the Act in a very satisfactory manner. The past season has proved a good one; the crops have been good and grass has been plentiful. The result of the year has been very satisfactory; the crops on many of the selections have yielded 50 bushels of oats to the acre, and the majority of the settlers are pleased with their holdings. Considerable progress has been made during the past year in fencing, cultivation, and the erection of buildings. The improvements are considerably beyond the requirements of the Act." Although there are seven settlers in arrear with their rents, I would remark that of that number three have paid up since the close of the financial year, and I anticipate that the remaining four will pay as soon as the returns from their harvest sales come in.

Otahu.—Subsequent to the 31st March, 1898, about 2,748 acres have been selected, and the new settlers have made a good start with their improvements. Several paddocks have been laid down in grass and turnips, and the results have been good; others have been broken up, and will be cropped during the ensuing season. The one settler in arrear intends paying as soon as the transfer to him can be completed, which, owing to unforeseen circumstances, has been unavoidably delayed. The Ranger reports as follows: "Satisfactory progress has been made on this estate; the settlers are apparently well pleased with their holdings, and I feel confident that in a few years this estate will be a thorough success. So far satisfactory improvements have been made in the way of fencing and cultivation. The crops are light, owing to their being put in the ground very late in the season, but, on the whole, crops and grass look well, and time will improve the estate very much."

Beaumont.—Since the 31st March, 1898, four sections have been taken up. Settlers have not been in a position to give their properties a fair trial, although what has already been done in the way of cultivation has given good results. With one exception the settlers are vigorously carrying out the necessary improvements and cultivation, and I fully anticipate that the results will induce others during the current year to take up the greater part of the estate.

D. Barron,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

APPENDIX No. 2.—SURVEYS.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF CHIEF SURVEYORS ON THE SURVEY OPERATIONS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1899.

AUCKLAND.

Minor Triangulation.—Practically very little work has been done which can be classed under this heading. A survey of 25,652 acres, at a cost of 1·11d. per acre, was carried out by Mr. J. B. Thomson, for the purpose of correcting certain known errors of closures in the old work in the Opuawhanga district, and by Mr. J. I. Philips breaking down major triangulation for the purpose of check upon his Rangitoto-Tuhua subdivision surveys, in the Tuhua district.

Rural and Suburban.—The output this year again shows an increase, its total being 437 sections, for an area of 116,081 acres, an increased average area per section of 242 acres, against an average of 194 acres per section in last year's return; whilst the mean cost per acre has dropped to 1·38s. per acre, against 1·58s. per acre in last year's return. The staff have contributed the major portion of the work—*i.e.*, 97,276 acres, at a mean cost of 1·28s. per acre. Authorised surveyors at schedule rates have surveyed a total of 18,805 acres, divided amongst 122 sections, at a mean cost of nearly 2s. per acre. This class of work has been distributed amongst eighteen authorised surveyors. The total cost of the 116,081 acres was £8,014 5s. 1d. Nearly the whole of the rural sections surveyed by the staff has been in broken forest country, with the exception of some 3,000 acres of open fern land in the Puniu district, by Mr. Spencer.

Town Surveys.—Mr. H. D. M. Haszard is the only contributor of town-section work, which consists of the Village of Mamaku, on the highest point of the Rotorua railway-line, near Rotorua, where several sawmills have been established, and a few mining residence and business sites in the Ohinemuri district. The total area so surveyed is 140 acres, subdivided into 150 lots, at a mean cost of nearly 17s. an acre. The whole of the area so surveyed is in heavy forest.

Native Land Court Surveys.—The large area of 94,106 acres has been chiefly surveyed by authorised surveyors, with the exception of 2,628 acres surveyed by Mr. Baber in the Maketu and Te Tumu districts, at Tauranga. The mean cost per acre is 7·96d. The large surveys, containing 65,603 acres, in the so-called "King-country" have been chiefly done by Messrs. W. Cussen, J. I. Philips, and W. Hallett, to carry out the orders of the Native Land Court in the Rangitoto-Tuhua Block. The whole area is densely covered with forest, and is very inaccessible. During the year the subdivision surveys ordered by the Native Land Court have been exceptionally numerous, and have occupied the time of three draughtsmen to check and record them.

Gold-mining Surveys.—Only a total of 3,848 acres has been surveyed for the Warden's Court this year, at a mean cost of 3·77s. per acre. I do not anticipate any great increase in this class of survey, as the amalgamation of claims are generally being dealt with on the plans formerly furnished.

Roads, &c.—There has been a large increase in the total mileage of roads surveyed and mapped. Plans of nearly 308 miles have been lodged for record, practically the whole return being by the staff. The cost per mile was very low—a little over £10 per mile, which includes grading, and the whole length was in nearly all cases through forest country. Mr. Vickerman surveyed and explored thirty-one miles of road in the King-country at a cost of £436.

Other Work.—A sum of £1,294 10s. 8d. is ranged under this heading. In addition to this amount, £1,147 9s. 1d. is the cost of inspection of surveys and road-exploration in the King-country by Mr. L. Cussen, under whose general supervision the surveys now in progress in that district are being carried on. £34 18s. is the cost of inspection of county-road contracts by Mr. Baber and attendances at Native Land Court, &c. Mr. Vickerman returns £32 10s., being cost of reports upon Waitehuna-Whatawhata road-deviation, &c., Raglan County. The sum of £450 1s. 4d. is returned by Mr. Haszard as the cost of inspection of mining surveys and general work incurred for the benefit of the Warden's Office in the Hauraki Mining District generally, and also inspecting Native Land Court surveys near Taupo, and rural surveys, Waipu. £16 is the cost of running four miles of a Native boundary by Mr. T. K. Thomson in the Muriwhenua district. £29 8s. is the cost of timber and ranging inspections by Mr. H. A. Warner. The sum of £150 13s. 4d. is charged by Mr. J. B. Thomson for time occupied in reporting upon and estimating kauri timber on Crown grants; also reporting upon settlement work, and cost of supervising road-construction at Ruapekapeka, &c. Mr. E. P. Turner returns a cost of £32 14s. 6d. for time occupied in reporting upon proposed road-deviations, &c., by local bodies in Raglan and Manukau Counties. £68 represents the time of Mr. Wilson and his party counting and measuring kauri timber on Cown lands, and marking boundaries adjoining freeholds, to prevent encroachments. £30 is the cost of Mr. Mountfort's time for reporting upon improvements on sections for settlement purposes. £7 16s. 10d. is the cost of Mr. Laseron's time reporting upon fencing of education reserves near Whaingaroa hot springs.

Inspection of Rural Surveys.—Mr. L. Cussen has given as much time as possible to inspection of surveys in this district. Mr. Haszard, in addition to mining inspection, has inspected some

58,000 acres of Native Land Court subdivisions at Taupo, and also large areas in the Waipu Survey District, which have been from time to time done by Mr. Hannah under contract.

Field-work in Progress.—The staff have now in hand for subdivision purposes no less than 194,000 acres. Of this, some 90,000 acres is in progress in Kawhia County, in the hands of eight staff surveyors, in addition to which three road surveyors are grading roads under Mr. Hursthouse. The county being so operated upon is nearly all broken heavy forest-clad limestone country, of good quality, but intersected with deep ravines, and with very few leading ridges, thus making the work very tedious. It is being pushed on with all possible speed, and I trust to have 15,000 to 20,000 acres ready for scheduling about December. The only other extensive rural surveys in the hands of the staff are in the Tangihua district, in the hands of Mr. Martin, and at Rotorua, in the hands of Mr. Baber.

Office-work.—The office staff have been fully occupied in recording the plans of rural and Native Land Court surveys and in the ordinary routine work. It was found quite impossible to devote any time to the recompiling and completion of the many Crown grant record-maps which I reported last year were more or less perished through damp. Two more good draughtsmen could find continuous employment at this work. The only county map not yet lithographed is that of Kawhia County, which is being held back until the subdivision surveys are in a more completed state. The Native Land Court subdivision orders had accumulated, and had become heavily in arrear, owing to so many appeals having been pending; but as these are now for the most part settled, an effort has been made to overtake this work, and three and four draughtsmen have been employed checking, recording, and placing plans on the order forms of the Court. The number and area so dealt with amounts to 471 plans, totalling 782,060 acres. In addition to the above, thirty Native Land Court block plans have been compiled for Court purposes, for an area of 58,928 acres.

GERHARD MUELLER, Chief Surveyor.

HAWKE'S BAY.

Topographical Survey.—The only survey of this class made during the year was that of the Hatuma Estate, of 26,976 acres, made by Messrs. Murray, Armstrong, and Stevenson for the purposes of the Compensation Court.

Minor Triangulation.—No work under this head has been completed, but Mr. Brook has erected and observed at eleven stations, having broken down from the major triangulation to govern his Ngapaeruru surveys, the country being heavy forest. Mr. Roddick also did some minor work in connection with his Tahora No. 2 Block surveys.

Rural and Suburban.—The area surveyed is 86,760 acres, in 120 sections, at an average cost of 6·4d. per acre. Of this area 14,408 acres are a portion of the Ngapaeruru Block, subdivided for settlement into forty-seven sections by District Surveyor Hay, and all taken up by selectors or set apart for reserves, the land being broken forest country. Another portion of the total area, comprising the Frimley and other estates, surveyed by Mr. Mouat, represents an area of 6,802 acres, all being open grass country. A portion of the Nuhaka Block, containing 27,682 acres, has been surveyed and subdivided for settlement by Mr. Dalziel: it is mixed open and forest country. A part of the Tauwharetoi Block, of 35,023 acres, has been cut up into small grazing-runs by Mr. Roddick, the boundaries being taken on the ridges and other natural features where good fencing-lines can be obtained. This adds to the expense of the survey, but it is a great advantage to the settler. The land was generally broken forest country. With the exception of two small sections at Dannevirke, 1,728 acres represents the subdivision for settlement of the Crown portion of the Rakautatahi Block, near Norsewood, which has been cut up into eight sections by Mr. Stevenson. It is generally forest country. Selection- and sale-maps are now being prepared for 1,118 acres, the Crown award in the Kopuaatuaki Block, situated in the Waimata district, near Gisborne. It has been roaded and surveyed by Mr. H. K. Hovell, and will be offered shortly for selection in one section. It is open, broken country.

Town-section Survey.—Under this class 510¾ acres have been surveyed into 160 allotments, at an average cost of 25·4s. an allotment. It comprises 503 acres in the Native Township of Te Puia, which has been subdivided by District Surveyor Wheeler into 159 allotments, with all necessary reserves; and 7½ acres, being a section in the Town of Gisborne which was surveyed by Mr. Mouat.

Native Land Court Surveys.—The area surveyed by the staff under this heading is 146,904 acres, at a cost of 2·32d. per acre. Of this, 119,952 acres represents the Crown award in Tahora No. 2 Block, the field-work having been generally completed by Mr. Roddick last year. It represents thirteen subdivisions, and is all broken forest country. The forty-nine Crown awards in the Waiapu District contain 26,952 acres, were surveyed by District Surveyor Wheeler, and is generally broken forest country. Authorised surveyors have made sixty-two surveys, of a total area of 43,973 acres, at the cost of the Native owners; so that the total area surveyed by the staff and authorised surveyors is 190,877 acres.

Road Surveys.—Seventy-one miles and a half have been surveyed and mapped, at an average cost of £25·9 a mile, and forty-three miles surveyed but not mapped, so is not returned. Of the seventy-one miles, 17·5 is ordinary road survey, made by District Surveyor Wheeler, at a cost of £15·25 per mile; twenty-eight miles is an engineering survey, by Mr. Mouat, at a cost of £26·2 per mile, being a portion of the Gisborne–Waikaremoana Road, and included in the cost is exploration and all necessary engineering drawings. Of the twenty-six miles returned by Mr. Stevenson, 22¼ miles is an engineering survey of the Norsewood–Apiti Road. Its cost—£36·6 per mile—is high, but the road runs over the Ruahine Ranges, where very bad weather was experienced by the surveyors, and pack-tracks had to be made to get in provisions, &c.

The cost includes seventy-six drawings of plans, cross and longitudinal sections, and the computation of quantities and preparation of specifications, &c. Of the forty-three miles which is not returned, but of which the field-work is completed, twenty-six has been surveyed by Mr. Brook, to open up a portion of the Ngapaeruru Block for settlement, and seventeen miles, by Mr. Roddick, is a portion of the Ruakituri and Gisborne–Waikaremoana Roads. District Surveyor Llewellyn Smith has during the year completed the exploration of the Ngatapa–Ruatahuna Stock-track, which he has located and cut out. It goes through some very rough forest country, where transport of provisions, &c., is difficult and expensive. Mr. Hovell has been engaged exploring for roads to give access to isolated Crown lands in Poverty Bay. Under this heading, but which do not show in the schedule of work executed, are the necessary engineering surveys in connection with the co-operative road-works. Messrs. L. Smith, J. Mouat, H. M. Smith, and T. B. Marshall have been employed on them, and considerable extra work is thrown on the office in preparing specifications, keeping accounts, forwarding half-pay to wives, &c.

Other Work.—Under this heading are included field-inspections and works of a miscellaneous nature which cannot be classed under any of the usual headings, and the cost of surveys of which the field-work is completed, but, not being mapped, cannot be returned, so its cost—£1,358 17s. 10d. —is carried forward to next year.

Field-inspections.—Owing to pressure of other work, only twelve field-inspections have been made by District Surveyors L. Smith and James Hay, Mr. Smith's generally being large blocks, one of 3,974 acres. The work generally has been fairly accurate, but in some cases faulty work was found necessitating correction.

Summary of Year's Operations.—Of the 86,760 acres of rural and suburban surveys returned for the year, the field-work of about 10,000 acres of the Ngapaeruru Block was completed by Mr. Hay last year and the cost brought forward. In the town-section surveys the field-work of Te Puia Native Township, of 503 acres, was completed by Mr. Wheeler last year, and its cost carried forward. Of the 71·5 miles of road, the field-work of twenty-six miles engineering survey of the Gisborne–Waikaremoana Road was completed by Mr. Mouat last year, and the field-work of twelve miles of the engineering survey of the Norsewood–Apiti Road by Mr. Stevenson, in both cases the cost being carried forward. Native Land Court surveys comprised 146,904 acres, and of this area the field-work of 119,000 acres of Tahora No. 2 Block was completed by Mr. Roddick last year and its cost carried forward. Surveys completed in the field but not returned owing to the plans not being finished are about forty-three miles of road surveyed by Messrs. Roddick and Brook in connection with the opening-up of Crown land for sale, while Mr. Dalziel has explored and located roads in Nuhaka No. 2 Block, and Mr. Wheeler completed the survey of four Crown awards in Native blocks in the Waiapu district, of a total area of 3,628 acres, the plans of which are in hand; and, in addition, Mr. Hovell has surveyed portion of Tautini Native Township at Tokomaru. Our officers during the year have also been employed inspecting co-operative works grading, and making any engineering surveys found necessary throughout the district.

Proposed Operations for 1899–1900.—The principal work for the coming year will be the survey for settlement of the Crown awards surveyed during this year and other Crown lands, the total being about 190,000 acres, which will require roading and subdividing for settlement. Of this area 30,000 acres are in the Waiapu district, and are under survey by District Surveyor Wheeler; 120,000 acres, portions of Tohora No. 2 Block, to be surveyed by Mr. Roddick; 20,500 acres of Nuhaka No. 2 Block, now under survey by Mr. Dalziel; and 20,000 acres, being part of Waikopiro and Ngapaeruru Blocks, now under survey by Messrs. Stevenson and Brook. There are likely also to be some large blocks acquired shortly, which will need roading and subdividing for settlement. District Surveyor Hay, I propose, should be employed on field-inspecting in the Hawke's Bay portion of the land district, as, up to the present, no systematic check has been carried out, and I think that it is necessary to appoint an officer to carry out this important work. If any large blocks are acquired and it is necessary to survey them for settlement within a reasonable time, more surveyors will have to be employed.

Office-work.—Office-work in all its branches shows a steady increase. One hundred and ninety-four plans, representing an area of 306,367 acres, have been received, duly examined, and recorded; 1,504 plans have been indorsed upon certificates of title, Court orders, leases, and Validation Court decrees; and 680 tracings made for the Land- and Income-tax Department. Good progress has been made in bringing our records up to date, 244 skeleton block-sheets having been prepared, and forty-three Land Transfer record-maps plotted, on which 534 surveys have been recorded. The Chief Draughtsman has had a large quantity of work to do in connection with co-operative contracts and accounts, but a draughtsman having been lately appointed to assist him in this work, he will now have more time to attend to his ordinary duties. To keep the ordinary work of the department up to date occupies all the time of the present office staff, and to bring up the back work we require another draughtsman, Mr. Percival, who was engaged on this work, having resigned.

ERIC C. GOLD-SMITH, Chief Surveyor.

TARANAKI.

Triangulation and Topography.—H. M. Skeet, District Surveyor, who has the completion of the major triangulation of the district in hand, has this year, when doing the topographical survey of Mount Egmont, been able to get several fresh points, further checking previous work, but the systematic continuance of this work was put off in consequence of more pressing matters. A considerable amount of subsidiary triangulation (breaking-down from the major sides) has been done by Messrs. Sladden and Laing. Mr. Skeet has taken a series of photographs around the mountain in conjunction with his topographical work, and by the aid of these several matters have been more

definitely settled in connection with the sources, &c., of rivers in the reserve. They will also be useful for illustrating "Tourist Guide," &c.

Rural and Suburban.—Under this heading will appear as completed 50,858 acres, in 105 sections, at a cost of £3,505 5s., making the average price per acre 1s. 4·5d.; and, when we consider the country, &c., and difficulties of transit, the cost is an extremely low one. However, I trust in the ensuing year, with the work steadier, and an additional surveyor in place of Mr. Holt, to have more land in the market.

Native Land Court Surveys.—There have only been two isolated surveys under this heading, each necessitating a special journey, and, as their combined area amounts to 189 acres, we may consider that, at a cost of 4s. 3·3d. per acre, the work has been cheaply done. Both these sections have liens over them due to the department.

Roads, Railways, and Water-races.—District Surveyor G. B. Bullard and Assistant Surveyor J. F. Frith have principally been engaged upon roads, Mr. Bullard, in addition to the four miles returned, having some thirty miles of engineering work inland from Hawera surveyed in the field, but the plans are not yet in. These roads directly serve and open up some 30,000 acres of Crown lands, a large part of which I hope to see in the market before next March. Assistant Surveyor J. F. Frith has completed the last twenty-five miles of the through road from Eltham to Pipiriki, and a further twelve miles alternative route at Wanganui end is now in hand, and should be completed soon.

Other Work includes the usual miscellany incidental to survey operations. The soundings usually made by the department for the New Plymouth Harbour Board are discontinued from this year. Numerous field-checks and inspections were made of work done by our own officers, and also by Land Transfer surveyors. A survey of the reserves on Marsland Hill, Town of New Plymouth, was also made, and standard marks fixed along one or two of the roads in the old "built survey area." Measurements were taken of bush felled and of grassed areas in improved-farm settlements. Part of the boundary-line between the Whitianga and Maraekowhai Blocks was cut. Under this head is also included the cost of some exploration and track-cutting work done by Mr. Finnerty in the early part of the year.

Field-work in Progress and proposed for Next Year.—From the causes already referred to, there is a large quantity of work on hand to be completed early next year, and but for which such should have swelled the present returns. The standard survey of the Town of Waitara, and also the remainder of the sectional survey therein, has been completed in the field. A standard survey of Opunake Town is also practically completed. A great improvement in the weather since February has allowed the Mount Egmont work to be quickly and continuously prosecuted, but previous to that month—from end of June last—the season was the worst experienced for many years. A short time longer would have enabled Messrs. Bullard, Frith, Laing, and Oldfield to have completed and mapped from 14,000 to 16,000 acres of section work. These officers, in conjunction with Messrs. Morpeth, Murcott, and Sladden, have a total of 75,000 acres in hand of that class of work. Mr. Murcott at present has in progress survey of roads along the Upper Waitara Valley, for access and opening up his block. Mr. Sladden has done his exploration of the portion of Maraekowhai Block to be subdivided, and is breaking down triangulation for connections.

Office-work.—This work is on the increase, and the congestion in connection with Land Transfer record-plans, county maps, &c., still continues. Good progress in the Crown-grant record-maps has, however, been made during the year, but not as much as I could have desired with the block maps, in consequence of diversion of officers to less valuable but absolutely necessary work. The monthly instalments of dealings to be supplied to the Land Valuation Department add another item to routine work. The preparation of forty-chain maps for reproduction by photo-lithography is also being gone on with.

In conclusion, I beg to express the sorrow of this office at the demise of Mr. Finnerty. As with so many of our colonial staff officers, his services have been many and varied. He was originally in the Imperial Service in India and China, latterly serving there under General Gordon; in New Zealand he served in the troublous times against the Natives, later on in the service of the Armed Constabulary, and then in the Public Works and Survey Departments, and he practically died in harness.

JOHN STRAUCHON, Chief Surveyor.

WELLINGTON.

Major and Minor Triangulation.—As indicated in last year's report, Mr. District Surveyor H. J. Lowe returned 853,000 acres triangulated, including extensive overlaps upon the Auckland and Owhaoku series, necessitated by the removal or destruction of the original station-marks. Of this area, Mr. Lowe seems entitled to claim 809,000 acres, including 200,000 acres over which he reports having sketched the topography. Being still unmapped, the latter is reserved for next season's returns. The 609,000 acres scheduled include thirty-nine subsidiary trig. stations, fixed to check ninety miles of road traverses. As the plans and elements have not yet reached this office I have not been able to have the computations and results verified. Mr. Lowe meantime reports that the closures on the Mount Eden triangulation agree to within 8 seconds in bearing, and 1 link per mile on the closing sides; whilst the discrepancy on the Bay of Plenty series amounted to 39 seconds and 1·3 links per mile respectively. The differences on the Hawke's Bay extension amounted to 18 seconds in bearing, and ranged from 3·3 links to 1·3 links in the mile, upon five sides. The final closures between the Wanganui and Pohangina triangulations are reported to disclose a difference of 1 link per mile. For reasons already given, these comparisons can only be accepted provisionally. After verification of the observations and calculations, and analysis of the various trigonometrical

systems involved, I will report more fully as to the results. A rough tracing already to hand shows that the whole series comprises remarkably well-conditioned triangles, and that over a large area the discrepancy in the summation of the angles in each triangle does not average 2 seconds, testifying to the care of the observer, who used a splendid 10 in. "Everest" by Troughton and Simms, but only reading to 5 seconds. The accuracy of the observations was doubtless due to some extent to the fact that for every change of zero corresponding changes on the verniers were insisted upon—a practice not sufficiently attended to by observers. The measurement of a base of verification on the Murimotu Plains is necessary to the satisfactory conclusion of the work. It is important to note that the western stations of Mr. Lowe's triangulation were planted on the summits of Ruapehu (9,175 ft.), Ngauruhoe (7,504 ft.), and Tongariro (6,458 ft.). Before leaving this subject for the present I wish to draw attention to the fact that the triangulation under review covers the central area of the North Island, and consequently corresponds to the keystone in an arch, as it completes and binds together the various series emanating from the coasts—each independent of the others, originating and founded upon its own base, and governed by ascertained astronomical elements. Hence the opportunity for comparison becomes deeply interesting.

Topographical Survey for Selection Purposes.—This class of work was limited to a small block inland of Carterton, and another at Hurupi, South Wairarapa.

Rural and Suburban.—The out-turn of work under this heading comprises Mr. James McKay's survey of Rangiwaea Block, all forest country, completed at a low cost; 9,630 acres at Kaiwhata, East Coast, subdivided into large sections by Mr. Strachan; Mr. Mountfort's Oraukura Block of 6,535 acres near Taihape, the cost of which was unduly increased by previous surveys which were incorporated; part of the Awarua Block, on the ranges near Mangaweka, surveyed by Mr. Morice at a reasonable rate; and other minor areas. Especial care has, as usual, been exercised in the determination of the road routes, and in their final location. The excellent results and precision obtainable by the use of the present-day 10-chain steel bands recall to the older generation of surveyors the tedious and agonising difficulties attending the use of the old-time chain constructed of bars, swivels, and a multitude of rings. It is interesting to note that Mr. C. A. Mountfort, Assistant Surveyor, failing the necessary trig. connections, has for years past checked and corrected his traverse bearings in dense forest country by sun azimuths. His field-books are replete with examples. The results have been most satisfactory, and prove that a 5-inch theodolite can be relied upon to furnish the true bearing by this method to within a few seconds. Its facility and convenience of application as compared with star observations at night in forest country are recommended to the profession. The late Mr. Alexander Dundas was the first in this district to commonly adopt this method.

Town Sections.—The principal areas under this head embrace Mr. Dalziell's Pongaroa town and village survey, and Mr. Reardon's contract survey of the proposed Native township at Potaka, on the North Island Main Trunk Railway, north of Mangaweka.

Native Land Court Surveys.—Though only five separate areas go to make up about 90,000 acres, it affords me much satisfaction to report that all but 5,000 acres in Rangitatau are situated in the Awarua Block; the titles to which have, most unfortunately, been unduly delayed. Mr. Maitland is credited with 6,697 acres, Mr. Mountfort with 17,400 acres, Mr. Morice with 8,775 acres, and Mr. Biggs with 51,451 acres, executed at a low rate. The cost of the Native surveys has been kept as low as possible, for the reason that in the past the Natives have incurred considerable outlay for the survey and resurvey of their claims. In addition to the foregoing area forty-two blocks, comprising 204 subdivisions and 30,009 acres, were surveyed by private licensed surveyors, the plans of which were examined, reduced, recorded in the office, and approved by the Chief Surveyor.

Roads and Railways.—Of the 155 miles returned, about 124 miles represent roads laid off and legalised through Native lands, and roads and tracks in use proposed to be dedicated as public highways. Though this class of survey is not immediately remunerative to the department, the value of the service rendered and the gain and advantage secured to the public can hardly be overestimated.

Other Work.—The sum of £985 8s. 4d. expended under this heading includes £76 incurred by the Inspecting Surveyor, Mr. Climie, making twelve inspections of surveyors' work; and repairs to trigonometrical stations, mainly in the Wellington and Rangitikei districts. A register of all the trigonometrical stations in the Wellington Land District is projected. Mr. Earle's survey of the lowlying lands on the east side of the Wairarapa Lake cost £129 18s. 7d.; and £84 16s. 2d. was spent on a retraverse of the coast and horse-track between Te Awaiti and the Whangamoana, South Wairarapa, and miscellaneous detached surveys and duties.

Land Transfer Surveys.—It is but seldom that the staff undertakes surveys of this nature. They are carried out by licensed surveyors, the plans being examined and passed by the local Land Transfer Branch of the Survey Department. These comprise 270 plans; and thirty-two plans were drawn or compiled. In addition the following duties were attended to: 1,503 deeds were passed, plans were placed on 2,010 certificates of title, the cost of the office being £901 10s.

Inspections.—As before stated, Mr. Inspector J. D. Climie examined and tested twelve distinct surveys. The deductions to be drawn therefrom are: That, taken as a whole, the work has been good, but in the cases of two surveyors defective surveys were disclosed. The results demonstrate the necessity of systematic inspection in order that the staff and authorised surveyors' work may conform with the regulations and departmental requirements. In consequence of arrears of mapping of surveys executed as District Surveyor, and miscellaneous small but urgent surveys and special duties placed upon him last season, Mr. Climie was prevented from pursuing his inspections of the staff and private surveyors' work, though he is now constantly engaged upon this duty. During the year I devoted 117 days to land and survey inspections, covering by railway, coach, on horseback and foot, nearly six thousand miles. The revaluation of holdings and Land Board

inspections occupied about forty days, settlement roads twenty days, and miscellaneous inspections eight days. I spent forty-nine days visiting, inspecting, and conferring with surveyors regarding their road-work, and in two instances tested the quality of their surveys.

Office: Examination of Working-plans.—Systematic and continuous attention on the part of the draughtsmen was rewarded by the following results:—Working-plans: The undermentioned were examined, reduced, and recorded on standard maps, duly approved, and filed away in the strong-room drawers: Twenty-five plans of settlement surveys, representing 168 sections and an area of 27,577 acres; fifty-six plans Native Land Court surveys, representing 212 claims and an area of 94,909 acres; twenty-seven miscellaneous plans, representing sixty-eight sections and an area of 4,614 acres; seven township plans, representing 290 lots and an area of 601 acres; 173 plans of roads, representing, say, 170 miles; nine railway plans, representing, say, 12 miles: total, 297 plans, representing 738 sections, 182 miles of road and railway, and an area of 12,770 acres. The arrears comprise twenty-four plans, of which fourteen are with the surveyors for amendment. The thorough revision of the whole of the Public Works road and railway survey-plans is still in progress. There are still 226 to be overhauled, though seventy of them only require formal action on the part of the respective surveyors, Road Boards, and other authorities. As four officers are continuously engaged upon the revision, the strain upon the office staff is severely felt.

Compilations.—Eight Crown grant and seven Land Transfer record-maps were constructed; twenty-four plans were drawn for photo-lithography; a new county map of the Waimarino district was compiled; and maps of the Belmont, Port Nicholson, and Karioi Survey Districts, on the 40-chains-to-the-inch scale, are in hand.

Miscellaneous.—In the Native Land Court draughting branch, forty-two plans, comprising 204 subdivisions and 30,009 acres, were received and recorded; two plans, representing 7,333 acres, were compiled; 681 titles were prepared; and thirty-eight surveyors' authorities issued. The ordinary routine and special work of the office was attended to, and good progress made with the register of every section and title in the Wellington Land District; the catalogues, illustrated by plans, of all the reserves in the district have been supplemented; two officers continue to devote their attention to this latter duty, which it is proposed to complete this year. The Crown-grant and certificates-of-title work involved the indorsement of 3,930 plans.

"Thirds" and "Fourths."—During the twelve months 182 ordinary proposals for the expenditure of "thirds" were received from the local bodies, besides eight for hypothecation of "thirds." The sum paid to the various local bodies amounted to £7,638 4s. 10d. for the following road-works: Bush-clearing, 151 chains in length; scrub-clearing, 25 chains; formation, 1,694 chains; and bridges were to absorb £266 13s. 9d., culverting £48 18s. 2d., and miscellaneous £235 14s. 5d.

Proposals for 1899–1900.—I find it difficult to employ the field staff on reproductive—that is, settlement—surveys, as the balance of the Crown lands in the Wellington Land District is scant, generally remote, and comprises a large proportion of rough bush land of considerable altitude. The waste unimproved Native lands now bar the expansion of European settlement, yet the Native owners derive no benefit from their estates in their present wild unproductive state. The acquisition by the Crown of areas of freehold properties under the Land for Settlements Acts would be a very acceptable addition to the Crown's estate in this district. It is proposed to thoroughly explore the balance of the Crown lands in the Wairarapa, and on the upper eastern slopes of the Pohangina and Rangitikei basins, in order to separate lands suitable for conversion for pastoral purposes from those which should be set aside as State forests. The other staff surveyors will similarly deal with all Crown lands intrusted to them for survey. There are several small blocks on the Hautapu, between Ngaurukehu and Potaka, which should be placed on the market, unless it be decided to keep them for sawmillers. The survey of the Tauakira Block, of 26,650 acres, should be completed this season, but it is only suitable for disposal as second-class land, in holdings of about 1,500 acres each. It is also expected that 5,000 acres of the Rangitatatau Block, on the Waitotara, will be sectionised and sold. Failing the acquisition of additional lands for settlement, several surveyors will be employed upon the north-western part of the Waimarino district, though the lands in that locality appear hitherto not to have found favour with the farmer and grazier. Mr. Biggs will complete, for Native Land Court purposes, surveys and plans of the balance of that part of the Awarua Block situated between the Hautapu and Moawhango Rivers, leaving, however, Mr. Morice the portion at and near their junction. Judging by the operations of the Land Purchase Department, subdivisions of numerous blocks of Native lands will be called for. There will probably be a falling-off in the amount of road surveys, but it is anticipated that the North Island Main Trunk Railway will require final survey and mapping. Standard surveys for Land Transfer purposes of the Hutt Borough and Wellington District will, if formally sanctioned, be put in hand.

J. W. A. MARCHANT, Chief Surveyor.

NELSON.

Triangulation and Topography.—Mention was made in last year's report of the fact of there being no triangulation or reliable topography of about 4,400 square miles of country, representing nearly half the area of the district, and that measures were being taken to rectify it. Three of the staff surveyors and one on contract have been engaged on this work, and a considerable amount has been done, notwithstanding that the country is high and mountainous, on account of which the season's work does not extend over more than five months; but, as it has not been mapped, it cannot appear in this year's returns. In the extension of the Takaka and Motueka triangulations towards the west coast Messrs. R. T. Sadd and J. D. Thomson have completed the field-work of 360,000 acres, and Mr. Snodgrass 40,000 between Mokihinui and Karamea. Mr. W. F. Robinson,

a contract surveyor, has also completed the field-work of 100,000 acres from Reefton to Maruia. In all, half a million acres of rough wooded country has been triangulated, and the mapping will be done during the coming winter months.

Settlement Surveys.—Sixty-five rural sections, with an average of 135 acres, have been surveyed, at an average cost of 1s. 11½d. an acre. These were selections before survey, and the great bulk of them, besides being in forest country, were isolated and in distant localities, which necessitated much travelling, and added very considerably to the cost of the work. One hundred and twenty-one town lots were surveyed in the Township of Millerton for the Mines Department, at a cost of £76 5s. 2d.

Gold-mining Surveys.—We have only been called upon to make thirty-one surveys of mining claims, as against one hundred last year. Twenty were made by contract surveyors at schedule rates, the balance by staff officers. In addition, twenty reapplications were made, the surveys of which had previously been done, but in a few of these cases pegs had to be renewed and lines re-opened.

Road Surveys.—Thirty-three and a half miles were surveyed, at an average cost of £14 a mile —a slight advance on last year—and was done principally in the exercise of road rights.

Other Work, represented by the sum of £1,198 19s. 9d., is a large amount of miscellaneous work that will not come under the headings of the tabulated return; for instance: Inspection of contract surveyor's work, £169 1s.; engineering surveys, inspection of road-work, and road-exploration, £238 2s.; reports for Mines Department, £11 18s.; inspection of Crown leaseholds; reports for Land Board, £95; and general departmental work at the district survey offices at Westport and Reefton (at the latter place especially, which is always kept open to the public), £576 12s. 10d.

Field Inspection.—I am pleased at being able to report that the surveys inspected this year—*i.e.*, those of contract and licensed surveyors—with slight exceptions, were found to be very creditably done, and it is gratifying to find that the extensive and exhaustive inspections alluded to in last year's report have had the anticipated effect. The reason of the great improvement is that the work has been done by authorised surveyors themselves, and not by irresponsible and incompetent chainmen employed by them, as was found to be so generally the case in the past where bad work was disclosed.

Office-work.—Good progress has been made in reducing the large arrears in the issue of titles, and I am pleased to say that they are nearly up to date. There have been 409 Crown grants, leases, and other titles prepared and issued, and the plans indorsed numbered 1,036. In the Land Transfer branch sixty-one deposited plans have been examined and 100 other documents passed, besides 124 plans placed on certificates of title. The press of general work in the office, increased as it has lately been by the work connected with the transfer of the south-eastern portion of the district to Canterbury, has prevented any material progress in the preparation of survey district maps for photo-lithography. There are at the present time maps of eighteen districts published, seven more are in the hands of the lithographers, and two in course of preparation. These twenty-seven embrace the most closely settled parts, but to complete the districts that have any sectional work there are still twenty-five more to be compiled and drawn. A compilation of the district has been made in skeleton on a two-mile scale, and a map of it on a scale of eight miles to an inch prepared for lithography.

Proposals for Ensuing Year.—Messrs. R. T. Sadd, J. Snodgrass, and J. D. Thomson, and Mr. W. F. Robinson, contract surveyor, who have just completed the field-work of 700 square miles, will finally compute and map it on their return from the field. The three staff surveyors mentioned will continue the work of triangulation about October next, and in the meantime be engaged on sectional and road surveys. There is 4,077 acres of scattered selections in the hands of different surveyors, and twenty-eight miles of road survey, about half of which is in an advanced stage. A further twenty-five miles of road survey, inclusive of fifteen miles of the main trunk road from Nelson to Westport, which has never been surveyed, and is only very roughly sketched on the maps, will be taken in hand; and there will be an additional survey required of some 4,000 acres of selections of unsurveyed lands that will probably be applied for in the ordinary course. Mr. D. I. Barron will be engaged early in the summer in exploring for and grading a road-line from the saddle near the sources of the Taipo Creek (a branch of the Karamea) and the Little Wanganui River to the settled lands on the coast, to form the connecting-link on the prospective Wangapeka–Wanganui Road. The former bridle-track at the Wangapeka end has reached to within three miles of the saddle mentioned, and, as road-works will be continued next summer, it is important that this work be undertaken. Mining claims with an area of 250 acres are in the hands of contract surveyors, which will be supplemented from time to time as applications are made. I hope to be in a position next summer to get a topographical survey made of the mountainous country between the Inangahua River and the coast, which is required as a foundation for a geological survey that it is intended to have made of that part of the country.

THOS. HUMPHRIES, Chief Surveyor.

MARLBOROUGH.

Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.—There is no work returned under this heading this season, but a considerable amount has been done in the field, but not yet mapped. In Mr. Buckeridge's return a sum of £1,500 is carried forward, a large portion of which is represented by the triangulation of the Seaward Kaikouras.

Rural and Suburban.—115,760 acres has been laid off into 236 sections, which gives an average of 490 acres each. The average cost is under 11d. The Starborough Estate amounts to more than a quarter of the whole area, and cost 10¾d. per acre to survey.

Town-section Survey.—The only item under this head is forty-six sections in the Township of Seddon, on the Starborough Estate.

Gold-mining Survey.—Eleven sections, containing 1,017 acres, were surveyed by three surveyors, at an average cost of 4·42s. per acre.

Road Surveys.—These comprise about thirty-three miles in length; average cost, nearly £19 per mile. The rate per mile for most of the work is much less than this, but the extra cost of six miles of road survey round the Kahautara Bluff has caused the average to be higher than usual.

Office-work.—Sale-plans of Starborough Estate (three), Township of Seddon, Puhipuhi and Pine Valley Blocks, and Small Grazing-run 99 have been compiled for lithography. Fourteen plans were plotted on block-sheets and nineteen road-plans were compiled; 418 tracings were made, and 115 plans and lithos mounted; fifty-six plans and 266 traverse sheets have been examined. In addition to the above, there is, of course, the usual miscellaneous office-work.

Proposed Operations for 1899–1900.—Mr. F. Stephenson Smith, District Surveyor at Kaikoura, will be fully employed in superintending the subdivision of the Puhipuhi and other blocks for settlement and the construction of the main road round the Kahautara Bluff. Mr. D. W. Gillies will complete the survey of the Native reserve extending from the Puhipuhi River to the Government reserve on the south side of the Clarence; he will then assist Mr. Carkeek in the survey of the Stronvar country, &c. Mr. E. W. Buckeridge has completed the triangulation and topography of the Seaward Kaikouras, but it will take him four or five months to finish the plans and calculations; this should be done without further delay, after which he will be available for any settlement surveys that may be required. Messrs. T. W. Hughes and E. H. Farnie will complete the pegging of the Puhipuhi sections to be offered next month, and will then undertake the subdivision of the rest of the Puhipuhi Block, and the reserved portion of the Waipapa and Mount Fyffe runs; they will then be available for the subdivision of the Spey country or other settlement surveys. Mr. R. J. Johnston is now engaged on the survey of the Seaward Valley Road, Puhipuhi Block, which will take some time longer to complete; he will then be available for the road surveys in the Kaikoura district. Mr. Carkeek is now engaged in the subdivision of Richmond Brook Estate, after which I propose that he should complete the triangulation of a small piece of country between the Wairau River and the Nelson boundary; this has been standing over for a long time, and it should be finished without delay, as at present there is no reliable check for section surveys; Mr. Carkeek could then proceed with the survey of the Stronvar Run. Mr. A. Simpson has now in hand the completion of the survey of the Township of Seddon, and the levelling of roads in the Starborough Block; he has also to complete his plans of Starborough, after which he will be available for surveys at Port Underwood and elsewhere. Mr. C. W. McFarland will be engaged for some time in subdividing country on the north bank of the Wairau, in the vicinity of Bartlett's Creek, after which he has some surveys to make at the head of the Onamalutu, and some isolated surveys in the Kaituna and Pelorus Valleys, and other settlement surveys as they come in. Mr. Wilson will complete his work at Richmond Brook in a few weeks; after which, I believe, he proceeds to England on a six months' leave of absence; when he returns I understand he resumes work in the Westland District. Mr. H. Maitland is now surveying a scenic reserve, comprising the valley of the Brown River, adjoining the boundary of the Nelson District.

Field Inspections.—During the year I made eight visits to Pelorus Sound, five to Kenepuru, three to Tory Channel, four to Anakiwi and Mahakipawa, and four to Port Underwood. I visited Wellington twice on business connected with the Land Purchase Board, and once to give evidence in reference to W. Gibson's petition. I went once to Kaikoura to conduct a ballot, once to Richmond Brook Estate, twice to Starborough Estate, once to North Bank, and once up the Rai Valley to Tennyson Inlet.

C. W. Adams, Chief Surveyor.

WESTLAND.

Topographical, &c.—During the first three months Mr. Wilson was employed in connection with cutting the boundary-lines of the Ross Borough. This was no easy matter, as the boundaries traversed the western slope of Mount Greenland, passing over deep ravines. The work now completed will be of good service to the Ross Borough financially, as they are now aware upon whom to levy rates. Mr. Smyth has also completed the traverse of Deception River, a large feeder of the Otira; but, with the exception of ascertaining its position on the topographical map, no settlement land of any extent nor anything in particular requiring to be noted was discovered. Mr. Douglas has explored and mapped the back country between the Waiho and Wataroa, and has also defined the topographical features of the middle basin of the latter valley.

Rural and Suburban.—A block of very necessary revision surveys between Woolhouse Road, Donnelly's Creek, and Ross was completed by Mr. Wilson before his leaving for Blenheim. Mr. Smyth also revised a number of section surveys up the Kokatahi Valley, and which were very much in need of revision—not that any great error ever existed in the original surveys, but the bearings from magnetic to true are difficult to transpose upon the new blocks without a revision survey of nearly all the old boundary-lines, which have now grown up thicker than the original bush, and I should recommend that this work be proceeded with by the staff when no other pressing work is on hand.

Gold-mining Surveys.—During the year 365 acres (nine special claims) has been surveyed by Surveyor Smyth and Licensed Surveyors Lord and Macfarlane, the latter being paid the survey-fees deposited by applicants to Receivers of Gold Revenue. The sum of £133 8s. 6d. has therefore to be credited to the department for work done. Mr. Smyth has also been employed on behalf of the Mines Department in surveying and mapping the general water-race system about the Kumara

goldfields. The levels of the Wainihinihi Water-race now in course of construction have also been checked. Cross-sections of the Hokitika and Kokatahi Rivers are now being taken from Ocean Beach to about fifteen miles up, the distance apart for the first six miles being from 20 to 30 chains, after which they are taken every 40 chains. This work is being done in connection with claims for compensation for the proclamation of the above rivers.

Road Surveys.—Three deviations of the Christchurch–Hokitika Road have been done by Mr. Smyth—viz., Rangiriri deviation, deviations at Moraine and Peg-leg Creek. All these were very necessary, so as to make out plans and specifications for road estimates. Mr. C. E. Douglas has lately been employed in running a grade of eight miles and a half, from Price's Flat, on Pass River, to Whitcombe Pass. The first four miles of country turned out to be very bad, and the heavy rain of 30th January last brought down large land-slides, which completely destroyed their line and grade, necessitating a new route for some two miles. This and the continued wet weather delayed the progress of this work very much. The last four miles of the track is over fairly good country, and will not take much to make it passable for foot-travellers. The benched track, completed last year, has suffered from the floods very much, as in places the mountain appears to have gone into the river, leaving nothing but the bare rock, which will now necessitate blasting.

Proposed Operations, 1899–1900.—Mr. Smyth will complete cross-sections up Hokitika and Kokatahi Rivers, attend to mining surveys when required, survey deviations of Main South Road at Waitaha River, and sundry other roads south of Ross, and likewise continue revision surveys up Kokatahi Valley. Should Mr. Wilson return from Blenheim early, some of the above surveys will be handed to him. Mr. Douglas will be employed in exploring the country lying between the head-waters of Whitcombe River and sources of Wanganui, Poerua, and Wataroa, and thus define the metalliferous belts in those districts.

W. G. Murray, Chief Surveyor.

CANTERBURY.

Topographical Survey (for Selection).—Mr. McClure surveyed 7,758 acres of the rough forest country situate on the southern slopes of Mount Oxford that was devastated by fire in January, 1898, for the purpose of defining, without extreme accuracy, the boundaries of five pastoral runs, into which it was subdivided. This was done at a cost of 0·9d. per acre.

Rural and Suburban.—Including the area carried forward from last year—viz., 26,875 acres—an area of 75,917 acres has been returned as completed. This was surveyed into 224 sections, at a mean cost of 7·49d. per acre. Of this area, 48,167 acres comprise the Waikakahi Estate, situate at the extreme south-eastern corner of the district. The survey was commenced at the beginning of November, when Messrs. Brodrick, McClure, and Mathias, District Surveyors of Canterbury, and Mr. Langmuir, District Surveyor, and Messrs. McCurdie and Neill, Assistant Surveyors, of Otago, were instructed to push on the surveys with all the speed possible, in order that the work might be sufficiently advanced to admit of the land being put into the market by the middle of March. The time at their disposal was very limited, considering the large amount of detail work to be executed, and the extreme care to be exercised in the location of section boundaries, &c.; but, notwithstanding this, they one and all worked very long hours, and with most praiseworthy zeal and energy, to get the work completed in time; and, as you are aware, the land was open for selection on the 20th March. At the time of writing, not a single rural section remains unallotted. The subjoined table shows the result of each surveyor's work on this estate:—

Name.	Area.	Cost.	Number of Sections.	Time in Field.	Nature of Country.
	Acres.	£ s. d.		Months.	
T. N. Brodrick	9,703	351 17 6	23	4	Hilly and undulating.
G. H. M. McClure	7,259	260 16 4	54	3	Nearly all flat.
L. O. Mathias	7,090	359 0 0	31	3½	Chiefly undulating.
J. Langmuir	12,057	381 18 9	31	3¼	Flat and undulating.
W. D. R. McCurdie	6,122	150 0 0	7	2¾	Hilly and undulating.
W. T. Neill	5,936	183 11 4	28	2¼	Flat.
(Morven Township, by G. H. M. McClure)	51½	41 15 9	111	...	Flat.
	48,218½	1,728 19 8	285	...	

Although the Morven Township area does not come strictly under this heading, I have included it, in order to show total area and cost, the latter amounting to 8·59d. per acre. To give some idea of the amount of actual field-work executed within this short period on this estate, the subjoined figures may be considered interesting: Section traverse, 286 miles; traverse for topography, 320½ miles; section lines ranged and lock-spitted, 48 miles; number of section-pegs, 3,101; number of tubes, 136; number of pegs and other points lock-spitted, 2,436; chipped lines, 7¼ miles. I should add, in connection with the survey of this estate, that Mr. J. R. Strachan was employed for three weeks assisting Mr. Langmuir. Soon after the survey was commenced Mr. R. H. Schmidt and Mr. W. Darby, Draughtsman and Assistant Draughtsman, were despatched from this office to the estate, the former to push on the photo-lithographic plans and the latter to assist the surveyors to compute

and map their work in order to keep Mr. Schmidt supplied with data. On the whole, this arrangement worked fairly well, the whole of the estate being mapped on a 20-chain scale in three sheets, and posted to Wellington within two months and a half from the date of Mr. Schmidt's arrival on the ground. I think it may be claimed for this plan that, in point of draughtsmanship, variety of detail, and general information, it is one of the best of its kind that has been turned out by the department, and its compilation and execution within such a short time reflect great credit upon Mr. Schmidt. The balance of the area surveyed comprises an educational endowment of 23,212 acres situate in the Geraldine County, being mountainous country between the Orari and Waihi Rivers, the field-work of which was completed by Mr. Brodrick last year, but not mapped. He also surveyed some plantation reserves in the Mackenzie country, amounting to 3,663 acres, and a few scattered surveys in the low country, comprising 563 acres.

Town-section Survey.—The only survey executed under this heading by the staff was that of the Township of Morven, part of the Waikakahi Estate, 51½ acres, subdivided into 111 allotments by Mr. McClure, at a cost of 7.53s. per allotment. Messrs. Meason and Marchant, of Timaru, redefined seventeen quarter-acre allotments and five suburban ones in the Township of Opawa, Albury, for the School Commissioners.

Native Land Court Survey.—Mr. McClure subdivided part of the Kaiapoi Native reserve (54½ acres) into seven subdivisions, at a cost of 3·25s. per acre.

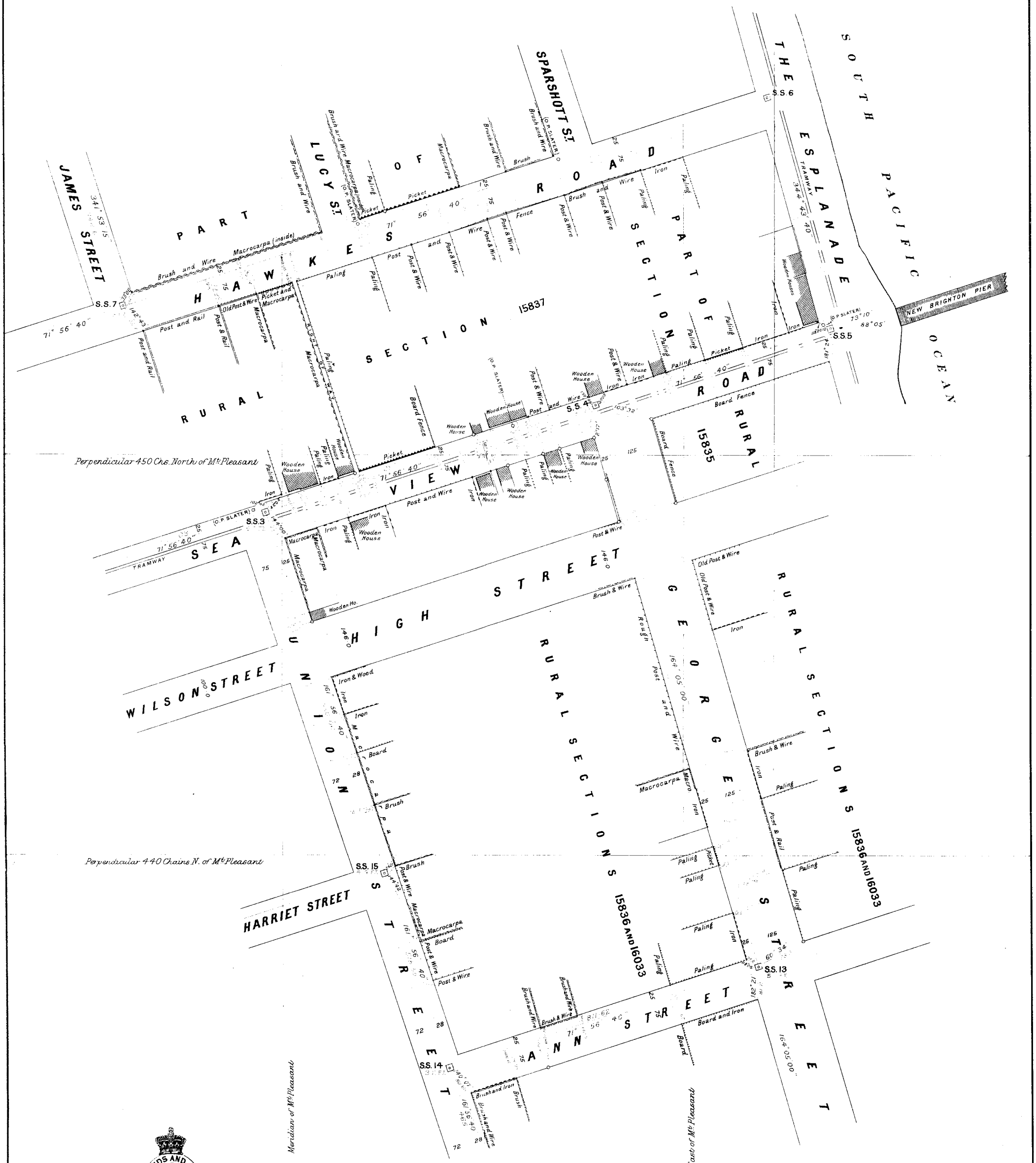
Roads, Standard Survey, and Water-races.—In connection with the Waikakahi Estate, Mr. McCurdie made an engineering survey of the Waihuna Road, 3·2 miles, at a cost of £8·87 per mile. During the autumn Mr. McClure executed 13¼ miles of standard survey in the New Brighton and Christchurch Districts, putting in sixty-eight stones. It was a very necessary work, which had been in contemplation for some years, and will, I am sure, prove of considerable service to the profession and to the office. Except in a few cases, the standard lines determine the alignment of the street or road, as the case may be, and every care was taken to secure extreme accuracy both in bearing and distance; and, in addition to this, the position of every fence and peg was fixed by offsets, very carefully set off and measured. All this necessitated a large amount of labour and patience, and occupied some time.

Other Work.—The sum of £487 5s. 1d. under this heading is distributed as follows: Mr. Brodrick, £156 12s. 6d.; Mr. McClure, £254 6s. 6d.; Mr. Mathias, £69 6s. 4d.; and Mr. McCurdie, £6 19s. 9d.

Land Transfer.—Mr. Monro reports that in comparison with previous years the last has been a busy one: 251 plans were examined and passed; 917 deeds and other instruments were passed; 1,168 plans were drawn in duplicate on certificates of title, and fifteen in triplicate. Pursuant to instructions received during the year, that the original plans of towns are now to be forwarded for the approval of His Excellency the Governor, two copies were made for this purpose.

Proposed Operations for 1899–1900.—Unless some of the properties lately inspected and reported on by the Land Purchase Board are acquired the area of land to be surveyed will be limited to about 41,920 acres, classified as follows: Four rural sections in the Ashburton and Waimate Counties, 348 acres; twenty-eight plantation and other reserves in the several counties, very scattered, 2,124 acres; agricultural and pastoral runs, Rockwood, Steventon, Burnt Hill, &c., 35,407 acres; and subdivision of Section 101, Woolston, acquired for workmen's homes, and named "Tamai" Hamlet, 41 acres. An area of 5,566 acres has been completed in the field, but not yet mapped, viz.: Agricultural pastoral runs, Broomfield and Loburn, Grey district, 5,426 acres, surveyed by Mr. McClure; acquired land, as an addition to Small Grazing-run No. 65, Nimrod Survey District, leased to Mr. Collier, 100 acres; River Conservation Reserve 2970, in the Geraldine district, 40 acres, and four miles and a half of standard traverse at Timaru, all surveyed by Mr. Brodrick. There will also be the usual miscellaneous work, such as replacing trig. stations; extension of the standard survey adjacent to Christchurch, Timaru, and Temuka; supervision of the Mount Cook and other roads and drainage-works; also a few surveys in the Amuri district.

Office-work.—Mr. Shanks, Chief Draughtsman, reports as follows: "There were twenty-three large and twenty-one small working-plans received from the surveyors, all of which have been examined and checked with the exception of the recently received plans of the Waikakahi Estate, which are now under check. The plans delineating the whole of the estate, except Mr. Mathias's, have been received; he anticipates finishing his plans during this month, and has, accordingly, taken credit for the area in his yearly return of work, adding the estimated expense of completing them to the cost of his survey. His time was a good deal occupied during March by the proposed further drainage of the Roimata Settlement. The office-work in connection with the Waikakahi Estate was very considerable, as there was a great number of working-tracings and locality-plans to prepare for the several surveyors, searching titles in the Transfer Office relative to the ownership of sections comprising the estate and properties abutting thereon, calculating values and rentals of the sections and writing out schedules of the same, preparing photo-lithographic sale-plan of the Township of Morven, also sale-plan of the estate, delineating the topographical features and sectional subdivisions. With a view to publication, a new map of this provincial district, on a scale of four miles to an inch, was compiled by Mr. Schmidt, showing all the latest information, and defining the position of post-offices, sheep-stations, and other prominent topographical features. Plans were drafted on the originals of forty-one certificates of title in lieu of Crown grants, conveying sixty-four sections of land, containing 2,262 acres 2 roods 19 perches, at a cost of 4s. 10d. each, the duplicate and triplicate copies being prepared in the Transfer branch of this office; four Crown grants were indorsed with amended plans and descriptions, three of them to accord with revised surveys, and the fourth, of Rural Section 4, on account of part of the section having been omitted from the plan when the grant was originally prepared. The register copies of the foregoing were also made to correspond, and one transcript of a lost grant was prepared with the required indorsements thereon, and plans were placed on seven Native Land Court titles in duplicate.



N.Z. LANDS AND SURVEY

S. PERCY SMITH
Surveyor General.

SPECIMEN PLAN
OF STANDARD SURVEY
BOROUGH OF NEW BRIGHTON

Scale of Chains

2 1 0 2 4 6

G. H. M. McCLURE, DISTRICT SURVEYOR, MARCH, 1898.

Note. Datum for Heights. Cathedral Floor, 15·72 Feet above High Water Mark.

Drawn by H. McCardell, May 1899.

Photolithographed at the Head Office Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, N. Z.

F. W. Flanagan, Chief Draughtsman.

S. Westman, Chief Surveyor Christchurch.

The following lease-deeds were prepared and plans placed thereon: Seventy-five leases in perpetuity drafted in quadruplicate, seven small grazing-runs, nine miscellaneous occupation leases in triplicate, ten pastoral-run licenses, seventy-three temporary licenses in duplicate, and 198 single copies of back leases in perpetuity for the Head Office; making a total of 712 copies prepared, and representing 174 leases issued. The present arrears are about 192 leases in perpetuity, which is inclusive of 128 recently balloted for on the Waikakahi Estate; twenty-five small grazing-runs, including fourteen on the Waikakahi Estate; and about thirty-three pastoral and miscellaneous: making a total of 250 in arrear, forty-two of which are written and are now having the plans placed thereon. Probably the whole of the arrears will be worked off during the current year. Since the 1st January there have been prepared for the Valuer-General tracings of twenty-two deposit-plans and fifty-four other tracings, being copies of sixty-five certificates of title, illustrating transfer dealings that have taken place during the three months of the year, at an estimated cost of £7 18s. There were also prepared for the Valuation Department duplicate copies of the Kaiapoi, Rangiora, and Sydenham Borough tracings; schedule of lands defining the area of sections within and without the Eyre River Conservation District, and illustrating on their plans the boundaries of the Waimakariri Water-supply District; and subdivisions at a cost of £17 16s. One record-map of the Noble district was constructed, and all the back titles, eight certificates, and one Crown grant recorded thereon. Several of the other record-maps were amended, and additional work compiled thereon, besides fifty-five certificates recorded, six of which were closed roads. The Akaroa and Okains district maps were posted up to date for the purpose of publication, work in which we are very backward, there being a few of the districts in the Ashley, Ashburton, and Selwyn Counties still unpublished, and all the districts in the Geraldine, Levels, Waimate, and Mackenzie Counties, the whole of which will require more or less attention before publication. The Geraldine County districts, being the most urgently required, are proposed to be taken first. Miscellaneous draughting and other work have comprised the preparation of photo-lithographic plans of the Oxford Bush runs and reserves on the Peninsula. A number of tracings have been made for the Land Purchase Commissioners relating to estates offered to be sold to the Crown for settlement. All the surveyors' current plans, and a large amount of extra surveys plotted upon other maps, have been reduced and recorded on the compiled maps of the office; the survey data renewed on a few of the early plans whereon the figures were rapidly fading away. The values of the initial trig. station of each survey district were calculated from the initial station of the circuit, to enable surveyors to tabulate their work accordingly, and a great deal of other miscellaneous work was performed. In conclusion, I may remark that the office-work is in a fairly satisfactory state, the year's current work of examination and compilation of plans being up to date, leaving us with a few of the back plots that have had extra information placed on them to sort out, and record the additional work, and thus bring up the district maps for publication. The work which is seriously in arrear is the recording of leases in perpetuity issued, for comparatively few have been recorded, owing to pressure of other work which must, if possible, be kept up to date."

I was absent from the office seventy-two days on various duties, such as attending at Wellington meetings of the Land Purchase Board and Surveyors' Examination Board; inspecting with other members of the Land Purchase Board several properties offered for sale; inspecting with Mr. McLachlan and Mr. Williams (Crown Lands Ranger) the Highbank and Marawiti Settlements after the severe gale which occurred on the 23rd September; also, with Messrs. McMillan, McLachlan, and Williams, reclassifying runs in South Canterbury, &c.

SIDNEY WEETMAN, Chief Surveyor.

EXTRACTS FROM A REPORT BY MR. G. H. M. MCCLURE ON WORK CONNECTED WITH STANDARD SURVEY NEAR CHRISTCHURCH, ETC.

Mr. McClure's nine plans of standard survey contain work done in the Borough of New Brighton and Blocks XII. and XVI., Christchurch District. He reports as follows:—

"The angles were observed with a 5 in. theodolite, taking from eight to twelve readings at every station, and the chainages done with the standard chain with thermometers attached, with the exception of work shown on plan 24 and lines 34A to SS 38 and SS 36 to SS 37; which, owing to the nature of the country, I had to chain with a 5-chain wire. The standard band was stretched with a uniform tension of 14 lb. as shown by a spring-balance attached to one end of the chain. Three steel plates, 10 in. square and $\frac{1}{16}$ in. in thickness, spiked to the ground by four steel spikes, were used to mark the chaining on. All lines were chained twice, and, if there was any difference, three times. The coefficient applied for temperature was ·00000625. The standard lines are parallel to the sides of the streets and roads, except in a few cases where it was not possible to have them so. The offsets, which are shown in black on plans, vary from 19 to 50 links. This was occasioned by the nature of the ground—drift sand, lupins, and gorse—making a uniform offset impossible. The datum for heights is the Cathedral floor, 15·72 ft. above spring tide, taken at Sumner bar. This information was obtained from Mr. Cuthbert, Drainage Board Engineer. If 34·28 be added to my heights, it will give the reduced levels used by the Drainage Board. Plans 21, 22, 23, showing the built-on part of New Brighton, are plotted 1 chain to the inch, the rest of the plans being 2 chains to the inch. The work is tabulated from Mount Pleasant, taking Mr. C. W. Adams's position of SS 79 as origin. The closures show the following average error per mile: On meridian, 0·25; on perpendicular, 0·12. The origin of my bearings was Mr. Adams's bearing 310° 26′ 13″ between SS 78 and SS 79, and bearing 108° 04′ 53″ between Trigs. W and C. Owing to the nature of much of the country—drifting sand, covered with lupins and gorse—much time was occupied in finding old pegs and in clearing and levelling standard lines, which has necessarily increased the cost of this work. The total length of standard work done is 13¼ miles, and number of stones put in sixty-eight, which gives an average length of 15½ chains to each line."

OTAGO.

Rural and Suburban.—The total area surveyed under this heading for the year ending the 31st March is 8,664 acres, into ninety-five sections, at an average cost of 2·03s. per acre. Mr. Langmuir was absent for five months during the year assisting the Canterbury staff in the subdivision of Waikakahi Estate; Mr. McCurdie was absent a little over three months assisting at Waikakahi; so also was Mr. Neill absent for a little over three months assisting in subdivision of same estate.

Town-section Surveys.—Only a very small area was sectionized this year—viz., 16 acres, into thirty-five sections, at an average cost of 19s. per allotment.

Roads and Railways.—Under this heading the engineering plans of 34⅝ miles of road were completed, at a cost of £10·03 per mile. This includes 25⅝ miles of Matakanui–Bendigo Road, which has been estimated to cost £9,600, and if made would certainly be of great benefit to the Wanaka and Hawea settlers, as the distance to Ranfurly would be shortened some twenty-three miles.

Gold-mining Surveys.—One hundred and eight plans (in duplicate) have been received from the staff and licensed private surveyors. These, along with leases in duplicate when for licensed holdings, and in triplicate when for special claims, have been examined, checked, and recorded on record-maps, and entered up in the mining and index record-books. The licenses, after examination and check, have been forwarded to the several Wardens' offices at which the applications for mining areas were received—viz., at Dunedin, Lawrence, Roxburgh, Alexandra, Clyde, Cromwell, Naseby, or Queenstown. "The Mining Act, 1898," came into force on the 1st February last, and, in consequence, many of the licenses made out under the old Act were rendered useless, and plans had to be again indorsed on license-forms under the new Act, thereby entailing a considerable amount of extra work on the draughtsman. The total area dealt with under the above heading amounts to 6,487 acres, representing 168 sections or claims, at a cost of 4·58s. per acre.

Land Transfer Work.—Under this heading fifty-six plans sent in by licensed surveyors have been examined and approved, and recorded on record-maps. The following named instruments of title, &c., have been examined and checked—viz., sixty-four applications to bring land under the Land Transfer Act, ninety-eight certificates in lieu of Crown grants (in triplicate), 1,262 transfers, 884 mortgages, eighteen caveats, 285 leases, 236 transmissions, and 464 certificates prepared in duplicate.

Other Works.—Under this heading are included such works attended to by the staff officers as cannot be tabulated in the ordinary manner. The total expenditure for the year has been £737 9s. 5d., which covers the cost of inspecting, reporting to Commissioner of Crown Lands and to the various Wardens, engineering plans for road-works, measuring bushfelling for grass-seed sowing, general supervision in connection with the various improved-farm settlements, and numerous other duties which need not be mentioned.

Office-work.—During the year seventy-four plans from staff surveyors were examined, checked, and recorded upon the Crown grant record and Land Office maps. The important work of plotting these detached and scattered surveys upon compiled block-sheets has had to be left almost entirely in abeyance, owing to the draughtsmen's time being so fully occupied with other work, one map only of this class of work having been completed during the year—viz., Block X., Glenomaru District. Twenty-six plans (in triplicate) of new roads and roads to be closed have been examined, certified to, and recorded on county and other maps. Nine plans (in triplicate) taking lands by Proclamation for railway purposes have been similarly dealt with. Diagrams have been placed on certificates of title in lieu of Crown grants and other instruments of title as follows, viz.: On 138 single copies, on 158 in duplicate, and on 262 in triplicate, making a total of 1,240. A tracing in cloth of the topography of the Otago District north of 45° latitude, on a scale of eight miles to an inch, was prepared and forwarded to Head Office. The preparation of a map, on a scale of 5 chains to an inch, of Dunedin and suburbs is now well under way; so also is a map for the Defence Department, on a scale of 20 chains to an inch, and showing thereon the position of all roads, tracks, footpaths, and the chief topographical features of the country for fifteen miles around Dunedin. Tracings in duplicate were prepared showing the boundaries of the Dunedin Electorate, on a scale of 20 chains to an inch, for the Registrar of Electors' Department; also, for the same department a map on the same scale was prepared showing the boundaries within which old-age pensions were granted for the Dunedin and Port Chalmers districts. A large amount of work has been done for the Head Office of the Valuation Department, as well as for the local branch of the same department here. Duplicate tracings of the Boroughs of West Harbour, Maori Hill, St. Kilda, North-east Valley, and Roslyn have been made and handed to the branch office here, leaving the Boroughs of Green Island, Milton, Mornington, and Hawksbury still to do. During the year one plan was drawn for photo-lithographing and five were drawn for stone on lithographic transfer-paper, from which 1,650 impressions were pulled. 500 protractor sheets were printed, besides 250 receipt forms of various kinds. 450 maps were mounted, and several of the old and worn record and Land Office maps were repaired.

In July last Mr. James Bain, lithographic printer of this branch of the department, after three months' leave of absence, retired, owing to ill-health, after a service of about twenty-eight years.

Proposed Operations for 1899–1900.—Mr. Langmuir has on hand 11,242 acres, being part of Elderslie Estate, near Oamaru, the cutting-up of which will keep him employed for a considerable time. Mr. Wilmot has some 300 to 400 acres of mining surveys in hand, and I anticipate he will be kept fairly employed during the year surveying rural and mining applications as they come to hand. Mr. Calder has 800 acres of agricultural surveys, and some 200 or 300 acres of mining applications to do; this, along with the mining and other applications coming to hand, will, I presume, keep him fairly well employed. Mr. Neill has been transferred temporarily to assist Mr. C. C. Farr in carrying out the magnetic survey now in hand, and, I presume, will be employed for some considerable time in connection with that work. Mr. Edie has been employed on the temporary staff, doing principally mining surveys; it was found necessary to employ him on account of Mr. Langmuir's transference to Waikakahi Estate.

JOHN HAY, Chief Surveyor.

SOUTHLAND.

Rural and Suburban.—This work embraces an area of 34,155 acres, of which 10,816 acres have been surveyed by Staff Surveyor Hodgkinson, and the balance by Temporary Surveyor Robertson. The greater part of Mr. Hodgkinson's work has been the resurvey of inaccurate work by a surveyor referred to in my last report. This would not have been again mentioned were it not that in my proposed future work similar resurveys may have to be effected. Mr. Robertson's work consisted of a small block for settlement, and the balance landless Native surveys. The latter is being carried out under contract and schedule rates. Mr. Robertson is proceeding vigorously with the survey, and the estimated area of 20,732 acres has actually been completed in a period of eight months. Of course his contract embraces only the section-work, the roading and boundaries having been previously defined by Mr. Treseder. I anticipate that the contracts will be completed within six months, and the landless Natives will then have an opportunity of showing whether they will take up the somewhat difficult task of carrying out the work of settlement on this allocation. The surveys by Mr. Miller were done at schedule rates in Stewart Island, and do not call for special remarks.

Gold-mining Surveys.—It will be seen that for a small district the area of 2,551 acres surveyed shows progressive work in mining matters during the year. Although nothing startling has been developed, great hopes are expressed that the future will justify the amount expended in prospecting and surveys. The greater part of the Waiau River has been laid off in dredging claims, and one dredge now being built will be the pioneer of many should the first few months prove payable to the Belmont Company. The future year must mean a great decrease in the number of this class of survey, as the greater part of the known auriferous country is now occupied.

Roads, &c.—It will be seen that very little has been done in this direction. Mr. Treseder completed some of the roads in the landless-Native block previously referred to, and under the heading of "Other work" it will be seen that a considerable mileage of coastal and other boundaries were carried out by him when Mr. Robertson commenced work. I might here refer to the fact that Mr. Treseder applied for a change when the above work was finished, and was successful in obtaining the succession to Mr. Nelson, who was removed to Blenheim.

Other Work.—The bulk of other work was carried out by Surveyor Miller. This comprised the survey and valuation of twenty-three sawmill areas, equal to an area of 3,487 acres; this apparently establishes a record for this class of work. So far as I can gather, there have not been so many applications for surveys of this class in any previous year. It might be noted that Mr. Miller has made a name as an expert valuer of timber; his long experience has enabled him to arrive at values fair to both the department and the buyer, hence he is intrusted with this class of work.

Proposed Operations for Ensuing Year.—The work on hand includes the landless-Native block, now under contract to Mr. Robertson; the township reserve of Clifden into suburban sections; Block XVIII., Longwood District, for settlement; and the resurvey of some very old work, such as Limehills Township; and also one of the first-settled localities in the vicinity of Riverton must be attended to. Difficulties with the Land Transfer registration of these titles almost require the department to make an authentic survey, so that there may be no overlapping of titles. Resurveys of isolated sections have lately come in, and as these may mean encroachment, and necessitate rectification in the future, it is deemed advisable to meet the difficulty by establishing at least some of the boundaries from which all others must depend.

Office-work.—This work has to a certain extent suffered during the year by the absence of Chief Draughtsman Clare. For nearly seven months of that time he has been incapacitated through illness from carrying out his duties. From the nature of his illness, he anticipates he will be in any case unfit to take up his old position in this district, but may, in a warmer climate, have an opportunity of doing further work somewhere in New Zealand. I extremely regret the loss of Mr. Clare from the position, held with so much credit to himself and to the department. His place will be difficult to fill, as his many years' service in this office established a connection with the traditions of the past and the present of which there is no permanent record. During the year it became necessary to prepare a county map of Stewart Island for public reference and other uses in this office. I took advantage of the opportunity to prepare a lithographic drawing instead of the usual compilation, as this will enable the public to obtain copies of the map in the form of lithographic prints. It has been found difficult from time to time to explain to the would-be settler about to visit the island the localities surveyed for settlement, and, having regard to the more correct positions of the old Native surveys and those for early settlers connected by the triangulation survey covering the eastern portion of the island, I have had the topographical maps accompanying reduced and placed with trig. points on the new map, and this data alone will be of great value. The surveys for settlement of landless Natives also appear, and thus the public will shortly be able to procure, at a small cost, a valuable map of the island. Another large drawing has been completed of the Survey Districts of Waikawa and Otara, whilst additions have been made to the maps of Taringatura District and Winton and New River Hundreds for republication. In addition to this, there has been a considerable amount of work necessitated by the Advances to Settlers, Property-tax, and Land Transfer Departments. There has also been the usual work, the following being a brief summary of some of the details: During the year 131 plans have been examined and passed; 1,791 plans have been placed on Crown grants and other instruments of title; 260 ordinary and forty-eight lithographic tracings have been prepared; 5,144 letters, telegrams, &c., were received, and 10,045 letters, notices, &c., were despatched; 851 vouchers were passed; 5,560 posters were posted to various parts of the district; 450 provincial titles were issued, and sixty-eight titles were scheduled on warrants.

D. Barron, Chief Surveyor.

APPENDIX No. 3.—ROAD-CONSTRUCTION, ETC.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF CHIEF SURVEYORS AND OTHERS ON ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1899.

AUCKLAND.

Ahipara–Herekino.—This is the only dray-road into the Herekino Village Settlement. It passes nearly all the way through Native land, and is an expensive road to maintain. During the year it has been maintained throughout, and about a mile and a half was widened and 12 chains metalled.

Awanui–West Coast.—With this grant the Mongonui County Council have improved five miles of road, and repaired the Awanui Bridge.

Kaeo–Whangaroa.—The Whangaroa County Council have with this vote constructed about a quarter of a mile of road, and are going to build a new bridge across the Waikoura Stream.

Kaitaia–Ahipara.—Repairs have been made to this road by renewing culverts and "pipe-claying" extending over about two miles, the work having been carried out by the Mongonui County Council.

Mangatoetoe Road.—This is a connecting road between the Victoria Valley Main Road and the present Great North Road. The Mongonui County Council repaired it throughout, the work being done by co-operative labour.

Maungataniwha.—The vote was expended in giving access to the Maungataniwha Block, and about two miles of bridle-track were constructed connecting it with the Great North Road at Peria. The bridle-track through the block itself was also improved and maintained.

Mongonui County Roads.—About a mile and a half has been improved and ten miles maintained by the Mongonui County Council with this grant.

Mongonui Parish–Awanui (Main Road).—A considerable length of metalling has been done, and six bridges rebuilt. All the culverts have been renewed or repaired, and the whole length—about thirty miles—has been kept in good order. There is still a considerable length of the road which should be re-formed and metalled.

Takahue–Herekino Road, which connects the Takahue Village Settlement with that of Herekino, is about ten miles in length, and has been constructed into a bridle-track 8 ft. wide throughout. It opens up a considerable amount of Crown land suitable for pastoral and fruit-growing purposes, and will be a part of the main road connecting Herekino and Whangape Harbours with Mongonui. There is yet one bridge of about 60 ft. span to construct over the Uwhiroa Stream, and several fillings and embankments to be made. During this year one bridge was built and the road maintained and improved.

Victoria Valley to Main Road.—The total distance from Victoria Valley Post-office to where this line will join the Great North Road at Peria is about eight miles and three-quarters. About seven miles have been formed into a dray-road, one mile is now under construction, and three-quarters of a mile has yet to be made, and all the culverts and bridges yet to construct. When the Takahue–Victoria Valley Road is surveyed and made, thus joining the Herekino–Takahue Road with this road, it will be the main line connecting the Whangape–Herekino Harbours with Mongonui.

Victoria Valley–Kaitaia.—The Mongonui County Council have expended this grant in improving about seven miles of the road by repairs to bridges and culverts, and metalling about a quarter of a mile of road.

Kaeo–Waimate.—This is really a portion of the Great North Road. The vote was spent by the Whangaroa County Council in metalling and the construction of one bridge, the work being confined to the road through the Kaeo Valley.

Kaeo Parish and Mongonui Parish (Main Road).—A considerable length of deviation had to be made on this line, and most of the vote has been and is being expended in the construction of these deviations into a 14 ft. road. It is the only part of the Great North Road not yet available for wheel traffic. There are still several miles to construct before it will be available, but I trust with next year's grant to see the formation completed.

Whangaroa Coast Road.—Specifications for works to be undertaken by the Whangaroa County Council in this road have been approved of. They consist of the construction of several small bridges, and widening embankments 30 chains long.

Whangaroa County Roads.—The Whangaroa County Council have expended this grant in repairs and metalling.

Hukerenui–Kaeo Parish (Main Road).—Most of this vote has been expended in improving the road between Kaeo and Waimate, so as to make it safe for wheel traffic, but there still remains a considerable length of road to both construct and improve between these two places. From Waimate to Kawakawa it is in good order, and is being looked after by the Bay of Islands County Council. From Kawakawa to Hukerenui is being improved and maintained by this department out of the grant; but I am not pushing works on this point, as there is still a considerable quantity of timber being carted over it.

Main Road, Lot 2, Block XIV., Hukerenui.—The balance of this authority has been expended in improving the road, which is really a part of the Ramarama Valley Road.

Opua–Waimate Road.—A considerable number of large slips occurred on this line near the Opua end. These have been removed, and the road has been maintained throughout. The authority unexpended will be spent in cutting off some sharp turns and widening portions throughout.

Okaihau–Kerikeri.—About a mile of this road was constructed and improved with the grant by the Bay of Islands County Council. Nearly all the heavy traffic from Okaihau is taken on this road, Kerikeri being a place at which the smaller steamers can deliver cargo.

Ramarama Valley.—This road is now, though rather narrow, available for wheel traffic throughout—that is, from Towai to Hikurangi. I am with the small balance of vote yet unexpended having some of the temporary culverts and bridges renewed.

Utakura Road Deviation.—Two deviations were laid out, the first from the bottom of the hill to the top end of the Utakura Valley, the other from the top of the hill, near where present line begins to descend, and terminating well down the valley near the Utakura Bridge. As reported last year, the settlers would come to no agreement as to which route they would have constructed, and I have therefore referred the matter to the Bay of Islands and Hokianga County Councils, asking them to have the question settled, when I shall proceed with the work without further delay.

Kaikohe–Taheke.—The Hokianga County Council have expended this grant chiefly in metalling between the Punakitere Post-office and the county boundary.

Auckland Special Settlement, Mangakahia.—An engineering and magnetic survey of a line from the Auckland Special Settlement—or, rather, Opanake–Hokianga Road—to the Mangakahia River, connecting with the Dargaville–Kaikohe Road, or better known as the Korikopuni–Kaikohe Road, has been made a length of about twenty-four miles, opening up the Waimatanui Block of about 20,000 acres of Crown land.

Hokianga County Roads.—The Hokianga County Council have expended this grant in reconstructing and metalling about a mile of the Taheke–Rawene Road.

Herd's Point–Takahue Road is the main road connecting Hokianga and Mongonui Counties, and it opens up a very considerable area of Crown land of fair quality. It is now formed into a cart-road for a distance of about twenty-five miles from Herd's Point to the foot of the dividing-range. The rest is still only a bridle-track, which, however, has been improved, and in places widened. The road throughout has been maintained, and is in good order.

Herekino.—Most of the roads in and about the Herekino Village Settlement have been improved with this year's grant.

Kohukohu–Motukaraka Road, connecting Kohukohu Wharf with the Motukaraka Village Settlement and the Herd's Point–Takahue Road, has been formed throughout 8 ft. wide, a length of about four miles. This year's grant has been expended in the repairs to bridges and the maintenance of the road throughout.

Marlborough Association.—This settlement is situated on both sides of the Opanake–Hokianga Road. The expenditure of this year's grant has been made on the road running east and west through the settlement, the one running east being the line which will be the present main outlet from the Waimatanui Block.

Manganuiowae Road is a continuation of the branch line from the Herd's Point–Takahue Road to give access to the settlers in the south portion of the Manganuiowae Block. The vote is being expended in further opening up the block by bridle-tracks.

Manganuiowae–Whangape.—A bridle-track has been constructed into Blocks III. and IV., Whangape Survey District, for a distance of seven miles. The line starts from the Herd's Point–Takahue Road, about twelve miles north of Herd's Point, and gives access to several settlers who have taken up land in the Mangonuiowae Block. It opens up a large area of Crown land, and will, when continued, be one of the main outlets towards Hokianga Harbour from the Awaroa Block lands purchased by the Government. With the money available this year I have maintained the road.

Okaihau–Horeke.—The Hokianga County Council have expended this grant in metalling a portion, and in general repairs to 47 chains of this road.

Okaihau–Victoria Valley.—This road traverses three counties, and ought to be considered the main north road, as it is the most direct route between Kawakawa and Awanui, and goes through the centre of the Island. It is available for wheel traffic between Okaihau and Rangiahua, and from there to Mangamuka as a bridle-track, of which I have widened and improved portions. From Mangamuka to Victoria Valley no work has been done, the land through which it would pass being still Native land. Close to the Victoria Valley the road has been made into a cart-road, giving access to the Takahue Block. During the year the road has been improved and maintained.

Punakitere Settlement Road and Punakitere Endowment.—This year's vote has been, and is being, expended in improving the road through this settlement, and the work was so divided as to give all the settlers in need of employment work. One bridge was erected and about half a mile of road metalled, besides other improvements.

Taheke–Otaua.—This is a line running due south from Taheke, giving access to several sections in Block V., Punakitere Survey District. During the year a mile of road was graded and about a quarter of a mile of dray-road constructed.

Waimamaku.—This is one of the best settlements in the Hokianga district, and one in which the roads are the worst to maintain. This year's grant was expended in erecting a bridge over the Waimamaku River of 66 ft. span, and in metalling and general maintenance.

Waimamaku–Pakanae Road will be the main outlet for the Waimamaku Settlement to the Opononi Wharf, Hokianga Harbour, and if it were completed and portions metalled would much enhance the value of the lands in the settlement. There were a considerable number of slips on the line this year, and consequently the maintenance was very costly. About a mile and a half was widened and improved and eight miles maintained.

Waimamaku–Punakitere.—This road runs from the Waimamaku Settlement alongside the Waimamaku River up the valley to the Auckland Special Settlement, giving access to some exceedingly good land. This year's grant was expended in widening the present bridle-track into a cart-road, metalling portions of the bridle-track which were almost impassable in winter, and in general repair.

Waipoua Survey District, Block VII.—This vote is being expended in giving access to several sections lately surveyed in Block VII. About two miles and a half of bridle-track have been made.

Hikurangi-Otanga.—The Whangarei County Council have during this year metalled about half a mile and made several culverts and other improvements.

Hukerenui–Waiotu was for the purpose of giving access to the Waiotu Valley and adjacent settlers to the Hukerenui terminus of the Whangarei Railway. The vote was expended by the Whangarei County in the constructing of about a mile and a quarter of dray-road and one bridge.

Jordan is a continuation, or rather a part, of the Ramarama Valley–Hikurangi Road. The grant this year was expended by the Whangarei County Council in improving and constructing the unmade portion of the line.

Kaueranga.—This year's vote was spent in constructing a road to give access to the Kaueranga Block, which was lately subdivided and sold.

Kauri Mountain–Pataua.—The Whangarei County spent this year's grant in constructing about three-quarters of a mile of road by drains, culverts, and general formation.

Maunu–Otuhe.—About 40 chains of metalling was done on the deviation laid out two years ago. The line was constructed for the purpose of giving better access to the Mangatepere settlers, and will be a portion of the main line connecting Whangarei with Dargaville.

Mangakahia, Block IV.—In conjunction with the vote "Kaueranga," this grant was expended in giving better access to the Kaueranga settlers, and at the same time giving access to Crown land in Block IV.

Mangakaramea–Ruarangi.—The department is spending this grant in general repairs.

Old North Road.—Work on this road was begun last year, and about four miles near Waipu were put in repair.

Opuawhanga, Blocks XIII. and XIV.; Whangarei, Blocks III. and IV.—For the purpose of giving access to the Crown lands in these blocks a bridle-road was constructed through the Teiroa Block No. I., connecting with the roads lately made in the Ngunguru Block, and leading to the Ngunguru Harbour, a total length of three miles and a half.

Opuawhanga–Whananaki connects Opuawhanga with the Whananaki Harbour. Beyond the removal of slips and some general repairs nothing was done this year.

Parua–Taheke.—The Whangarei County Council have continued the construction of a further half-mile of road along the new line laid off last year.

Purua–Ruatangata–Mangakahia.—This is the main outlet of the Kaueranga settlers, and for a considerable amount of Crown land. The Whangarei County Council have with this year's grant constructed a deviation laid out some years ago, and further improved the road by metalling and cutting down the hill and filling in the low ground adjacent to the Wairua Bridge.

Ruatangata.—Metalling about one-quarter of a mile of the road has been done by the Whangarei County Council.

Ruakaka North River.—The Whangarei County Council have expended this grant in re-forming about four miles of road and improving another two miles and a half.

Waikiekie Parish–Hukerenui (Main Road).—From Hukerenui to Whakapara the road has been improved by clearing out water-tables and renewing culverts. From Whakapara to Whangarei Cemetery the department expended no money, and the Whangarei County Council and the Whangarei Town Board have maintained it. From Whangarei Cemetery to Waikiekie or Mangapai the road overseer and his men are now improving it. A considerable sum will shortly have to be expended in repairs to bridges which have been up for a long time and are now getting very rotten. I have not done much new metalling, but have repaired that already done, which in some places has worn or been washed completely away.

Waipu Road and Wharf.—The Whangarei County Council have spent this grant in repairs to the road from Waipu to the wharf, mostly in "pipeclaying" the road and in repairs to the bridges and culverts.

Whananaki Wharf.—A wharf of 115 ft. in length was constructed on the south side of the Whananaki River, and has proved of great service to the settlers in the neighbourhood, the steamer from Auckland going direct to that port.

Arapohue.—The balance of last year's grant was expended by the Hobson County Council in metalling about a quarter of a mile of the road from the Mitatai landing to the Arapohue Settlement.

Dargaville–Aratapu.—A quarter of a mile of metalling on the road connecting these two places was done out of the grant by the Hobson County Council.

Dargaville–Tangiteroria.—The Hobson County Council spent this vote in the construction of one bridge and approach, and in the widening of a mile of road. It is a portion of the road which will connect Dargaville with Whangarei.

Opanake–Hokianga.—This road connects Hokianga with the terminus of the Dargaville Railway—length, about thirty-one miles. It opens up a considerable amount of Crown lands, some of which is of excellent quality. There are three village settlements situated on the line, and two special settlements, all the sections of which abutting on the road have been taken up. The road is now almost available for wheel traffic. During the year three miles and three-quarters have been metalled, or rather ballasted, with some loose rock. Three bridges, of a total length of 105 ft., have

been constructed, and the road maintained throughout. There are yet some stone culverts to be made at the north end, where suitable timber is not to be obtained, and where stone is plentiful. To make the road available for wheel traffic all the year round it is absolutely necessary to metal some parts. At present I have in these places only metalled with 6 in. spawls a track in the centre 4 ft. wide for horse traffic.

Te Kopuru Wharf (£1 for £1).—The wharf, 58 ft. in length, has been made by the Hobson County Council.

Te Kopuru–Tikinui.—This is a portion of the main road connecting the township on the west bank of the Wairoa River. The Hobson County Council have constructed and metalled about half a mile of the road.

Kaiwaka–Waipu Gorge (Main Road).—A considerable amount of work has been and is being done on this portion of the main road. It has been repaired generally throughout. Between Maungaturoto and Waipu the whole of the bridges in the gorge have been repaired, several of the dangerous corners cut away, and a mile of the road near Maungaturoto re-formed and metalled. There are some bridges which will at an early date require to be practically rebuilt and a considerable length of road yet to be metalled. The road through the Waipu Gorge is too narrow; it is quite impossible for two carts to pass each other except in a few places. From Maungaturoto to Hakuru the worst places have been repaired, and the old metalled portions rounded up, and, where required, renewed.

Kaiwaka–Mangawai.—The Otamatea County Council have expended this grant in metalling 51 chains of the road near Kaiwaka.

Mareretu.—This road gives access to a number of sections taken up near the Mongonui River. During the year I constructed one bridge of 30 ft. span, and about a mile of road.

Paparoa–Maungaturoto.—The balance of this vote was spent in making approaches to two bridges. I propose with this year's authority to regrade the portion of the road between McHardy's Bridge and Maungaturoto.

Pahi–Waikiekie is the main road connecting Pahi with Whangarei. The Otamatea County Council have spent this grant in the widening of a mile of the road with the exception of a small cutting and filling required at the bridge over the Mongonui River. The road may be considered good throughout.

Raupo Wharf was erected for the purpose of giving landing facility to the settlers in the Tokatoka Swamp, and when the roads in the neighbourhood are completed it will be much used by other settlers in the district. The wharf is a very substantial structure of 216 ft. in length, and has a depth of about 10 ft. of water at low tide at the end of tee.

Topini–Maungaturotu is a portion of the Great North Road. The grant was given for the special purpose of renewing two small bridges which were last summer destroyed by fire. This has been done. This expenditure has been carried out in conjunction with that of Hakuru–Waikiekie.

Valley Road–Paparoa.—The balance of last year's grant was spent in doing about 6 chains of road. This year's grant will be for the purpose of constructing two bridges.

Hoteo–Waiwhiu.—This gives access to settlers in the Pakiri Block. The unexpended balance of last year's grant was spent in the removal of slips.

Makarau Railway-station.—The vote is for the purpose of improving the road from Clinkard's Bridge to the railway-station. Works have been and are being carried out by the Waitemata County Council, and consist in constructing a mile and three-quarters of road.

Makarau Bridge, West Coast.—Tenders were called for repairs to this bridge, and accepted. The contractor begins work at an early date.

Matakana Ranges.—Three miles of engineering survey were made, and six miles of bridle-track constructed, the work being carried out by a gang of local settlers. The road is required to give access to settlers in the Pakiri Block, and for opening up further Crown lands.

Port Albert–Wellsford Junction.—The worst places along this line of road are being metalled, as far as can be done with the money authorised for expenditure.

Puhoi–Warkworth is a portion of the Great North Road, and the vote is being expended in repairs to the Turntable Hill.

Pakiri–Omaha (Warkworth–Pakiri).—The Rodney County Council are expending a portion of this grant in constructing 25 chains of road and putting in six pipe-culverts.

Tauhoa, Blocks X. and XI.—The road gives access to a considerable number of settlers, and is the main road between Kaipara Flats and Glorit. Five miles of engineering survey, one mile of dray-road, and one mile and three-quarters of bridle-track were constructed, the work being done by local settlers.

Tauhoa.—About a quarter of a mile of what is known as the West Coast Road, near Tauhoa, was metalled with this grant, the work being done by the Rodney County Council.

Waiwera–Kaiwaka (Main Road).—Most of the bridges between these two places have been repaired, and a considerable length was re-formed and metalled. The wooden culverts in many cases have been replaced by pipes, and the road has been maintained throughout. I am now rebuilding one of the bridges near Warkworth, and am taking up the stones which were laid as metal in former times by the county, and having the same broken and relaid. There is still a considerable length of road not metalled, and which in winter becomes very much cut up.

Warkworth–Kaipara Flats.—Little work has yet been done, and that chiefly repairs. I propose spending the balance of the vote in metalling a portion which the county are now forming, and which consists of a big cutting and filling.

Warkworth–Wellsford.—This is a portion of the Great North Road, and carries a considerable amount of the traffic from the West Coast. The vote is being spent, in conjunction with the Waiwera–Hakuru vote, in metalling about a quarter of a mile of road.

Warkworth Main Road to Block VII., Pakiri.—This grant will be expended in continuing

the formation of the new road between Little Omaha and Pakiri now being made by the Rodney County Council.

Warkworth–Kaipara Flat and Tauhoa.—The Rodney County Council is spending this vote in a big cutting and filling near Mr. Phillips's farm, and in the erection of a bridge over the Komowera Stream, and two stone culverts.

Kaukapakapa–Port Albert.—27 chains of metalling was made on this road, near the Glorit Post-office, by the Rodney County Council.

Henderson.—The Waitemata County Council are expending this grant in metalling with scoria the road through Henderson.

Henderson–Swanson, Metalling.—The most of this grant was used to pay for freight and carting of 1,000 cubic yards of metal, which was spread by the Waitemata County Council near Swanson, and through the Swanson Settlement.

Huia–West Coast.—The Waitemata County Council have formed and metalled about three-quarters of a mile of road with scoria, and constructed a bridge of 73 ft. in length. This road gives access to the Manukau Harbour Endowment, and is much used by tourists on account of the beautiful views obtainable.

Kauri Forest Track–Waitakerei.—About two miles and a quarter of bridle-track have been constructed through the State forest reserve, which has been much appreciated by sightseers. The work was carried out by the Waitemata County Council.

Kumeu (Main Road)–Rewiti.—The Waitemata County Council have formed two and a half miles of this road.

North Shore–Waiwera (Main Road).—The whole of this road has been put in order for a distance of twenty-eight miles. I have redecked some of the bridges and otherwise repaired them, and am now metalling and widening about half a mile of road at Okura, Wade, and Orewa. A considerable length of the road still requires to be metalled, and the bridges, like most of those on the Great North Road, will in a few years have practically to be rebuilt.

Rewiti–Parkhurst.—A mile and a quarter of this road was constructed and a portion of it metalled through the Te Pua Block, near Helensville South. The work was carried out by the Waitemata County Council.

Swanson–West Coast is a road much used by sightseers from Auckland. The Waitemata County Council have laid off several deviations, and have constructed about a mile and a half of the road, and improved another mile and a half.

Waiwera Springs.—The most of this grant was expended in metalling the hill overlooking the Waiwera Hot Springs Hotel, which is a portion of the Great North Road. The metal obtainable near Waiwera is a sandstone, and is rather soft, so I laid 9 in. of it, and 3 in. of shingle on top of that. The shingle is of a hard nature, and was obtained from Rangitoto Island.

Wainui–Kaukapakapa.—Two miles and a quarter of this road have been constructed by the Waitemata County Council, giving settlers better access to the present terminus of the Helensville Railway-line.

Rangitoto Mountain (£1 for £1).—The Rangitoto Domain Board have made an excellent track, of 1 mile 50 chains in length, from the wharf to the top of Rangitoto. This track is now much used by visitors, as the view from the top of the hill is not easily surpassed.

Awhitu Road and Wharf.—A mile and a half of road leading to the wharf has been constructed out of this grant by the Awhitu Road Board.

Hunua–Ararimu.—A mile and three-quarters of deviations was laid out and surveyed, and 69 chains were constructed. Compensation for portions of deviations not yet being settled, I am delaying further expenditure.

Hunua Railway-station.—A new line of road has been surveyed, and the Hunua Road Board are endeavouring to settle claim for compensation. The major portion of this line cannot be formed till such settlement is arrived at.

Otahuhu–Bombay (Main Road).—I have put the whole road between Manurewa Railway-station and Bombay in order, by rounding up the metal, cleaning out water-tables and culverts, &c. Where metal was nearly worn through I renewed it, and redecked part of the different bridges where the planks were either very rotten or broken.

Otau.—Seven miles and three-quarters of bridle-track have been made this year, giving access to various sections. There is still some ten miles of road that ought to be constructed, and the main road through the block ought to be widened into a dray-road.

Otau Block–Ness Valley.—A mile and a half of this road, which gives access to the Otau Block, has been widened into a dray-road.

Wairoa River–Otau.—About six miles and a half of a road have been made, giving to settlers on the north-west side of the Otau Block access to the Clivedon Township.

Waiuku–Pukekohe.—The Waiuku Road Board have metalled about three-quarters of a mile of this road.

Awaroa, Block XI.—A mile and a half of bridle-track has been constructed. This road connects the settlers in the Awaroa No. 2 Block with the Main Tuakau–Raglan Road and with the boat-landing at the Maire.

Huntly–Kahuruhuru.—This road has been improved throughout, and about a mile of the road across the swamp has been raised by fillings. Several bridges and culverts have been repaired and renewed.

Lawson's Hill.—This is a portion of the road connecting the Tuakau–Raglan Road with settlers in Block VI., Awaroa and West Coast. 52 chains of very steep side-cutting along the face of what is known as Lawson's Hill were constructed.

Main Road-West Coast Road.—This is a continuation of the Lawson's Hill Road. The work done is about three-quarters of a mile of heavy side-cutting and metalling, some very boggy portions of which were impassable during winter. Works are still being carried out, and there are yet some five miles to construct before a connection can be made with the roads formed in Block VI.

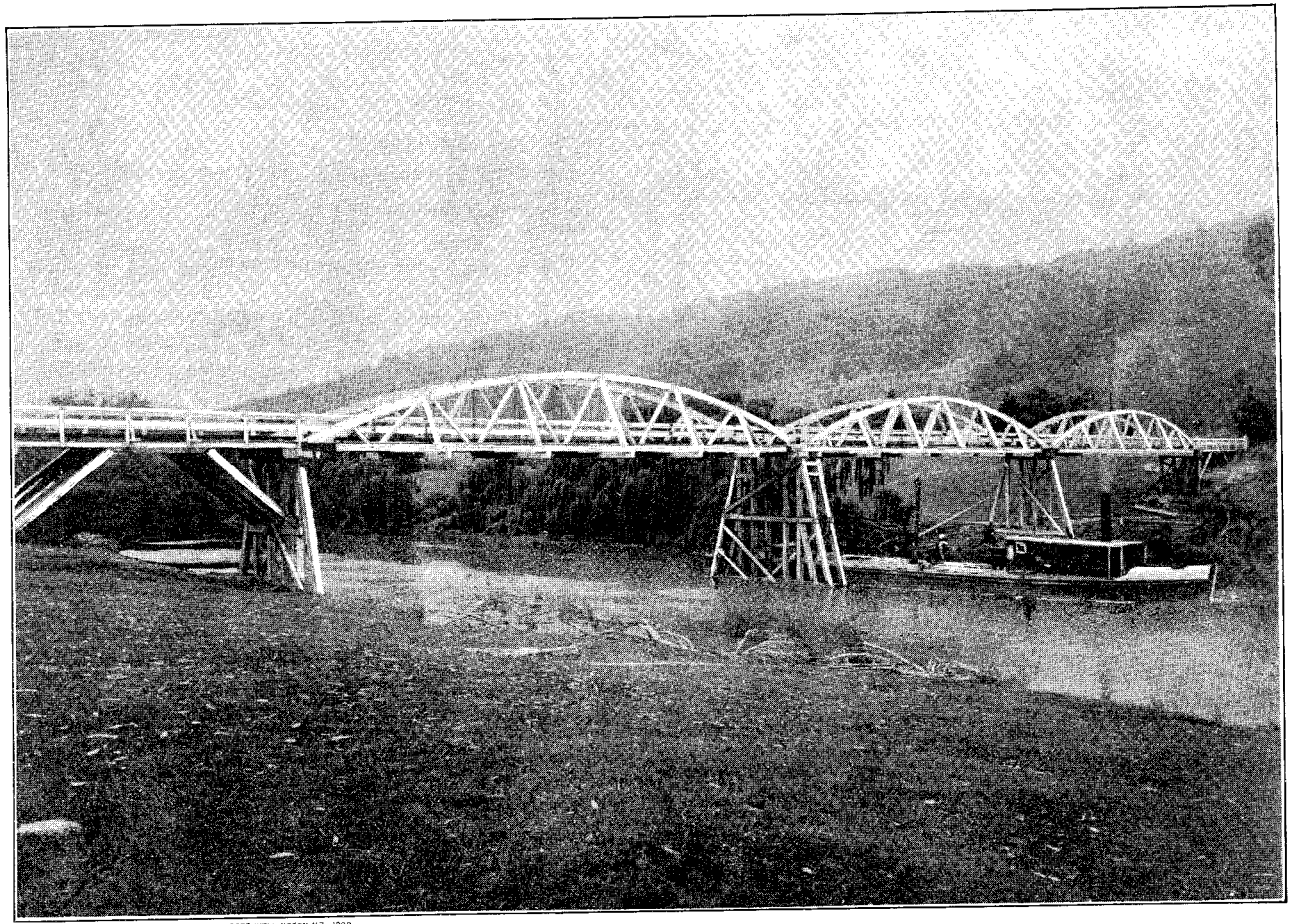


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Bridge over Waipa River at Ngaruawahia.

Designed by Mr. A. B. Wright.

Mangapiko–Maire is a portion of the Raglan–Tuakau Road, which runs through the centre of the Raglan County. About three-quarters of a mile was with this grant constructed into a dray-road.

Matakataka Cutting.—The Raglan County Council expended this grant in widening the road along the side of the Matakataka Hill. It is still, however, a very boggy and dangerous road in winter.

Tuakau–Opuatia–Kahuruhuru.—This is the main road through the Raglan County. During the year three miles were constructed into a dray-road, and a mile and a half was improved by widening and metalling. The whole road—a distance of about forty-five miles—was maintained. There yet remain four bridges to be erected and about four miles and a half of road to construct. To keep the road available for winter traffic some further metalling must be done.

Waingaro–Ngaruawahia.—The vote has been expended in widening and metalling, but the road is still too narrow in places to be safe for wheel traffic. There is since the erection of the Waipa Bridge a considerable traffic on this line, especially cattle-driving. It is the only buggy-road to the Waingaro Hot Springs, which is becoming a favourite resort.

Blocks X. and XI., Rangiriri.—The line opens up a considerable quantity of Crown land, and gives better access to the Huntly settlers. The road being high, and traversing good ground, it is always good, and is easily maintained. A further quarter of a mile was constructed near the Puriri.

Kimihia–Huntly.—The Huntly Road Board expended their grant in the construction of about two miles of bridle-track.

Ohinewai–Matahura.—About a mile of road was constructed from the Ohinewai Railway-station towards Matahura, the work being carried out by the Huntly Road Board.

Village Settlements.—Very little work has been done in these settlements during the past year. One mile of bridle-track was improved, to give better access to settlers in the Fern Flat Village.

Waikoura Bridge.—The Whangaroa County at first intended to repair this bridge, but have agreed to erect a new one on a site close to the present one, which will be more economical than to repair the present bridge.

Hokianga Bridge is a bridge over a small tidal stream giving access from the Rawene–Hokianga Road to some sections in Block III., Hokianga Survey District. The work was done by the Hokianga County from plans prepared by Mr. Menzies.

Wairua Bridge is a bridge consisting of two spans of 25 ft. 6 in., and one span (laminated arch) of 100 ft. It is situated about one mile above the Wairua Falls, and is needed to give access to the lands lately thrown open in the Mangakahia and Mangaru Survey Districts.

Mangakahia Bridge is now being erected, and consists of six spans of 40 ft. and one span (laminated arch) of 200 ft. The Mangakahia River floods very rapidly, and rises about 40 ft. There is a considerable quantity of timber felled and sent down the river to the mills on the Wairoa River, consequently it was dangerous to have a pier in the middle of the river. The bridge is needed to give access to Crown lands lately thrown open in the Mangakahia and Mangaru Survey Districts.

Whangarei Bridge.—The approaches to the Whangarei Swing Bridge, erected last year by the Whangarei County Council, were this year constructed out of this grant by the same body.

Waipu Bridge.—The bridge and the road leading to it were repaired by the Whangarei County Council.

Matakana Bridge.—This is a very substantial bridge, with concrete abutments of 34 ft. span. It was erected by the Rodney County Council, and about a quarter of a mile of road leading from it was constructed.

Makarau Bridge.—This bridge, situated on the West Coast Road, was very much damaged by floating timber during recent floods. Tenders for its repair have been accepted.

Upper Makarau Bridge.—Tenders for the erection of this bridge have been accepted; it consists of two 16 ft. and one 65 ft. span.

Puhoi Bridge.—A bridge of a total length of 58 ft. was constructed by the Rodney County Council on the road through the Puhoi Settlement towards the West Coast.

Tuakau Bridge.—Preliminary borings are now being made to ascertain the nature of the bed of the river at proposed site.

Waipa Bridge has been erected close to where the punt was situated at Ngaruawahia. It consists of three spans of 40 ft. each and three spans of 120 ft. each, and cost £1,970. It has proved a great boon to the settlers on the west side of the river.

Katui Improved-farm Settlement.—The road connecting this settlement with the Mangatu and the Opanake–Hokianga Road is now being constructed.

Tokatoka Swamp.—This marsh, miscalled "swamp," consists of about 11,000 acres, nearly all of which, when reclaimed, will be of excellent quality. During the year nearly three miles of road and drain and two miles and a quarter of drain were constructed, the spoil earth being thrown out so as to form temporary bridle-roads. All the completed drains were cleaned out and improved, and the flood-gates, where required, attended to. The railway-construction was carried on to near the boundary of the Crown land on which the kahikatea is growing. The line already laid has been, and is now, in use for haulage of timber from private sections adjacent to the line, and a total sum, so far, of £156 has been received. Pending settlement of how the Crown timber is to be disposed of no more railway-line will be laid. I have a considerable quantity of sleepers which the Railway Department would not take, and which I obtained at a reasonable figure from the contractors. They were stacked on the line; and also the iron rails for another four miles, so that no delay will take place should the line be required, the formation for which has been and is now proceeding. Two artesian wells have been sunk—one in the Raupo Township, giving about 40,000 gallons a day; the other at the north end of the swamp, the flow from which is not so great. I intend sinking another at the south end of the swamp. There are still 6,000 acres of this marsh to be drained. The wharf is at the township, and has been completed, and the steamer calls there regularly.

Akaaka Swamp.—The Akaaka Drainage Board have constructed another 20 chains of the eastern drain with this year's grant.

Otawa Swamp.—The Otau River and part of the drains were cleaned out by the Waipipi Road Board, which has had the effect of discharging the water more rapidly off the swamp.

Maioro Swamp.—About half a mile of drains were constructed to improve the road to the Maioro Settlement.

Mercer Punt.—On completion of the Waipa Bridge the old punt was purchased, and, after being repaired and altered, was taken to Mercer, and is now in use.

Churchill Punt.—The Raglan County Council have expended this grant in general repairs to the punt, and in painting same.

Takahue Block.—The line connecting this block with the Victoria Valley to the Main Road has been improved and widened. No works have been done in the block itself.

Takahue-Whangape Block.—The road passing through the middle of this block, and which has been constructed into a bridle-track 8 ft. wide, connects Herekino Village Settlement with the Takahue Village Settlement.

Ruapekapeka Block.—A portion of the unexpended balance of this grant was spent during last year in constructing one mile of road and improving two miles and a half of bridle-track.

Pakiri District Road.—The only work done to this road was the removal of slips and improvements to 25 chains.

Motatau.—The unexpended balance of this vote was spent in improvements to the Ramarama Valley Road, which passes through the block.

Mangakahia.—The road through a portion of this block, one mile and a half in length, connecting the Wairua and the Mangakahia bridges was constructed. The tender for erecting the Mangakahia Bridge was accepted, and works are in progress.

Opuawhanga-Whangarei No. 1 Block.—Three miles of engineering survey were made to open up this block, the line being connected to a road already made through the Ngunguru Block and carried on to the Ngunguru Harbour. The formation is being carried out by co-operative contracts, 13 chains having been formed.

Waipu VI. and VII. Blocks.—Co-operative contracts are now in progress for the construction of two roads through this block, the one branching off from the Great North Road at the commencement of the Waipu Gorge and going in a south-easterly direction, and the other from the Coast Road going in a south-westerly direction. The country through which the lines pass is very broken, but is well adapted to sheep-grazing.

Auckland Special Settlement Block.—During the year one mile and a quarter of the road through the block connecting the Waimamaku Punakitere Road with the north end of the Opanake-Hokianga Road has been widened, and in places metalled. Owing to the nature of the soil this road becomes very boggy in winter, and it is absolutely necessary that more metalling be done if the road is to be made available for traffic throughout the whole year.

Mangaru Block.—Nearly two miles of deviations of the road through the Avoca Settlement has been done, the road giving access to the Mangaru Block. Six miles of engineering survey in the block itself have been made, and a rough survey of a proposed new line through the Mangakirikiri Block (which would also give access to the Mangaru Block) has been done.

Opanake Block.—The roads through this block, and connecting it with the Dargaville Line, are now in course of construction. Half a mile of bridle-road has been constructed.

Ahuroa-Awaroa Block.—This is a portion of Block VI., Awaroa Survey District. The main line through this block is a part of the Opuatia-Lawson Hill to West Coast Road. During the year about one mile of bridle-road was constructed.

Opuatia Nos. 1 and 3 Blocks.—Twenty-three miles and a half of engineering survey have been made through these two blocks and the adjacent Native land, which had to be traversed so as to give these blocks access to the Tuakau-Raglan Road. Fifteen miles of pack-track have been made, principally through the Native land, and two contracts are now in progress for forming portions of the road in Block I., where a track would be unsafe for horse traffic. I estimate the cost of constructing a bridle-track along the graded line at about £2,500.

Opuatia No. 2 Block.—About four miles of engineering survey of the road through this block has been made.

Taupiri Block.—Thirty-three bridges and culverts and three miles and a quarter of bridle-track have been constructed during the year, making a total length of five miles of bridle-road formed in the block. There are yet two miles of road to construct to complete the line as now laid out through a portion of the block.

General.

One hundred and seventy-one plans and specifications of works undertaken by the County Councils, Road Boards, or Drainage Boards have been examined and approved of.

Before final payments for the various works they have in nearly all cases been examined by some officer of the department.

Three hundred and fifty-four co-operative contracts were let; four contracts for large bridges of from 60 ft. to 200 ft. clear span, and three contracts for wharves.

Five inspectors and four road overseers are permanently employed, and others were employed as occasion required in superintending and laying out works. The whole has been carried out under the supervision of Mr. Wright and myself, assisted by Mr. Burd and Mr. G. G. Menzies.

GERHARD MUELLER, Chief Surveyor.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Aotea Wharf Road.—No steps have as yet been taken towards laying out the £100 voted for this work, and it will probably be wise to keep it in hand until more can be added to the sum.

Main Road to Blocks VII. and IX., Karioi.—Under a grant to the Raglan County the vote of £100 has been well spent, and 63 chains of dray-road very much improved.

Raglan–Ruapuke.—A grant of £200 has been made to the Raglan County under the usual agreement, £50 of which has been spent in improving one mile and a quarter of dray-road, and other work is in hand.

Raglan–Waipa.—On this road the Raglan County, under grants, have spent £200, for which 52 chains of road have been greatly improved, and 47 chains metalled 12 ft. wide. The Waitetuna Bridge has also been repaired. This is a very important road, being the chief outlet for the Raglan district. Other works are now in hand under a further grant.

Aotea–Raglan.—Under a similar grant of £54 3s. 11d. the same county has constructed 16 chains of dray-road, and improved a further length of 23 chains.

Waingaro–Te Mata.—£200 has been spent by the Raglan County, under grant, in generally improving the road, including 1 mile 33 chains of practically new road.

Waitetuna–Aotea.—Nothing but maintenance has been done during the year, as money for further extension of it was not available until quite lately.

Waitetuna–Waingaro.—On this road a length of two miles and a quarter has been widened from a 9 ft. to a 12 ft. dray-road, and a bridge of 16 ft. span, with approaches, built across the Parawai Stream.

Waitetuna–Kauri.—Nothing has been done to this road, as it was not worth while starting with the small amount available until after the last appropriation. With the sum now in hand, however, a start will soon be made, and I hope by next summer to have a bridle-track open right through.

Waitetuna–Whatawhata.—The £300 voted for this has not yet been touched, and no work done on the road, which is roughly estimated to cost from £1,200 to £1,500. I understand that Mr. Vickerman, of the Auckland office, is about to make a survey of it.

Alexandra–Kawhia.—This road has been extensively repaired, and in places improved by cutting off sharp points, &c.; it is now in good order from Alexandra (Pirongia) to Te Rauamoa, excepting the Ngutunui Bridge, which requires repairing. From Te Rauamoa to Kawhia the road is now being repaired. This road will form the principal access from both Kawhia and the railway system to the lands about to be opened for settlement in the Hauturu, Whangaingatakapu, and Pirongia West Blocks.

Briscoe's Section, Awakino (Road to).—I regret to say that nothing has yet been done in constructing this, owing to a question of compensation having arisen with Mr. Iredale, through whose land it is necessary to take the road. I am in hopes of arranging with him soon.

Hauturu East.—Twenty-four miles of engineering survey has been made, but no roadwork done. The land is forest and broken, but the soil of good quality; it will, I think, make a good sheep country.

Kawhia Wharf.—Nothing has yet been done. The £100 voted will, I think, be hardly sufficient to buy materials of good quality for a very modest-sized wharf.

Kauroa–Pakoka.—Under the supervision of the Raglan County the grant of £100 has been well spent on 43 chains of new dray-road and the improvement of 1 mile 32 chains.

Kawhia–Aotea.—This road was put in a state of good repair early last spring, but there are now some soft places on the Aotea flats, across which about seven miles of the road passes. It is, however, not a very important road at present.

Mangauika A1a.—Under this heading two miles and a half of dray-road have been made from the Alexandra–Kawhia Road to land recently taken up on the eastern slope of Pirongia. It leads also to Crown lands.

Otorohanga–Pirongia.—Only the engineering survey of this road has been done. The work of construction is ready for letting as soon as necessary money is forthcoming.

Kinohaku East.—The engineering surveys of roads to open up this land are in hand, but up to date no road-construction has been done.

Pirongia West.—An additional 69 chains of narrow dray-road has been made, which makes the road open to 3 miles 69 chains from its starting-point at the Alexandra–Kawhia Road, and work is in hand up to four miles. This road opens up fairly good forest land in the hands of the Crown.

Tokanui–Wharepapa.—Nothing has been done to this, as there does not appear to be any hurry for it, owing to so little of the Wharepuhunga Block, to which it will lead, having been selected.

Te Kuiti–Awakino.—This is by far the most important and extensive of the roads under my control, the expenditure on it during the year being just about half of the whole for the district. The work latterly in hand has been very heavy side-cutting in hard limestone cliffs, requiring a great deal of drilling and blasting. The heaviest part is now done, and I anticipate a quicker progress in the future. This road will assist in opening up extensive areas of Crown lands, some of which are, I think, the best they own in this district. The road is now open for wheel traffic from Awakino Heads for twenty-five miles; from that point to 26¾ miles it is only partly made and in hand; from 26¾ miles there is another part open for similar traffic eight miles and a half long, or to 35¼ miles from the Heads. From Te Kuiti going southwards a length of three miles and a half is open for wheel traffic, and beyond that the work is in hand for a length of two miles and a quarter. There is still a gap of about five miles in the survey, so that the correct length cannot be given, but it will be just about fifty miles from Te Kuiti to Awakino Heads. The following bridges on this road will have to be built in the near future, viz.: Upper Awakino, about 100 ft. long; Mangaotaki, about the same length; Mangakowhai, 54 ft. long; and the Mangaparoo, Mangarama, and Mangatea, each about 25 ft. in length.

Waitomo Caves Road.—This is only a short road of five miles and a quarter. At the present time a gang of four men are employed in cleaning up the water-tables and drains and making

general repairs. This road will soon be continued into the Kinohaku and Hauturu Blocks, with the object of tapping the Crown lands there.

Wharauroa.—No work has been done under this head, and no expenditure has been incurred.

Paemako–Ohura.—A good punt, running on a wire rope overhead, has been put where the track crosses the Mokau River, which was often dangerous to ford. No other work has been done on this road, which so far is but an ungraded riding-track.

Kihikihi–Otorohanga–Te Kuiti.—There has been 2 miles 9 chains of dray-road added to that before done, and the road is now open for any kind of traffic between Kihikihi and Otorohanga. The bridge across the Mangaorongo Stream is, however, only a temporary one, and must soon be replaced with a proper structure. There is also about a mile of surface-forming to do on this section before the road can be considered as completed. On the part between Otorohanga and Te Kuiti only repairs necessary to keep it open as a riding-track have been made. I think it very desirable to make a dray-road along this part as soon as possible.

Ouruwhero No. 2 and Puketarata.—The work done and charged under this head forms part of the road from Kihikihi to Otorohanga, and is included in the last paragraph. It gives access to the Puketarata Crown lands.

Kihikihi–Waotu.—There has been 1 mile 63 chains of this road improved, and work under the new vote will soon be put in hand.

Wharepuhunga No. 1.—No work or expenditure has taken place in connection with this block, as the land offered for selection a few years ago did not go off freely. I believe there is now some settlement going on on the block, and I anticipate a request for roads.

Cambridge Bridge Repairs (£1 for £1).—An agreement has just been entered into with the Waipa County to do this work, which body are now calling for tenders for the required repairs.

Whatiwhatihoe Bridge.—There has been £11 spent on this, in small repairs to the deck, and in carefully inspecting the structure. It has been found that the bridge is in a very bad state, owing principally to decay, and is not safe for heavy traffic. As the £100 voted for repairs is totally inadequate for what is necessary, application has been made for a larger sum, and the repairs are delayed pending its receipt.

Puniu Bridge.—This has been put in a thorough state of repair—painted, tarred, &c.

Paemako (Karuotewhenua) Improved-farm Settlement.—No roads or other public works have been executed during the year which are chargeable under this item.

Te Rauamoa Improved-farm Settlement.—Like the above, no works have been in hand here in the way of roads, &c.

Whatawhata Swamp (Drainage and Road).—This work has been carried out, under agreement, by the Waipa County, and consists of 88 chains of 5-by-4 swamp-drain, 40 chains drain cleaned out, 260 cubic yards of gravel or sand carted on to the road, and sundry small repairs.

Stratford–Ongaruhe.—The principal work done is the erection of the Ohura Bridge, which consists of one span of 97 ft., two of 18 ft., and one of 13 ft., and the approaches to the same, consisting of about 1,200 cubic yards of embankment. Timber has also been sawn for the Mangaroa Bridge, which will be one span of 97 ft. The timber is now being hauled to the site. All the timber used in the bridges on this road is totara, except the parts requiring hard wood, where maire has been used. The remainder of the bush on the road within my district, consisting of one mile, has been felled and burnt. The road has been partially maintained, but not so thoroughly as it should have been, owing to the scarcity of money. It is now open for all kinds of traffic from the junction of the Taumarunui–Ohakune Road to the Mangaroa River, a distance of 27¾ miles, which makes forty-four miles south from Te Porootarao Tunnel. Short branch roads from this road will open up considerable areas of Crown land when required.

Taumarunui–Ohakune.—Hitherto this name has applied to the road or track from Ohakune right to the tunnel at Te Porootarao. The part of it which is north of Taumarunui is within my district, and it requires forming and completing; also two small bridges will have to be erected. Owing to there not being money for the purpose nothing has been done on the road, either in maintenance or new work, consequently the road is not in first-rate order.

Miscellaneous Roads and Bridges in Native Districts.—The riding-tracks from Te Kuiti to Otorohanga and to Te Porootarao have been repaired and maintained, and one good permanent culvert, 3 ft. by 5 ft., and 25 chains dray-road made on the former. Repairs on the tracks from Te Kuiti to Mokau and Otorohanga to Te Kopua are just about to be started.

Karioi Block.—A small grant for £55 was made to the Raglan County, and has been well spent in improving 26 chains of dray-road and small improvements.

Pirongia (III., IV., VI., VII., VIII.) Block.—Authority for the expenditure of £200 towards opening up roads to lands recently taken up in these blocks has just been received, and the work will be put in hand as soon as possible.

Hauturu and Part Kinohaku Block.—Twenty-three miles of engineering survey has been done, but no roadworks yet started.

Kinohaku Block, Pirongia (IV., VIII.) Block, Puketarata Block, and Whangaingatakapu Block.—Nothing as yet has been spent under these headings, but preparations are being made to put the works in hand.

"Thirds" and "Fourths," Kawhia County.—Under this the following works have been done, and expenditures incurred: On Briscoe's Road 6 chains of dray-road in side-cutting has been made, at a cost of £15 13s.; on Hunt's Road £3 12s. has been spent in preparing and setting out work now in hand; on the road from Kawhia to Harihari 50 chains of graded bridle-road has been made, mostly in bush, at a cost of £48 0s. 2d.; on the Manganui Road 53 chains of bridle-road has been made, and five miles of bushfelling and burning done, for an expenditure of £150 14s. During the year a great deal of new country has been explored for roads; it lies chiefly in the Hauturu and Kinohaku Blocks, between the waters of the Waipa and Mokau tributaries on the east, and the sea-coast and Kawhia Harbour on the west. Nearly all is forest land of a broken nature. Over most

of the area the soil is of good quality—the formation is clay slate, papa, and limestone. Nothing of particular interest was discovered. Mr. Adams and party report having found moa-bones in a cave, but very much decayed. Drift coal has been seen in some of the streams, but I have not heard of any seams having been seen, except the deposit long known of at Kawhia.

Engineering Surveys of Roads.—In all, during the year, complete engineering surveys have been made, plotted, and quantities taken out, of twenty-five miles, of which length two-thirds is in open country and the remainder in heavy bush. Besides this, a total length of seventy-four miles of road-line has been located, in rough bush country, by cutting, and pegging roughly the grade levels, to enable the land surveyors to follow when laying out the land for disposal. As this locating and grading is about equal to half a complete engineering survey, I have only shown half the mileage done in the tables. In connection with this work about twelve miles of pack-track, available for horses, has been made, and five to seven miles of walking, or "swag," track, which are great conveniences until the roads are made.

Contingencies and Engineering.—Under this vote an expenditure of £242 4s. 5d. has taken place, the chief items being the salaries of office assistant and clerk, office rent and fuel, &c., and expenses in inspecting works done under grants by local bodies.

C. W. Hursthouse, Road Surveyor.

ROTORUA.

Arahiwi and Mamaku Railway-station. — Bush-clearing to the extent of 2 miles 10 chains has been done. This road should be constructed on economical lines right through from the Arahiwi to the Mamaku Railway-station, on the northern side of the railway-line, with cross-roads at suitable places from the sections on the southern side of the line. The road connecting the Tirau (Oxford)–Rotorua Road with the Mamaku Railway-station should also be formed. This done, all settlers would have access to the railway-stations, and the traffic on the Tirau–Rotorua Road would be relieved, which would enable it to be kept in better order in the winter months. The settlers about Mamaku would then have a much better chance of making a success of the settlement, and the blocks of Crown lands at the back would be taken up more rapidly.

Ngongotaha–Bishop's Section.—There has been 2 miles 15 chains of dray-road constructed beyond the Ngongotaha Mount Road, giving good access into Mr. Bishop's section.

Okoheriki 1d.—Mr. H. T. Mitchell has begun the work of location of roads on this block, which lies to the south of Mamaku, from which point the block will be opened up. Contracts will shortly be let for clearing the bush preparatory to construction of roads. £300 is available for this work.

Rotorua–Ngongotaha Mount.—This road is about six miles in length from its turn off the Tauranga–Runanga Road, two of which are wide enough for drays, and the remainder for horses. During the year 1 mile 60 chains of dray-road has been formed, and six miles have been maintained. The look-out tower at the top of the mountain has been destroyed, being unsafe; plans for a new tower will be submitted for your approval shortly. When funds can be spared the four miles of horse-road from the base to the top of the mountain should be widened sufficiently to allow invalids and tourists to drive up to the top. The views obtained of the surrounding district from points in the ascent as well as from the top are very fine.

Rotorua–Wairoa.—For its entire length of seven miles, starting from its junction with the Maketu Road, this horse-road has been maintained, 10 chains of dray-road and 2 miles 61 chains of horse-road having been improved. When funds will permit it should be widened into a dray-road, and a by-road formed as far as the Okaraka Lake, estimates for which work have been forwarded to you.

Rotoiti–Tarawera, viâ Okataina.—Nothing has been done on this work during the year. Arrangements are now being made for letting the work of clearing the bush on the road from the Rotoiti to the Okataina Lake, and making a passable horse-track along it. To construct this road right through from the Rotoiti Lake, along the shores of the Okataina, Tarawera, and Okareka Lakes, connecting with the Wairoa Road, would be very expensive, and I think, if a good buggy-road were constructed from the Te Teko Road, on the shores of Rotoiti, as far as the Okatama Lake, and a branch from the Wairoa Road into the Okareka Lake, it would meet all requirements for many years to come.

Taumata (Nos. 1a, 2a, 3b East, 3b West No. 1, 3c East, 3g West No. 1).—No authority has been issued under this item.

Galatea–Ruatoki.—An authority for £100 has been issued for this work, but no action has been taken pending further instructions.

Rotorua–Te Teko.—Owing to scarcity of funds, this work has not progressed much during the year. 4 miles 13 chains of engineering surveys have been executed, and twenty-seven miles of the road have been maintained, 1 mile 8 chains being improved. Arrangements are now made for the construction of the road through the swamp near Te Teko by means of large drains, and for the completion of the road from Lake Roto-ma to the Tarawera River. A section has also been taken of the Tarawera River at the proposed bridge-site. About forty Natives are now at work on the Te Teko end of the road. At Tapuaeharuru a short length of road should be taken and constructed from the shore of Lake Rotoiti through the Native clearing to connect with the main road to Te Teko, to do away with the toll at present levied by the Natives on passengers and goods landed from the launches. I am at present negotiating with the Natives with the intention of submitting the matter for your approval.

Rotorua–Galatea–Waikaremoana.—19 miles 65 chains of engineering survey has been done, completing this class of work right through from Rotorua to where the Mokau River runs into Waikaremoana Lake; and thirty-five miles of engineering plans and quantities prepared for

contracts. About twenty miles of dray-road has been constructed, eleven miles of dray-road has been improved, and seventy-five miles has been maintained. With the exception of a gap of about two miles on the Kaingaroa Plains, the formation of the road is now continuous from Rotorua to a point about seventy-three miles from Rotorua, and with an expenditure of about £500 on culverts, bridges, and slips the road could be opened into the head-waters of the Whakatane River within a mile of Te Umeroa Settlement, a distance of seventy-six miles from Rotorua. Having just received an authority for £500, this work will be put in hand at once. The gap on the Kaingaroa Plains should be done as soon as funds will allow, but at present the old track is available for traffic. In connection with this work a branch road has been formed, 10 ft. wide, for a distance of two miles and a half, giving access to the Te Papa totara forest, at the back of Te Whaiti, where there is a splendid supply of that timber—sufficient to meet all requirements for that part of the district. The crossing of the Rangitaiki River near Galatea is very unsatisfactory, being at times dangerous. There is a very good site for a bridge, which could be built for £250, and to which the new road has been formed. A section has been taken of it, and as soon as funds are available for the road, plans of the bridge will be submitted for your approval. Owing to want of funds, all the men—Europeans and Natives—at work on this road were discharged, excepting a few surfacemen, last December. During the whole year the bulk of the work has been given to Natives, to relieve their distress consequent on the failure of the potato-crops, about twenty of the Ureweras being employed at bush-clearing near Ruatahuna, about twenty of the Te Whaiti Natives on the Te Papa Road, and about forty Natives from Te Houhi, Galatea, and Whirinaki on the Kaingaroa Plains. A staff of six men has been employed in maintenance, and the road is now in good order throughout. A bridge is badly wanted in place of the present ford across the stream about a mile beyond the Waiotapu Road junction. The ford will always require attention, and in times of flood is dangerous. The bridge could be erected for about £150.

Rotowhero viâ *Waiotapu–Wairakei Road.*—About four miles have been re-formed. The entire road has been maintained, and is now in good condition. Its length from the junction of the Galatea Road to Wairakei, including the branch roads to Ohaki and the Areatiatia Rapids, is thirty-eight miles. A bridge of 25 ft. span has been constructed over the Wairakei Stream. A 4 ft. by 3 ft. culvert has been built near Wairakei, and a 6 ft. by 4 ft. at the Waikato Bridge. Other small culverts are being constructed, so that the road will be completed right through by the time the Waikato Bridge is built. During the present season the traffic has been considerable, in spite of it being necessary to swim horses across the Waikato River. A mail-coach goes each way once a week, besides many specials. The road is also a favourite with cyclists. When this road is opened one of the surfacemen can be spared from the Rotorua–Atiamuri lengths, and should be put on it.

Tirau (Oxford)–Rotorua Main Road.—From its junction with the Tauranga Road to the boundary of the Rotorua County, which is the Government portion of the road, and is nine miles in length, the road has been maintained, and is now in good order, with the exception of two culverts that require reconstructing, and for which timber has been ordered. Before next summer the scrub on the sides of the road should be cut down by contract labour, ready for burning and sowing the ground with grass-seed. This would help considerably to keep the road dry and hard in winter.

Akeake.—An authority for £75 has just been issued for this work. Nothing has yet been done.

Maketu Wharf.—£100 authority has just been issued. Nothing has been done.

Otawa No. 1a, 1b.—No authority has been issued for this work.

Pye's Pa.—No authority has been issued for this work.

Papamoa Special Settlement.—The sum of £193 has been expended by the Tauranga County Council in the formation of 3 miles 40 chains of horse-road. A further sum of £206 has been issued for expenditure to the same body.

Papamoa No. 1; Papamoa Nos. 1 and 2.—Grants of £156 and £200 have just been made to the Tauranga County Council. No work has been done, as far as I know.

Tauranga–Cambridge.—A grant of £100 has been made to the Tauranga County recently. Nothing has yet been done.

Maketu–Rotorua.—The Government portion of this road is 22½ miles in length; it has been maintained by a staff of three men. Six miles and a half have been re-formed, and a whare has been erected for the use of the surfaceman at the northern end.

Pongakawa–Rotorua and Rotorua Road.—Five miles of engineering survey have been made, 2 miles 12 chains of dray-road has been constructed, giving settlers access to the main road from Tauranga to Whakatane. The work is now being extended.

Tauranga–Runanga.—This road has been maintained in good order from the boundary of the Tauranga County on the north to Runanga on the south, a distance of 118 miles, by a staff of eight men. Thirty-five miles of it have been re-formed, five bridges have been repaired, twenty culverts reconstructed, and 16 chains of drains have been cut. That portion of it through the Mangarewa Gorge has been considerably improved and made safer for traffic. Arrangements have been made for renewing some of the culverts and improving the portion between the Rangitaiki and Runanga.

Ateamuri–Orakeikorako.—In order to assist Natives about Ateamuri, this work was put in hand in October. Eleven miles of location and engineering surveys are done, and 2 miles 54 chains of dray-road constructed. The road was laid off from Ateamuri to Orakeikorako, connecting then with the road from Wairakei. When finished it will make a very interesting drive for tourists, giving complete access to the wonders of Orakeikorako.

Otarewa–Waipapa Stream (Robison's Road).—No authority has as yet been issued for this work.

Orakeikorako (Tracks to).—Of this road, 10 miles 28 chains have been widened from a horse-track into a buggy-road, connecting Orakeikorako with the Wairakei Road. Sixteen miles of the

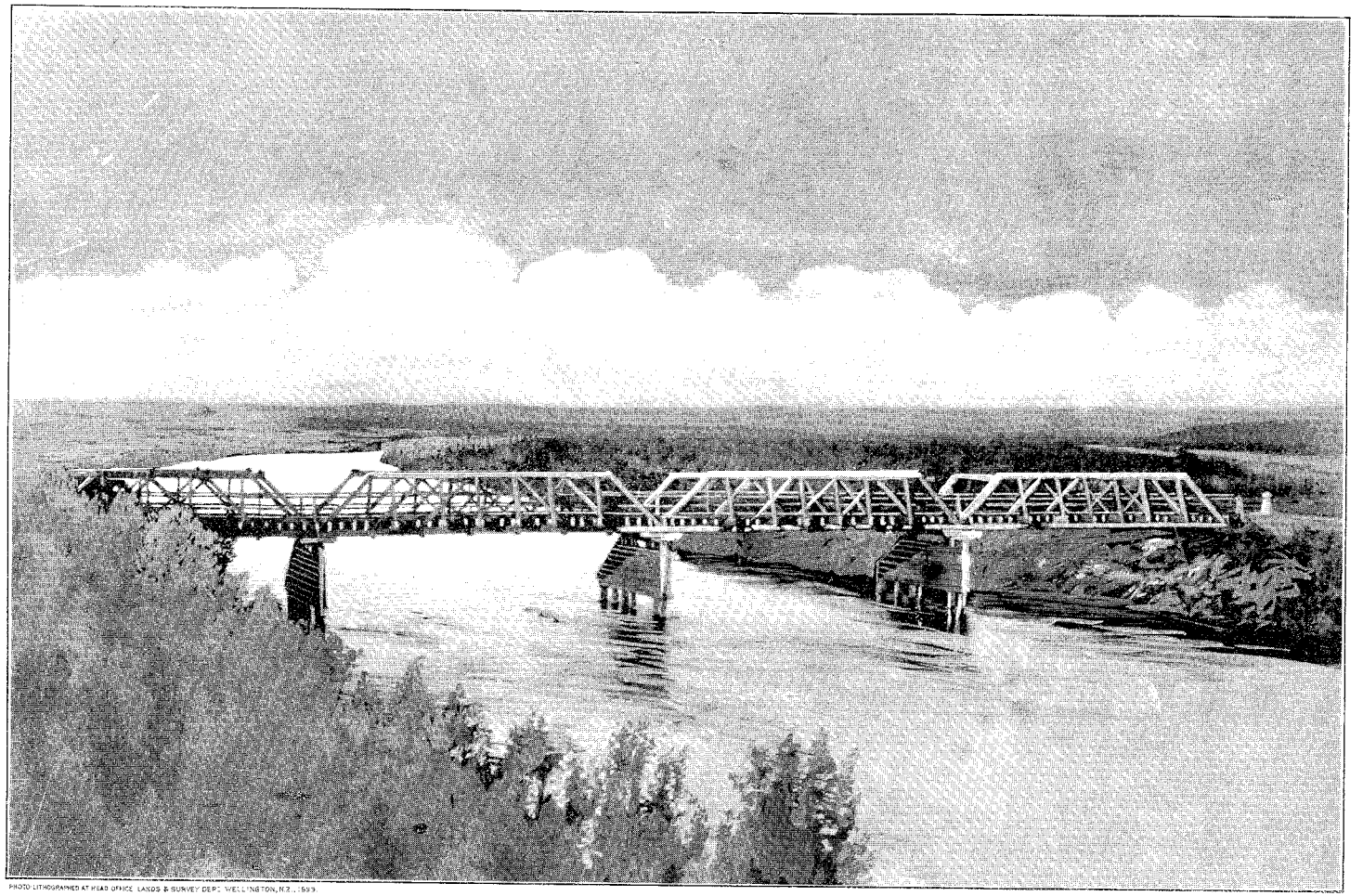


PHOTO LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT, WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Bridge over the Waikato River, on the Waiotapu Road.

road has been maintained. The grades and crossings of some of the creeks are capable of considerable improvement, and a surfaceman has been put on to keep the road open, and improve it as much as he can.

Tauhara Mountain.—Not being of an urgent nature, and other work being more pressing, nothing has been done towards the construction of a road up this mountain.

Tokaanu–Taupo.—This road extends from its junction with the Taupo–Napier Road to Tokaanu, a distance of thirty-six miles, and has been maintained in fair order. Six miles of its formation have been renewed. For some weeks, owing to want of funds, all the surfacemen had to be taken off, and since then only two men have been kept on, instead of the usual number of three. It is much to be regretted that this had to be done, the road running through country very liable to slips, and the river-crossings requiring constant attention. Several portions of the road have never been properly formed, and are very heavy. There are also four rivers crossing it which should be bridged as soon as funds are available, taking the most dangerous first, which is the Tauranga–Taupo, an estimate of which has been sent to you. If, however, a comfortable and swift service of launches were established on the Taupo Lake the question of expenditure on this road beyond ordinary maintenance would become a matter of less urgency.

Tokaanu Road and Wharf.—A survey of the wharf-site has been made, and plans and estimates of the wharf have been submitted to and approved by you. The work of construction will be put in hand as soon as possible.

Whakatane Wharf Repairs.—An authority of £200 has recently been issued for this work, for which I understand the Whakatane Road Board have submitted plans for your approval.

Galatea–Te Teko.—Six miles of dray-road have been maintained, and a 30 ft. bridge has been built over the Ngatamawahine Stream. This road at present connects the Native settlement and school of Te Houhi with Galatea. As soon as funds can be spared it should be continued as a horse-road to connect with the road from the Rangitaiki Valley across the ranges to Ruatoki.

Matata–Te Teko.—A grant of £100 has been made quite recently to the Whakatane County Council. There has been no time to do any work yet.

Nukuhou–Maraetotara.—Grants of £100 and £400 have been made to the Whakatane County Council. Proposals for work on the road have recently been submitted for my approval.

Otara River–Papamoa.—£300 has just been granted to the Whakatane County Council for this work.

Omarumutu–Te Whaiti.—£100 has been granted to the Whakatane County Council for this work.

Opotiki–Otamarakau.—The sum of £200 was granted to the same body for this work in January, 1898, but, as far as I know, nothing has yet been done.

Papamoa–Omarumutu.—£150 has been spent in widening 37 chains of this road by the Whakatane County Council.

Rangitaiki–Ruatoki–Waiotahi.—Thirty miles of this horse-road have been mantained, 5 miles 57 chains have been re-formed, and 1 mile 22 chains has been widened into a dray-road near Ruatoki.

Te Teko–Opotiki.—The portion of this road between Te Teko and Whakatane requires improving by means of drainage, re-formation, and three small bridges. A sum of £525 having been just authorised, the work will be put in hand.

Waimana–Ohiwa.—Two grants of £200 each have recently been made to the Whakatane County Council, and proposals for the work have been submitted to me.

Waioeka River, Waiotahi Block.—36 chains of road-formation has been done by the Whakatane County Council under a grant of £100. Another grant of £300 has just been made to the same body.

Waioeka, Blocks 2, 3, 4.—A grant of £100 was made to the same body, but nothing has been done.

Waimana Block.—£14 has been spent on this block in the improvement of 60 chains of horse-road and maintenance of eight miles. A grant of £485 was made to the Whakatane County Council in February last, but nothing has yet been done.

Bay of Plenty, Sundry Roads.—£50 was granted to the Whakatane County Council in February.

Kaiti Bridge.—A sum of £200 was granted to the Tauranga County Council for this work in March. I understand plans will shortly be submitted for approval.

Kaituna Stream Bridge.—£150 was granted to the Tauranga County Council in December, 1897. I could not approve of the plans that were submitted, and nothing has been done.

Ruahihi Bridge (Tauranga–Cambridge).—No grant or authority has been issued for this work.

Morea Bridge.—The plans for this bridge over the Ohau Channel were received in March. As the bed of the stream is very uncertain it has been decided to drive the piles by day-labour, and to let a contract for the superstructure. The bridge will consist of one 80 ft., one 20 ft., and one 12 ft. span. Tenders for the supply of piles will be called at once. Meanwhile the old bridge has been made sufficiently strong to carry light traffic.

Waikato Bridge, Waiotapu.—A contract was let for this bridge, which consists of four 58 ft. spans, in July last. The contractor's time for completion of the work expired in February. All the pile-driving is done, and rapid progress is being made with the superstructure. The work should be completed about the end of April. The driving has been exceedingly hard, some of the ironbark piles being driven until they split. All the timber is of first-class quality.

Otara Bridge.—This bridge, which is 360 ft. in length, is being rejoisted and redecked by the Whakatane County Council. The grant is for £100, the county finding £1 for £1.

Whakatane County Bridge (Repairing and Construction).—A grant of £500 was made to the county for repairs to the Waioeka Bridge, which is 392 ft. in length, the county finding £1 for £1. Some of the piers of this bridge had sunk to such an extent by the river scouring its bed that it

appeared more like a switchback railway than a bridge. The bridge has been raised where required, and extended to a safer embankment.

Taupo Domain.—The domain has been improved. It is also proposed to construct a new bath on the shore of the lake, in the site of an old bath that was made and used by the Armed Constabulary.

Tokaanu Baths and Water-supply.—£500 authority has been issued for this, but nothing has as yet been done.

Tauranga County, Flood-damages.—A grant of £200 has been spent by the county in repairs to damages.

Waiotapu Springs.—Nothing has been done to the roads at these springs, pending the settlement of matters with the Native owners.

Lichfield–Atiamuri.—The Government portion of this road is fourteen miles in length, extending from its junction with the Tauranga–Runanga Road at Atiamuri towards Lichfield. 2 miles 14 chains have been re-formed, and 14 miles maintained.

Waiawa Block.—A grant of £440 has been made to the Whakatane County Council, but nothing has yet been done.

Taumata Block.—The sum of £428 was authorised for the construction of roads on this block in January, and the work will be put in hand shortly.

Umurua Block.—£280 was authorised for expenditure in January last. The roads are being laid off, and the work of clearing the bush will be started as soon as possible.

Opotiki–East Cape.—A grant of £200 has been made to the Whakatane County Council, who have improved portions of the road, and maintained it for a distance of sixty miles.

Gisborne–Opotiki.—A grant of £50 has just been made to the Whakatane County Council.

GENERAL.

Much of the roadwork done during the year in this district has been given to Natives at Ruatoki, Galatea, Ruatahuna, Ohaki, and Atiamuri, in order to relieve their distress caused by failure of the potato-crops. It has, in consequence, had to be prepared in haste, and it has at times been difficult to discriminate between deserving and undeserving cases Credit is due to the officers who carried out the work, not only for the preparation of it with despatch, but for the assistance rendered to the Natives.

Throughout the district better provision should be made for the housing of the surfacemen and paddocking of their horses. Many of them are stationed in exposed situations, requiring whares instead of tents, and also paddocks. Since my arrival I have built five whares and made several reserves, but the difficulty is to get reserves where the land belongs to the Natives. I am putting the sum of £250 on my estimates for the coming year for this purpose.

During the coming year several of the large bridges in the district should be painted; provision for this will also be made in my estimates.

The by-laws issued for the regulation of wheel traffic throughout the district have been fairly well observed.

During the year 56 miles 65 chains of engineering surveys have been made; 44 miles 52 chains of dray-road and three miles and a half of horse-road have been formed; five bridges have been constructed; 70 miles 63 chains of dray-road and ten miles of horse-road have been renewed; 412 miles 50 chains of dray-road and 51 miles 74 chains of horse-road have been maintained.

The number of contracts let during the year was—Co-operative, 125; ordinary and agreements, 36.

ROBERT H. REANEY, Road Surveyor.

HAWKE'S BAY.

Rotorua–Galatea–Waikaremoana.—7 miles 33 chains of bridle-road from 8 ft. to 14 ft. wide have been constructed, with the necessary culverts and bridges; seventeen culverts, of a total length of 375 ft., and four bridges, of a total span of 63 ft., have been built, and fords made at the stream-crossings. It is all in forest country, and the forest has been felled a chain wide, except where the road touches the lake, the road being now completed to the Mokau Falls, 16¼ miles from Onepoto. Of building timber, 70,773 ft. has been sawn and 3,500 shingles split, ready for any buildings which may be required, the works all being carried out by co-operatives. The road goes over very rough, hard country, where progress is slow and the work expensive. The whole length of road from Onepoto to Mokau—16¼ miles—has been maintained.

Opotiki–East Cape.—Assisted by a grant of £100, the Waiapu County Council has constructed 95 chains of a 5 ft. bridle-road, including forest-clearing, with eight culverts, of a total length of 48 ft., the work being carried out under the supervision of the county engineer, Mr. O'Ryan.

Awanui–Tikitiki.—The Waiapu County Council, out of a grant of £300, has widened 140 chains of the bridle-road into a 12 ft. dray-road, with culverts of a total length of 240 ft., and one bridge of 16 ft. span, while 20 chains have been metalled, the work being carried out under the supervision of the county engineer, on plans and specifications approved by the department.

Whareponga–Reporua.—3 miles 25 chains of bridle-track, 6 ft. and 7 ft. wide, have been constructed, with two 18 ft. bridges and twenty-eight box-culverts, the work being carried out by the Waiapu County Council out of a grant, plans and specifications being approved by the department.

Gisborne–Waimata.—The Cook County Council has expended the balance of a grant in forming and gravelling 40½ chains and metalling 32 chains of the main road.

Motu Road.—2 miles 49 chains of the Motu Road have been widened into a 12 ft. dray-road, including bush felled and cleared 16 ft. wide and the necessary culverts, of a total length of 662 ft., the work being carried out by co-operatives working under an overseer. This is a continuation of the widening commenced last year, the road being now completed to within six miles and a half of Motu Village.

Muriwai–Mahia.—The Cook County Council, from a grant, has constructed 68 chains of a dray-road and 90 chains of a 6 ft. bridle-road, the work being carried out under the supervision of the county engineer (Mr. Winter), from plans approved by the department.

Tatapouri Hill.—From a grant to the Cook County Council, 68 chains of the dray-road over the hill, which was in bad repair, has been formed and metalled.

Waikohu–Motu.—The Cook County Council, out of a grant, has constructed 3 miles 32 chains of a 12 ft. dray-road, with forty-seven culverts of a total length of 742 ft., and one bridge of 24 ft. span, under the supervision of their engineer, on plans and specifications approved by the department. This road, when constructed throughout, will open up the back portions of the Motu Settlement, and also open up direct communication from Motu, *viâ* Patutahi, to Gisborne.

Gisborne–Opotiki.—Sixty-six miles of the bridle-road running through rough forest country has been maintained, five surfacemen having been at work throughout the year. New bridges and culverts have been put in, slips removed, and the road generally repaired. Owing to the rough country through which this road runs between Motu and Omaramutu, in the Bay of Plenty, it is necessary to keep a constant supervision of this portion of the road, otherwise it would be blocked by trees, slips, &c.

Gisborne–Rotorua Stock-track.—The exploration and location of this road has been completed by District Surveyor L. Smith, who also cut out the centre line, the distance being fifty-one miles so explored. It runs through very broken forest country. Fifteen miles has been felled 66 ft. wide, and the centre 30 ft. cleared, while 34 chains of formation 10 ft. wide has been constructed in places where it was too steep to otherwise pass over. At the Gisborne end co-operatives have been employed, and at the Ruatahuna end Natives have been given the work, under the supervision of Mr. Reilly.

Gisborne–Waikaremoana.—This is a continuation of the road commenced last year, forty miles being now completed, 25½ of which has been done during the year. It runs through rough forest country, which has been felled 66 ft. wide, the road being formed 8 ft. wide, with necessary culverts, inlet and outlet drains, &c., and two bridges of 28 ft. span. Of building timber there has been sawn 7,116 ft., and 2,700 shingles split, and forty miles of constructed road maintained, all the work being done by co-operative labour, working at the Gisborne end. This road will be completed about the end of April, when road-communication will be completed between Waikaremoana and Gisborne, *viâ* Hangaroa. It will be necessary for the Government to keep maintenance-men on the road after its completion. The road runs through unoccupied Native and Crown land, some of which, however, has been surveyed into small grazing-runs, and will be offered at an early date.

Nuhaka–Gisborne.—Six miles of the bridle-road have been widened into a 12 ft. dray-road, including forest-clearing 16 ft. wide, with necessary culverts of a total length of 985 ft., the work being done by co-operative labour. This is a portion of the main Gisborne–Nuhaka–Wairoa Road, and will be of great advantage to the district when its construction is completed.

Wairoa–Gisborne.—Out of the balance of a grant the Cook County Council has maintained the road, put in new culverts, and metalled 16½ chains.

Frasertown–Waikaremoana.—1 mile 51 chains of an 8 ft. road has been widened into a 12 ft. dray-road by co-operative labour. This is a portion of the last three miles before arriving at the lake, it being necessary to widen the road to allow two coaches to pass. It will now be a good road.

Runanga–Pohue.—Thirty-nine miles of this portion of the Napier–Taupo Road have been maintained, and 48 chains of the road re-formed from 14 ft. to 25 ft. wide, and metalled. One bridge, of a 16 ft. span, has been built, and five culverts, of a total length of 118 ft., put in, while 448 cubic yards of stone have been quarried and broken. The 48 chains of road re-formed is a portion of the road at Titi-o-kura where the grade was very steep, and which is now much improved It also includes the approaches to the Mohaka ford and new bridge-site. The work was done by co-operative labour.

Napier–Wairoa.—Eighteen miles of engineering survey has been made by Mr. Marshall, and 12 miles 14 chains of a 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. dray-road constructed, scrub-clearing 66 ft. wide included. Two bridges of a 32 ft. span and eighty-five culverts of a total length of 1,538 ft. have been built, twenty-one stone crossings at streams made, and 67 chains metalled, all the work being done by co-operative labour. The portion completed to Tutira Lake will be handed over to the Wairoa County Council. Some portions of construction are completed beyond the lake, leaving about twenty-three miles remaining to be constructed to complete through communication with Mohaka and Wairoa, some of which, at the Matahoura and Waikare Streams, will be heavy, expensive work; but, with the exception of these two gorges, the road will not be expensive to construct, and should be pushed forward, as the completion of this road to Mohaka will give through communication between Napier and Wairoa, and will be of great advantage to a number of Crown settlers and others who at present have no road-access, except by rough bridle-tracks. The whole length of road constructed from Tongoio towards Tutira Lake is about twenty-one miles, and has been maintained during the past year.

Dannevirke–Tiratu.—2 miles 57 chains of dray-road from 10 ft. to 15 ft. wide have been constructed, including forest-clearing 1 chain wide, thirteen culverts of a total length of 235 ft., and 18 chains of metalling, to give access to Crown sections lately selected in the Tiratu Block, the work being carried out by co-operative labour. Now that the road is completed, settlers have good communication with the Town of Dannevirke.

Ormondville–Waikopiro.—From grants made to the Ormondville Town Board and Road Board, these bodies have constructed a 72 ft. truss bridge and formed 25 chains of a 14 ft. and 20 ft. dray-road, with four culverts, of a total length of 126 ft., the plans, &c., for bridge and works being furnished by the department. This road is a deviation of the Ormondville-Waikopiro Road, and is a great improvement on the old road, where the grades were very bad.

Ruahine Block.—One truss bridge of 58 ft. span has been erected, and four culverts of a total length of 98 ft. This completes the approach to the Ruahine Settlement.

Takapau–Kopua (£1 for £1).—With the assistance of the balance of a grant the Takapau Road Board has erected five bridges, 14 ft. wide, of a total length of 145 ft.; constructed 2 miles 25 chains of an 18 ft. and 20 ft. dray-road, of which 1 mile 40 chains is metalled, 60 chains of forest-clearing, 66 ft. wide, being included. This completes the construction of the road, which is now open for traffic.

Waikopiro.—4 miles 33¼ chains of a road from 4 ft. to 14 ft. wide has been constructed; 3 miles 14 chains of forest felled 66 ft., stumped and cleared 30 ft.; twenty-two bridges, of a total length of 388 ft., and forty-seven culverts, of a total length of 744 ft., built; and the roads throughout the settlement maintained; the work being carried out by settlers working on co-operative contracts. Before satisfactory roads can be maintained it will be necessary to metal them, and I hope to be able to metal the main road to Whetukura Village during the coming year.

Elsthorpe Roads.—The Oero Road Board, with a grant, has constructed 17 chains of road 15 ft. wide, one stone crossing, and 64 ft. of culverting, the work being carried out on plans approved by the department.

Opoiti Bridge.—Assisted by a grant of £1,500, the Wairoa County Council has built a bridge at Opoiti, in place of the one carried away by a flood some years ago. It is situated on the main Gisborne–Wairoa Road, and is a truss bridge of a total length of 280 ft., built on concrete piers, in four spans—one of 100 ft., two of 80 ft., and one of 20 ft. The work was carried out on plans approved by the department.

Mohaka Bridge.—Messrs. McGrath and Burke's tender of £6,240 was accepted to build this bridge, which replaces the one washed away in the Easter flood of 1897. It is a truss bridge of 363 ft. span, built on iron cylinders and concrete abutments. Materials have been carted on to the ground, and work on the foundations started.

Manawatu Bridge, Waikopiro.—This is a truss bridge of 188 ft. span, in four spans, built on concrete piers. Messrs. Milne and Robertson are the contractors, the price of bridge being £1,149 19s. 6d. The piers are completed, and the truss-work in progress.

Ngapaeruru.—Twenty miles of road have been formed 6 ft. to 10 ft. wide, and 2 miles 50 chains of pack-track, including forest felled 1 chain wide on line of road, and the erection of twenty-two temporary bridges to give access to the block. All the work has been done by co-operatives.

Waimarie.—The Ormond Town Board, out of a grant, has constructed 1 mile 18 chains of dray-road, with necessary culverts, in the Waimarie Settlement, the work being done by contract, on plans approved by the department.

General.

The total length of roads constructed in the district during the year is 124 miles. In addition, 109 miles of dray-road and seventy miles of bridle-road have been maintained, and 52 chains of dray-road and 3 miles 14 chains of bridle-road improved. Two bridges, of 72 ft. and 58 ft. span, have been built, and fifty-five bridges under 30 ft. span, of a total length of 1,817 ft., and 280 culverts of a total length of 5,082 ft. Thirty-six miles of engineering survey have been made. The total cost of the above is £31,804.

Of the 124 miles constructed, twenty miles have been made by local bodies, on plans and specifications approved by the department; the balance of 104 miles being constructed principally by co-operatives, working under the supervision of officers of the department. Of the total constructed, 39½ miles are dray-roads constructed of an average width of 15 ft., and 84½ miles of bridle-roads of an average width of 8 ft. All the bridle- and a portion of the dray-roads are in forest country, which is felled 1 chain wide in the line of road. Two hundred and twenty contracts have been prepared and executed, and 1,399 vouchers have passed through, covering an expenditure of £31,804.

One Road Surveyor, Mr. Marshall, and seven overseers have been permanently employed, and the staff officers have generally inspected any works in progress in the neighbourhood of their surveys.

Eric C. Gold Smith, Chief Surveyor.

TARANAKI.

Junction Road, Purangi (£1 for £1).—This vote is for subsidising Clifton County Council in extending the metalling of Junction Road to Purangi, a distance of twenty-five miles from railway-line at Inglewood. About twenty miles of this has been metalled, and the settlers around Purangi have voted for a loan under Loans to Local Bodies Act, to be assisted by Government subsidy, for completing the metalling to Purangi. About 20 chains of metal has been laid since my last report, and the work will recommence next season as soon as weather permits.

Junction Road, Widening.—In continuation of the widening of this road from 8 ft. bridle-road to dray-road width, and which last year had been completed to Purangi, a distance of twenty-five miles from railway-line at Inglewood, a further length of two miles and a half has been widened between Purangi and Matau, and 742 lineal feet of culverts built. The work had to be discontinued through want of funds; but, in order to give the Milsom and Tanner settlers fair means of getting to Purangi and Inglewood, the widening should be continued for a further three miles at least, and eventually on to Ohura Road.

Kaipikari Deviation.—Kaipikari Road leads from Main North Road, near Urenui, towards Burfoot Improved-farm Settlement, and to a large block of Crown lands lying in valleys of Urenui River. The old road was in parts too steep to be serviceable, and at about a mile in from Main Road a deviation of nearly 60 chains has been laid off through some Native land, and will shortly be formed as a dray-road. Plans and specifications have been prepared, and the work is about to be let on co-operative system to the settlers in the vicinity.

Milsom, and Milsom and Tanner.—The works in these blocks are in continuation of those done in previous years, and are for the purpose of giving the Milsom and Tanner special settlers better access to their lands. 155 chains of dray-road formation, 59 chains bridle-road formation, 63 chains felling stumping and clearing, 369 lineal feet of culverts, and 46 lineal feet of bridges comprise the works done during the year. Timber and ironwork for a truss bridge 65 ft. long to be erected on Matau Road North is now on the ground, and the erection will be shortly commenced. Other works to open up the lands in the settlements are required, in order to allow of the settlers using their lands to the best advantage.

Mimi–Mangaroa Road (Metalling, £1 for £1).—A further contract for metalling part of Mimi Road between Main North Road and Uruti Stream, and in continuance of metalling done last year, has been let by Clifton County Council. The contract is for 80 chains, laid 12 ft. wide by 12 in. deep, of the special gravel which has made such a splendid road about Urenui. Some of the worst parts of the road between the above points will have been metalled when this contract is completed, but before coaches can run regularly between Waitara and Te Kuiti the whole of Mimi and Mokau Roads will have to be metalled. The length of metalling done this season was 35 chains, but no payment from this vote has yet been made on account of it.

Moanatairi Special Settlement.—This vote is for the purpose of improving the road leading from Putiki, on Tongaporutu River, towards Greenlands Improved-farm Settlement and Moanatairi. During this year the pack-track (about seven miles) between Putiki and Greenlands has been improved and kept in order, and the Tooi Road is being felled and stumped, and bridle-road formed and culverted.

Mokau.—This being part of the Mimi Road (Pukearuhe inland to Mohakatino), is included in the roadwork described under that heading.

Mokau River Bridle-track.—It was intended to make a bridle-track on north bank of Mokau River to give stock-driving access to lands about ten miles up the river, but the track would be an expensive and difficult one to make, and, the lands not being occupied, the urgent necessity for it has not as yet arisen. No work has been done on it.

Moki Junction, Block II., Upper Waitara.—This vote is for the purpose of erecting a bridge over Uruti Stream, Uruti Road, to give access to lands sold some four years ago, and now grassed and occupied. Plans and specifications for a bridge 64 ft. long are prepared, and contracts are let for sawing the necessary timber. The erection of the bridge will be proceeded with as soon as the material is all on the site.

Moki Road.—This road branches off Uruti Road at about two miles from Mimi Road, and will give access to lands now being surveyed in Mokimakarakia and Upper Waitara Valleys. Plans and specifications for a bridge 70 ft. long over the Uruti Stream are prepared, and timber is being cut. Plans are also prepared for the formation of the road onwards, and the work is now in hand.

Ngatoto.—A road running up Waitara River from Purangi, leading to Crown lands still undisposed of in Upper Waitara Survey District. A bridle-road has been felled and formed about two miles up the river, and the vote is for widening and improving the worst places upon it. The work is now being proceeded with.

Okoke Road.—This road, leading from Main North Road, near Mimi, to Waitara River, has been felled, and bridle-road formed nearly to its end. The Clifton County Council have taken charge of the first portion, and widened it from bridle- to dray-road width. The present vote will be used in continuing this widening onwards, and the work will shortly be let on co-operative system.

Pukearuhe Inland to Mohakatino, Mimi–Mokau Road.—The portion referred to is part of the future coach-road between Waitara and Te Kuiti, and it branches off the metalled road from Waitara to Pukearuhe at about fourteen miles north of the former. With the exception of a few places blocked with slips, and the erection of one bridge over Oakura Creek, on Tongaporutu Flat, it is now available for summer traffic to Tongaporutu crossing, a distance of 39½ miles from Waitara. Beyond Tongaporutu a further four miles to Kawau is available for dray traffic, and between that and Mokau about two miles out of six has been formed. Part of the road in Lepperton Special Settlement runs along Mimi Valley, in which Mimi Stream in heavy floods rises above the formation, and the latter will have to be raised by material obtained from long drains to be dug on each side of the road. No work, excepting bridge-building and removal of slips, has been done on the road since December, when our votes were exhausted. During the year 299 chains of dray-road was formed, part of it being through heavy cuttings in papa rock; 137 chains of wide and deep drains were dug; 1,827 lineal feet of culverts from 1 ft. to 3 ft. clear inside have been built; and two bridges, one of 65 ft. and one of 32 ft., have been erected; over 2,470 cubic yards of slips, with trees and logs imbedded amongst it, have been removed. In view of the coach-road being opened through from Waitara to Te Kuiti it is very desirable a sufficient vote should be granted to complete the works on this road between Mimi and Mokau. Before, however, it will be available for winter coach traffic the whole of the Mimi Flat, the Tongaporutu Flat, and other parts of the road—in all, fully twenty miles in addition to that already done—will have to be metalled. Nineteen miles of the road has been under constant maintenance.

Putiki.—The old bridle-road from Mimi Road to Putiki—about two miles and a half—has been widened into dray-road width, in order to give better access to Okau and Greenlands Improved-farm Settlements and to Crown lands not yet disposed of. 157 chains of dray-road has been formed, 76½ chains of drains cut, and 762 lineal feet of culverts built. Timber and ironwork for Manga-

ongaonga Bridge, 56 ft. long, is now ready, and the erection of the bridge will soon be put in hand.

Upper Waitara, Mangaere, Junction Road, Purangi to Ohura Road.—The only work done under this vote was the removal of slips and the maintenance of ten miles of road.

Egmont (Metalling, £1 for £1).—The settlers on Egmont Road between Junction Road and Mount Egmont Forest Reserve have raised a loan under the Loans to Local Bodies Act to metal with broken stone the unmetalled portion—about five miles—of the road. The work is now in hand, and should we have a fine autumn may be completed this season. In addition to the benefit the settlers will derive through having a good road on which they can take their milk to the dairy factory at all times of the year, the mountain house, under the control of North Egmont Forest Board, will largely gain by the advantage of possessing better road for tourist traffic, the metalled road being then completed within four miles of the house.

Kent Road.—The expenditure on this road is for the benefit of settlers on Block VI., Egmont Survey District, who hold their lands on lease from the Crown. Contracts for culverts and earthwork are now in progress, and plans and specifications have been prepared and timber is being cut for a bridge, 60 ft. long, over the Mangaotukutuku Stream. The expenditure will greatly benefit the Crown tenants, who hitherto have had only a track to their farms.

Koru–New Plymouth (£1 for £1).—The Oakura Road Board have arranged for a loan of £600 under the Loans to Local Bodies Act to metal the worst portions of Koru and New Plymouth Roads. Tenders have been invited for the work, and it will be pushed on as quickly as the weather will permit.

Maude Road.—This road also, as well as Kent Road, leads to Block VI., Egmont, and contracts have been laid off and are in progress for improving the worst grades, putting in culverts, and widening the existing bridle-road into dray-road width.

Tracks and Huts, Mount Egmont.—With the view of improving the facilities for tourists who may wish to ascend Mount Egmont, the North Egmont Domain Board, New Plymouth, are having their mountain house lined inside and painted, and have also improved the chimneys and internal accommodation. The grass paddocks have been made more accessible for visitors' horses by culverting the creeks, making roads, and opening tracks through the logs, &c. The bridle-road to the house has also been improved. A new caretaker has been appointed, who acts as guide to parties ascending the mountain, and keeps the house and surroundings in order. A piano has just been obtained by public subscription, and adds very much to the other attractions of the house. The East Egmont Board, Stratford, in addition to improving their mountain-track, are having an accommodation-house erected at about 4,000 ft. above the sea. The material is all on the site, and erection of building in progress. The South Egmont Board, Manaia and Kaponga, have also improved their road, have added to the conveniences of their house, and are about obtaining a piano for the use of visitors. These Boards would make other improvements to their roads and buildings, but have not funds. Were good driving-roads made thousands of persons would be induced to climb the mountain, resting at these houses, which, being at an elevation of from 3,000 ft. to 4,000 ft. above the sea, might be made most useful sanatoria. Even despite the indifferent tracks by which visitors have to travel to these houses, over two thousand people go there each year, many of whom ascend to the top of Mount Egmont. A small annual grant to each Board would enable them to gradually improve their bridle-tracks into driving-roads, and enlarge their house-accommodation for visitors and tourists.

Akama.—This refers to a road in Mangaere Block now under control of the Stratford County Council. It is proposed to expend this vote in draining and forming a swampy part of the road, and by so doing give the settlers more direct access to Huiroa, Toko, and Stratford.

Huiroa.—Five chains of dray-road formation were constructed, in continuation of work done last year; also part payment of work completed last year.

Kohuratahi–Tangarakau.—Kohuratahi Road runs from Ohura Road to Tangarakau River, an affluent of Wanganui River, and is intended, when completed, not only to give access to lands recently surveyed and sold in Kohuratahi Block, but also as a route by which, in connection with Wanganui River, the Whangamomona and other settlers can obtain supplies and send away produce. The road has been felled, stumped, and cleared to within two miles of Tangarakau, and formed as 8 ft. bridle-road to within four miles of that point, the work done this year being 202 chains of road-formation, 950 lineal feet of culverts, and 45 lineal feet of bridges.

Mangaotuku.—This road leads from Ohura Road at about 13½ miles from Stratford into the Gatton and Mangaehu Special-settlement Blocks. It has been felled, culverted, and formed as a 5 ft. bridle-road, and now the Stratford County Council is raising a loan of £640, under the Loans to Local Bodies Act, to widen about four miles of it to dray-road width. No work has yet been done, but all the preliminaries are arranged.

Mohakau.—The Stratford County Council is draining, widening, and generally improving this road, which is felled and formed as a bridle-road, and the vote will be used to supplement their expenditure.

Ohura Road, Metalling.—Tenders were accepted early in the year for metalling two miles (two separate contracts of one mile each) of the road in continuation of the nine miles and a half already done, the metal to be shell rock, laid 12 ft. wide by 8 in. deep, the contracts being £570 and £575 respectively. Owing to the wet autumn no work could be done last season, and the wet spring prevented any progress being made until January. One contract was completed in February and the other on the 15th March. In February another mile was let at £595, and that is now nearing completion. The metalling extends now for 12½ miles from Stratford, the worst parts of the road being done; other parts, where sand was available, were coated with a dry yellow sand to a depth of 12 in. or more, at an average cost of £140 per mile. This answers well for light traffic and on easy grades, but would not stand very heavy traffic, and cuts and scours away on heavier grades than 1 in 30 with the winter rains. About two miles of sanding has been done

this season. Papa for road-metal has been tried, and a careful record has been made of the exact cost per cubic yard of burnt metal. The result has not been entirely satisfactory. We can produce a hard metal suitable for roads out of a particular class of blue papa, but the cost at the kiln ready to load into drays is about 6s. 2d. per cubic yard. We find, in addition to the brown papa, which is unsuitable for burning, there are two kinds of blue papa, one of which is also unsuitable, as it apparently is full of lime, slacks down on exposure to the atmosphere, and burns light. The other contains more sand, retains its weight when burnt, and burns hard like a stone. We first tried an excavated kiln, building the papa blocks (of an average of about a cubic foot in size) as in a brick-kiln, and then fired it from below in the usual kiln manner. We found this would take less wood than laying papa and wood in alternate layers; but the cost of excavating the kiln and getting the burnt papa out added unnecessarily to the cost of production, and then we adopted a system that could be applied on any works while in progress. A kiln is built on an open road or other suitable place—say, 8 ft. wide, 8 ft. high, by any length, say 20 ft.—of blocks of papa not larger than 12 in. nor smaller than 6 in. cube, the side-walls being roughly built, so as to stand after burning, when the inner contents are removed. An archway about 3 ft. wide and high, by which to feed wood to fire the papa, is built in the kiln, and when the whole is completed the outside walls are plastered with papa-mud to control the draught and make the fire ascend. The kiln is fired by the archway, and when burnt and the contents removed another lot of papa may be burnt within the same walls. By this means no excavated kiln is required, a minimum of wood is used, and the material is easily got at for carting on to the road. But though we tried four experiments, we could not under any circumstances reduce the cost to less than the price I have named. We have metalled about 6 chains of road with the burnt material, which looks well, but for another year we cannot tell how it will stand the heavy winter traffic. It is very necessary that a further three miles of metalling should be done on this road next season—part near first Mangaotuku Bridge, part near Strathmore, and part near Mangaere—as the traffic is yearly becoming heavier, and these parts cut up very badly in winter.

Ohura Road, Construction.—In consequence of the wet autumn last year, and also the wet spring, we have not been able to push on road-formation as fast as was expected, in addition to which, our votes being expended, the formation-works were stopped about the middle of December. Believing the formation-work would be vigorously pushed on during last summer, we opened an 8 ft. bridle-road, on the permanent grades, over Pakaramu Ridge and to Waingarara Stream (about fifty-seven miles from Stratford), in order that parties could work on several miles of road, and obtain supplies by packhorse instead of swagging. In many cases we find this system of first opening up a good bridle-road, on the permanent grade, before the full dray-formation is cheaper than doing the full formation width at once, as in places such as deep narrow gullies we find an embankment will bind where from the angle of cross-section it should in theory slip away, and in afterwards widening the road a saving in the amount of cutting can be effected. The chief advantage, however, is that a large number of parties can work in advance of each other without in any way blocking the food-supplies. The bridle-road is now open to near Tangarakau Stream, about 57½ miles from Stratford. During the year 281 chains dray-road formation, 320 chains of 8 ft. bridle-road formation, 347 chains of felling, stumping, &c., 4,587 lineal feet of culverts from 1 ft. to 4 ft. internal diameter, and 137 lineal feet of bridges are the principal works effected. Between Whangamomona Township and the next three miles of road three large bridges had to be erected over Whangamomona Stream. One is completed (91 ft. 6 in. in length), and the other two (of a total length of 198 ft. 9 in.) are well in hand, the whole of the material being on the ground, and the erection of both bridges going on concurrently. The distance from Stratford to Kawakawa is about a hundred and twelve miles. Of this, about eighty miles is formed as a coach-road—viz., thirty-two miles on the north end and forty-eight miles on the south—leaving a gap of about thirty-two miles, out of which some five miles across the Pakaramu Ridge has been formed as an 8 ft. bridle-road, and would not be expensive to widen, being all on the permanent grade. It is very desirable that the whole of the bush left standing on Ohura Road—about fifteen miles along the Tangarakau, Paparata, and Heao Valleys—should be felled this season, in order that, if it be deemed necessary, the formation-works could be pushed on rapidly, and the road opened through to the northern end. The heaviest formation-works are now done, and rapid progress could be made with the remainder if desired. The maintenance of the road from former end of metal at nine miles and a half from Stratford to Waingara, a distance of about forty-seven miles, has been a large item in our expenditure. The traffic has been very heavy, and during the winter the slips were numerous. The road had to be kept open, or the settlers—of whom there are now a large number—would have been starved out.

Pembroke.—About 90 chains of upper end of Pembroke Road, next Mount Egmont Forest Reserve, will shortly be felled, stumped, and cleared out of this vote. The work should be completed early in May.

Puniwhakau.—This includes all the roads in Mangaehu Block. During the year we have felled, stumped, &c., 898 chains, formed a 5 ft. bridle-road 565 chains, including 1,304 lineal feet of culverts and 159 ft. of bridges, on Puniwhakau, Taihore, and Mangaehu Roads. There still remain several miles of roads to open to give proper access to this block, the loading-money being totally insufficient for the purpose. The country is very broken; the lands are in comparatively small areas (200 acres), necessitating many roads, and the roads, being generally on steep sidings, are expensive to make and keep clear of slips.

Putikituna.—This road branches off Kohuratahi Road at 1 mile 43 chains from Ohura Road, and extends to Tangarakau River at a point it is expected steamers will connect with Wanganui. During the year 180 chains has been felled, stumped, &c.; 114 chains dray-formation made; 260 chains bridle-road; 111 lineal feet of tunnels for culverts, 6 ft. to 10 ft. in diameter, cut in hard papa rock; 169 lineal feet of ordinary culverts; and, in order to carry on the contracts in front of others,

we had to cut 210 chains of track for swagging purposes. Very heavy slips came down in parts, and had to be removed.

Taihore, Widening.—The settlers in Eltham and Terrace End Block are raising a loan under the Loans to Local Bodies Act for widening Taihore Road from Ohura Road, near Strathmore, to Mangaehu Stream. All the preliminaries are arranged, and the work, under the Stratford County Council, is expected shortly to commence.

Terrace End.—The work of opening up roads in this special settlement has been proceeded with as well as funds would permit. 285 chains of felling, stumping, &c., 111 chains of 5 ft. bridle-road formation (chiefly in papa rock), 12 chains dray-road formation, 44 lineal feet of bridges, 815 lineal feet of culverts, are the works completed during the year. A few small contracts are in hand, but a considerable amount of formation is still required to give access to each section.

Mangamingi Township.—A strip of bush 2 chains wide was felled on the sunny side of Rawhitiroa Road, to allow the sun and wind to get at and dry the road. This has been burnt, and will shortly be sown.

Ngaire.—Our work on Ngaire Swamps was practically ended last year, but the maintenance of the main drains was continued for about six months of this year. During that time 487 chains of main drains were deepened, the surrounding swamp having sunk, and 34 chains of new drains were dug. In many parts of these swamps where settlers have sown grass and stocked the land judiciously there is good pasture, and the land will soon have the appearance of ordinary grass-paddocks. In all cases the expenditure has been fully justified by the results.

Tangahoe Valley.—A road-line has been surveyed (the engineering survey is also in hand) to connect Hawera more directly with Crown lands in Pukekino and Kaharoa Blocks. It leaves by Tawhiti Road, follows Whareroa Road, descends into Tangahoe Valley, and follows it up towards Confiscation Line and Pukekino Block. The Hawera County Council is arranging for the necessary transfer of private lands through which the road will pass, after which we will commence the expenditure of the vote in formation-works.

Ball Road (Blocks IX., X., XIII, XIV., Carlyle and Opaku Survey Districts).—The 70 chains of metalling referred to in last year's report was completed last autumn, thus giving the settlers at Hurleyville a good winter road over the part that previously had been almost impassable.

Central Patea Valley.—This vote is for felling and forming a road up Patea River to give access to lands towards Rawhitiroa Road, but so far it has not been decided whether to connect with Ball Road, on west side of river, or with Kaharoa Road, on east side, and until this is settled no expenditure can be incurred. It is, however, probable a bridge will be erected over Patea River at Ball Road crossing, and should that be done it will determine the line of road.

Kaitangiwhenua No. 2.—On Maitaiwhetu and Tahuri Roads 286 chains of felling, stumping, &c., and 239 chains of bridle-road formation has been made.

Mataimoana.—The Mataimoana Road has been felled and formed as a 5 ft. bridle-road to about a quarter of a mile past Mataimoana Trig. Station, thus giving access to every settler on the road. It is proposed to fell and form the road onwards to Ridge Road, and spend the balance of this vote in continuing the widening of the lower part of the road from bridle- to dray-road width.

Nukuhau.—This is a surveyed road-line running from Mataimoana Road down to Whenuakura Stream, and is intended as a future connection, as the country gets settled. As no immediate necessity existed for the expenditure of the vote the work was not gone on with.

Okahutiria.—The expenditure was for removal of slips and maintenance only.

Okotuku.—Arrangements having been made with the owners of the land, several necessary deviations from the road-lines as originally surveyed were made, and the following works were then proceeded with : 20 chains felling, stumping, &c., 64 chains of 6 ft. bridle-road formation, 72 lineal feet of culverts. This work will shortly be continued.

Waitotara Valley.—The work of continuing the widening of this road, reported on last year, has been continued, most of the work being heavy sidings in papa rock, all of which had to be blasted out. 319 chains of dray-road formation, 841 lineal ft. of culverts, 40 lineal ft. of 8 ft. tunnel in hard rock (to obviate the building of a bridge), and 4 chains of draining has been done in extending and widening the road. On the 5th February there was an exceptionally heavy storm of rain in Waitotara district, 4½ in. falling in four hours. Waitotara River rose to about the height of the floods of 1891, and two of the bridges on the part of road under charge of Patea County were washed away, as well as several culverts. On the portion of road under our charge some culverts were washed out, and tremendous slips came across the road from the hillsides. These are being removed, but the cost of repairs will diminish our funds for widening the road, which it was hoped would have reached Mr. Van Asch's property. This is now out of the question unless a further sum is granted for the purpose.

Eltham–Waitotara.—The bridle-road east of Rukumoana Bridge, over Patea River, has been widened to dray-road width to near the top of Matemateaonga Range. 509 chains of dray-road has been made, 876 lineal feet of culverts built, and 22 chains of drains cut. The road is open for wheel traffic for a distance of twenty miles inland of Eltham, and for bridle traffic through to Waitotara Road.

Eltham–Waitotara, £1 for £1 (Metalling Rawhitiroa Road).—No new metalling has been done on this road during the year by the Hawera County Council, their work being confined to keeping the metal already laid in repair.

Makuri and Akama (£1 for £1).—This vote is to assist the Stratford County Council in improving the above roads. We felled and formed them as 5 ft. bridle-roads, but the strain of heavy traffic upon them was too great, and they became impassable. The Stratford County Council is now draining and widening them to dray-road width. No payment has been made out of the vote.

Contingencies and Engineering.—During the year the felling and formation of Motoroa Road has been completed to the last settler's holding. 72 chains of felling, stumping, &c., 137 chains of

5 ft. bridle-road formation, and the necessary culverting have been done. It is intended to spend the balance of the vote in continuing the widening of the road from end of present dray-road. This will shortly be put in hand.

Mohakatino Bridge (on Mokau Road).—The combined effects of heavy incoming tides and of outgoing floods in the river have scoured the north bank under and on each side of the bridge, endangering the end pier on north bank. Temporary repairs have been effected, and timber is now being cut for sheathing the banks, to prevent further damage. The bridge requires screwing up and painting.

Purangi Bridge.—A contract was let in January, 1898, to Mr. G. Sangster, at £2,143, for the erection of this bridge. As no suitable timber was available near the site, the whole of it (nearly 100,000 superficial feet) had to be carted in from the railway-line near Inglewood. This could not be done, in consequence of the road being impassable (during winter and spring), until December last, when the contractor started work. The work is now in rapid progress, and the bridge will probably be completed and open for traffic in May.

Tongaporutu Bridge.—It was intended to establish a ferry over Tongaporutu River, near where the bridge-crossing is laid off on Mimi–Mokau Road. Plans and specifications for a punt were prepared, and tenders were invited for the work, but these being in excess of the then vote tenders were declined. Settlers to the northward, as well as those in the vicinity, are all in favour of a bridge being erected, and petitions have been forwarded to the Government on the subject. So far no plans have been prepared, though a careful selection of the site and approaches has been made. The estimated approximate cost of the bridge is about £2,000, and of the approaches (including about 60 chains of heavy siding) £950, a total of about £3,000. The total length of bridging required is 330 ft., of which two spans should be at least 100 ft. each, and one 70 ft., to allow of long, heavy logs and trees passing clear through in floods. As the piles would stand in salt water at least four hours each tide, they should be sheathed with Muntz metal to prevent the ravages of teredos.

Waitara Bridge.—This is intended as a pound-for-pound subsidy to Waitara Harbour Board, to assist them in renewing the bridge, which has been erected about twenty-five years. To date, nothing has been done by the Harbour Board in the way of preparing plans, &c., for the renewal of the bridge, and consequently no payment has been made out of this vote.

Manganui Bridge.—A subsidy to Stratford County Council to assist in replacing a bridge over Manganui River, on Mountain Road, about four miles north of Stratford, washed away during an extreme flood. The new bridge is on concrete piers; main span, 84 ft.; principal timbers, ironbark. It should therefore last fully thirty years without very heavy repairs. The subsidy was paid after I had inspected the bridge, and certified to its erection.

Patea River Bridge.—Rukumoana Bridge, Rawhitiroa Road: main span, 80 ft.; total length, 125 ft. The principal timbers are of first-class totara. The bridge was built by co-operative contract, and extremely well finished. It was opened by the Right Hon. the Premier on the 19th November last. The bridge assists in opening up a large area of Crown lands in the Kaitangiwhenua Block, and which was practically inaccessible before its erection.

Punehu Bridge.—A proposed subsidy to the Waimate Road Board towards erection of bridge over Punehu River, Eltham Road, about eight miles from Opunake. Plans and specifications have been prepared and submitted for approval by the Waimate Road Board, and when passed tenders for the work will no doubt be invited.

Patea River Bridge, Ball Road.—The erection of this bridge has been placed in the hands of the Patea County Council, who will contribute half its cost. So far no plans or specifications have been prepared for the work.

Tawai Improved-farm Settlement.—But little work has been done on this settlement during the year, most of the settlers having abandoned their holdings. Only about nine men—five with families—are in actual occupation; the others drifted away to where work was more plentiful. During the year 24 chains of dray-road formation (including 18 lineal feet of culverting) was made, 3 acres of bush felled, 23 acres grass-seed sown, and one house erected.

Burfoot–Mangapoua Improved-farm Settlement.—96 chains of felling, stumping, and clearing on Matapo Road, through the settlement, 14 chains bridle-road formation, 60 acres felled last year sown with grass-seed, and two houses erected comprise the works done during the past year. Contracts are now in hand for dray-road formation along sideling ground on Matapo Road leading to some of the farms.

Derwent Improved-farm Settlement.—The works for the year include 20 chains of bridle-road formation, 26 chains of draining and forming, 64 lineal feet of culverts, 51 acres of bushfelling, and two new houses.

Greenlands Improved-farm Settlement.—46 chains of felling, stumping, and clearing, 6½ acres of bushfelling, 115 acres of last year's bushfelling sown with grass-seed, and three houses erected are the principal works for the year. Tooi Road, leading from Putiki to Greenlands, is being felled, stumped, and formed as a bridle-road.

Mangatawa Improved-farm Settlement (now cancelled as an improved-farm settlement).—The lands in this block have not yet been dealt with, and it is not now proposed to let them under the improved-farm-settlement system, but to offer them under the ordinary systems. No expenditure has been incurred during the year.

Okau Improved-farm Settlement.—Only three settlers, with families, remain on the block. The works for year are 15 acres of bush felled and 50 acres of last year's felling sown with grass.

Ratatomokia Improved-farm Settlement.—No roadwork has been entered upon in this block during the year, and but 30 acres of bush has been felled. Clearings made last year were sown with grass-seed.

Tongaporutu Improved-farm Settlement.—No fresh felling or building has been done, but 25 acres felled last year has been sown with grass-seed. As Mimi–Mokau Road runs through the

block, and there are no service roads, no roadwork is charged against the settlement. Expenditure £89 0s. 3d., part of which was in payment of some of last year's works.

Uruti Improved-farm Settlement.—Only maintenance of road.

Huiroa Improved-farm Settlement.—23 chains of Douglas Road was first formed as an 8 ft. bridle-road, and subsequently widened to dray-road width, requiring 74 lineal feet culverts. A strip of township land 2 chains wide, comprising 14 acres, was felled on north side of Makuri Road, in order to allow sun and wind to get at a swampy part of the road.

Whangamomona Improved-farm Settlement.—Among the works for the year are 50 chains felling, stumping, &c., 120 chains bridle-road formation, 425 lineal feet of culverts, 460 acres of bushfelling, and the sowing of 614 acres felled last year.

Maata, Poti, Ngaire Improved-farm Settlements.—One house on Maata, two houses on Poti, and one house on Ngaire have been erected during the year; also, last year's clearings were sown with grass-seed.

Taumatatahi Improved-farm Settlements.—One house has been enlarged, and improvements have been made to the service-road.

Patea River, Snagging.—An inspection of the river has been made, and parts to be snagged decided upon, but until the eel-weir at about nine miles and a quarter from the mouth of the river is removed any expenditure above or below that point would be of no service. All lands up to about eighteen miles along the river are well served by roads, and snagging would benefit only those who hold land higher up. But the eel-weir is a complete block to all navigation excepting small canoes, and it is so strongly built that it would have to be blown out with dynamite.

Oxford Association Block.—The surrendered portion of this block has been rearranged, the areas made larger, and the land sold on the ordinary system. During the year we have felled, stumped, &c., 186 chains of roads, formed as 5 ft. bridle-road 129 chains, built 229 lineal feet of culverts, and 74 lineal feet of bridges. Similar work is still in progress.

Waikiekie Block.—The work included the improvement of old bridle-road from Tongaporutu River from beach to top of hill, and the replacement of old stringer bridges by new ones on Clifton Road. The portion of road from Tongaporutu to tunnel has already been put in hand. A contract is now in hand for formation-work, and the timber for four bridges is nearly cut. The whole work will probably be completed in May.

Autawa Block.—The small expenditure under this item was for removing slips.

Hurimoana Block.—This block lies to the eastward of Whangamomona Improved-farm Settlement and towards Tangarakau River, Whitianga Block being its northern boundary. It is divided internally by Whitianga, Mauku, and Pukeko Roads. Up to date we have felled, stumped, &c., 340 chains of Whitianga Road, further felling, &c., being let and in progress. The necessary bridle-road formation is also in progress, 40 chains being completed.

Makahu Block.—On Makahu Road we have felled, stumped, and cleared 162 chains, and on Matirangi Road one mile has been felled, stumped, &c. Expenditure, £153 4s.

Marco Block.—On Marco Road 240 chains have been felled, stumped, and cleared, and work is still in progress.

Mangaotuku Block.—A subsidy was granted to Stratford County Council towards widening Mangaotuku Road, but no work has been done or expenditure incurred.

Rimuputa Block.—Work is now in progress (felling, stumping, &c., on Mangaowata Road) in this block. 240 chains have been felled, stumped, &c., and 40 chains have been formed as bridle-road.

Egmont, Block VI.—Very little has been done on this block during the year, only a few chains of dray-road formation and one culvert to give access to a settler. The balance of loading on this block will be expended during the coming year in conjunction with the work now let on Kent and Maude Roads.

Patua (Egmont, V., VII., XI.) Block.—The whole length of Carrington Road (the main road through the block) has been felled, stumped, &c., and the necessary portions of Plymouth, Hurford, Pitone, Dover, Oxford, and Saunders Roads have also been stumped, felled, &c. The borrowed money is, excepting a few pounds, all expended, but some of the settlers have yet no access but by tracks to their farms. A considerable expenditure is still required in culverts, bridges, and earth-work to enable the settlers to beneficially occupy the land. During the year we have felled, stumped, &c., 1,134 chains of above roads.

Kaupokonui Block.—The Waimate Road Board is spending balance of vote in continuing metalling of Auroa Road towards Section 4, Block VI., Kaupokonui.

Moeawatea Block.—This block was first surveyed as a special settlement, but, not being occupied, a rearrangement of the sections is to be made, and when ready for sale the roading will be proceeded with.

Opaku-Kapara Block.—33 chains of felling and clearing, and the same of bridle-road formation, on Mataimoana Road has been done; also, removal of slips on Mataimoana and Weraweraonga Roads.

Rangiwhakaoma Block.—The same remarks apply to this vote as to Central Patea Valley. The money is for opening up the back lands behind Patea, and until the route is decided upon no expenditure can be incurred.

Rawhitiroa Block.—This block was surveyed some years since, but, the land being very rough, no applications have been received for it. A bridle-road has been formed into the block, and it would be useless to incur further expenditure until there is a prospect of settlement.

Whenuakura Block.—Contracts have been let, and are in progress, for felling, stumping, &c., bridle-road formation on Mataiwhetu and Tahuri Roads, on which 286 chains of felling, &c., and 240 chains of formation has been done during the year.

Payments to Local Bodies.—Twenty-four proposals for expenditure of "thirds" and "fourths" were dealt with, and sanctioned by the Land Board, for a total amount of £5,891 19s. 11d.,

inclusive of the amount authorised for payment of interest on loans, £1,887 17s. 3d. The following is a summary of work executed by the local bodies out of "thirds" and "fourths" during the year, and the cost of same: 303 chains bushfelling and clearing, £100 16s.; 1,069½ chains formation and earthwork, £978 17s. 9d.; 357½ chains metalling and gravelling, £845 13s.; 87 ft. bridging, £169 4s.; 311 chains culverts, with their intake and outfall drains, £122 1s. 5d.; 2,585 chains maintenance and repairs, £469 10s. 7d.; interest on loans, £1,504 13s. 2d.: total, £4,190 15s. 11d.

I am unable to show what "fourths" have been paid to the New Plymouth Harbour Board, as such payments have always been made by the Treasury without reference to me. The amount payable should be computed monthly by me, as the calculation must necessarily be on the territorial revenue, less that derived from lands within the North Island Main Trunk Railway area.

The number of contracts let during the year was 370, in addition to twenty-six in progress at the commencement of the year. All, with the exception of forty-three, are completed. Two were by ordinary contract, one for carting supplied, one for metalling a mile of Ohura Road, and the remaining 351 contracts were on the co-operative system.

G. F. Robinson, Road Surveyor.

WANGANUI.

Tangarakau Clearing.—Work was recommenced on the river on 10th January, and completed for the season on 26th March. The five miles of steamer-channel cleared during 1898 have been recleared of snags, and the remaining seven miles up to Putikituna similarly cleared. When the water is 5 ft. above low summer-level small steamers may be taken up the twelve miles if care is exercised, but the river is much too small and the fall too great to allow of steamer navigation when the river is at a lower level than this. The cost of clearing the last three miles will be entered in the expenditure for 1899–1900.

Clifton.—No expenditure out of this item. Two contracts for dray-road formation are in progress on Makaranui Road.

Flood-damages, Makohine Village Settlement and Clifton Block.—This has been all expended on the Rangataua (Clifton) Block and neighbourhood. 40 chains of clearing, repairs to approaches, and renewal of Makara Bridge (30 ft. span), have been effected.

Hautapu Main Road.—No expenditure; the work will be started in May.

Huikumu.—The work done comprises 108 chains engineering survey, 113 chains of bridle-track formation (4 ft. wide). The track now extends to the lower flats. With the sum available it was not possible to make the track more than 4 ft. wide.

Hunterville I., II., III.—During the early part of the year considerable progress was made with the formation of bridle-tracks, but since August the works have been practically at a standstill through want of funds. A large amount of work in forming bridle-tracks is urgently required in this block. The work done comprises 428 chains of engineering survey, 76 chains traverses and plans of deviations, 817 chains bushwork, and 652 chains formation, besides 15 lineal feet of culverts, and maintenance of eighteen miles of formed tracks. There still remain in the block thirty-seven miles of roads to be formed into bridle-tracks. Complaints as to the want of road-access are very numerous.

Mangawhero–Murimotu.—Forty miles of bridle-track in fairly good order. The traffic returns are as follows: Travellers on horseback, 3,785; pack-horses, 1,549; cattle, 312; sheep, 2,670; pigs, 100.

Okahukura.—Maintenance of tracks and erection of 100 lineal feet of culverts and 20 lineal feet of bridges.

Otaranoho.—One contract for 52 chains of bridle-track in hand.

Pipiriki–Waiouru.—This road has been joined on to the wharf constructed at Pipiriki by the River Trust, by an approach 9 chains long. The road was open for traffic all through the winter as far as Toanui, but the Mangawhero Flats were almost impassable during the winter, and were again scoured out by a heavy fresh on the 11th November, the rainfall at Raetihi amounting to over 8 in. in three days. In order to procure shell-rock, 6,227 cubic yards of stripping were shifted, 2,384 cubic yards of shell-rock have been quarried and broken, and 197 chains of metalling have been done, thus completing the gaps at Mangaetoroa and Waipuna, and making continuous metalling from 130 chains on the Pipiriki side of Huikumu Saddle to within 20 chains of Toanui Pa, being a length of 15 miles 12 chains, besides, 6 chains of metalling has been done at the new approach, Pipiriki. The flats along the Mangawhero River, that are so bad during winter, can now be avoided, by using the alternative route *viâ* Rangataua Road; but to form a good road the metalling will require to be extended to Ohakune. Next season's operations should include the metalling of this part, and the worst places between Pipiriki and Huikumu.

Raetihi–Ohura.—The work done comprises 108 chains of dray-road reformed, 6 chains new ditches excavated, 5 acres bushfelling, and one bridle-track bridge 30 ft. span across the Mangaone Creek. Two contracts for extension of bridle-track are now in hand. It was proposed to do about 108 chains continuous metalling between the Valley and Middle Roads, but it had to be postponed owing to the wet weather.

Raetihi–Parapara.—The lower seven miles of bridle-track have been repaired; the bush-track portion, eight miles in length, has been improved at the worst points; and one contract is now in hand on the approaches to the Mangawhero Bridge, and others are being prepared.

Raetihi Township Roads.—Three acres of bush have been felled and burnt on the side-streets.

Rangiwaea.—No expenditure, but bushfelling on the roads has been arranged to be started in May.

Retaruke Valley.—No expenditure, but the extension of the bridle-tracks is to be started in April.

Turakina Valley.—The work done comprises 261 chains of engineering survey, 202 chains of traverses of deviations, 159 chains clearing, 9 chains dray-road, 184 chains formation of bridle-track, 98 lineal feet culverts, and maintenance of 639 chains bridle-track and 393 chains dray-road. Four contracts are now being started, which, when done, will take the formation within 60 chains of the Okaka Road.

Waimarino.—The work done comprises 26 chains clearing, 48 chains dray-road formation, and 80 lineal feet culverts on Pipipi Road, 23 chains dray-road formation, and 24 lineal feet culverts on the Makotuku Valley Road, and 32 chains clearing of bridle-track on the Middle Road. Four contracts are now in progress on the Makotuku Valley Road, which, when completed, will render this road passable for dray traffic to a point abreast of Horopito Improved Farm, six miles and a half from Raetihi. The Ameku Road has been widened out to 8 ft. for 70 chains, and thus rendered passable for conveyance of milk to the Raetihi Butter-factory. Besides this, 290 chains engineering survey have been done.

Manganui.—During the year a considerable amount of work has been done on opening up bridle-tracks on the branch roads. The work done on the following roads comprises: Mangaetoroa Road, 108 chains engineering survey, 88 chains bushwork, 51 chains bridle-track formation, 74 lineal feet bridges, 120 lineal feet culverts, and 14 chains ditches and outfalls; Hukuroa Road, 112 chains engineering survey, 106 chains bushwork, 123 chains bridle-track formation, 268 lineal feet culverts, and 8 chains ditches and outfalls; Mangateitei Road, 120 chains engineering survey and 80 chains bushwork.

Moawhango–Te Horo.—Maintenance only.

Rotoaira–Waimarino.—No expenditure, but eighteen miles of dray-road are now being repaired.

Taumaranui–Ohakune.—On the northern end of this road 211 chains of bushwork has been completed, with three contracts still in progress. This portion of the track has been repaired throughout, but many of the bridges require complete renewal. About 6,000 superficial feet of totara has been sawn in readiness for this. It is proposed to complete the bushwork through to the open country at the Wanganui River. On the southern end, from Waimarino Pa to the Valley Road, 10 chains of bushwork and 16 chains of formation 8 ft. wide have been done, and two bridges —total length, 42 lineal feet—have been erected. On this portion a considerable number of culverts have been put in, many of them of large opening, the total length amounting to 183 lineal feet, and 40,460 superficial feet of squared timber prepared for bridges and culverts. Engineering surveys to the extent of 286 chains have been done.

Awarua.—The expenditure under this item has been scattered over a number of branch roads. The work done on the various roads is as follows: Mangaweka–Te Kapua Stock Road, 4¾ acres bushfelling on road-line; Makohine Valley South Road, 27 chains bushwork and 31 chains bridle-track formation; Mangaweka, erection of tool-sheds (20 ft. by 12 ft.), with painting and fittings of same; Taihape Township, 23 acres bushfelling on road-lines, 13 chains clearing on Huia Street, and 11 chains dray-road formation on Kuku Street; Puke Road, 5½ acres bushfelling, 107 chains bushwork and bridle-track formation, with 20 lineal feet culverts; Puherua Road, 85 chains bushwork and bridle-track formation, with 60 lineal feet culverts; Rangitikei Road, 28 chains bushwork; Horouta Road, 250 chains bushwork and 30 chains dray-road formation; besides 290 chains engineering surveys, distributed over these roads.

Gorge–Ohutu Improved-farm Settlement.—One contract of 28 chains of widening of this track into a dray-road, with 44 lineal feet of culverts, has been completed. Two other contracts of a similar nature are now in hand.

Horoutā.—The formation of this into a dray-road is now completed as far as the Moawhango River, and is now being largely used for traffic to the Pukeokahu and Ohinewairua Blocks. The work done comprises 118 chains bushwork, 170 chains dray-road formation, and 7 chains bridle-track formation, with 88 lineal feet culverts.

Kakariki Bridge Approaches.—Authority received for £1,400 subsidy, but no expenditure.

Makohine Valley.—Work has only recently been started on this. It comprises 159 chains engineering survey, 40 chains bushwork, 40 chains bridle-track formation, with two contracts still in hand.

Murray's Track.—The work done comprises 230 chains clearing, and 224 chains bridle-track formation, with one horse-bridge 12 ft. span, and 370 lineal feet culverts. A length of 105 chains still remains to be done to connect with old formation. Traffic at present follows a rough ridge track for this distance.

Taihape–Paengaroa.—There is a large amount of traffic on this road, and the widening of it throughout is urgently required. It has been proceeded with as rapidly as possible with the available funds. It is now open roughly for dray traffic to the Namunui Creek, at 4 miles 30 chains. The total distance to Paengaroa is 6 miles 10 chains. The work done comprises 157 chains engineering survey, 81 chains dray-road formation, 250 lineal feet culverts, one bridge 24 ft. span, and maintenance. Four additional contracts are now in hand.

Taihape Township Roads.—On account of the bad burning season, only a few days' work have as yet been done in burning road-lines which were felled during the winter. (See Awarua.)

Te Kapua.—The Knights of Labour portion has now been fairly well roaded with bridle-tracks, but the Sommerville portion is still backward in that respect. The work done comprises 221 chains engineering survey, 400 chains bushwork, 332 chains bridle-track formation, and 193 lineal feet culverts, distributed over the Rongoiti, Ngauinga, and Quarry Roads. The Mataroa Road inside the block is being prepared for contract.

Watershed Road.—This work is only being commenced. There has been done up to date 42 chains engineering survey, 8 chains clearing, and 3 chains formation. Four contracts are being started.

Ohingaiti–Tokaanu Road.—During last April and May, metalling operations were continued between Mangaweka and Utiku, 2,262 cubic yards being spread upon the road. Owing to the wet

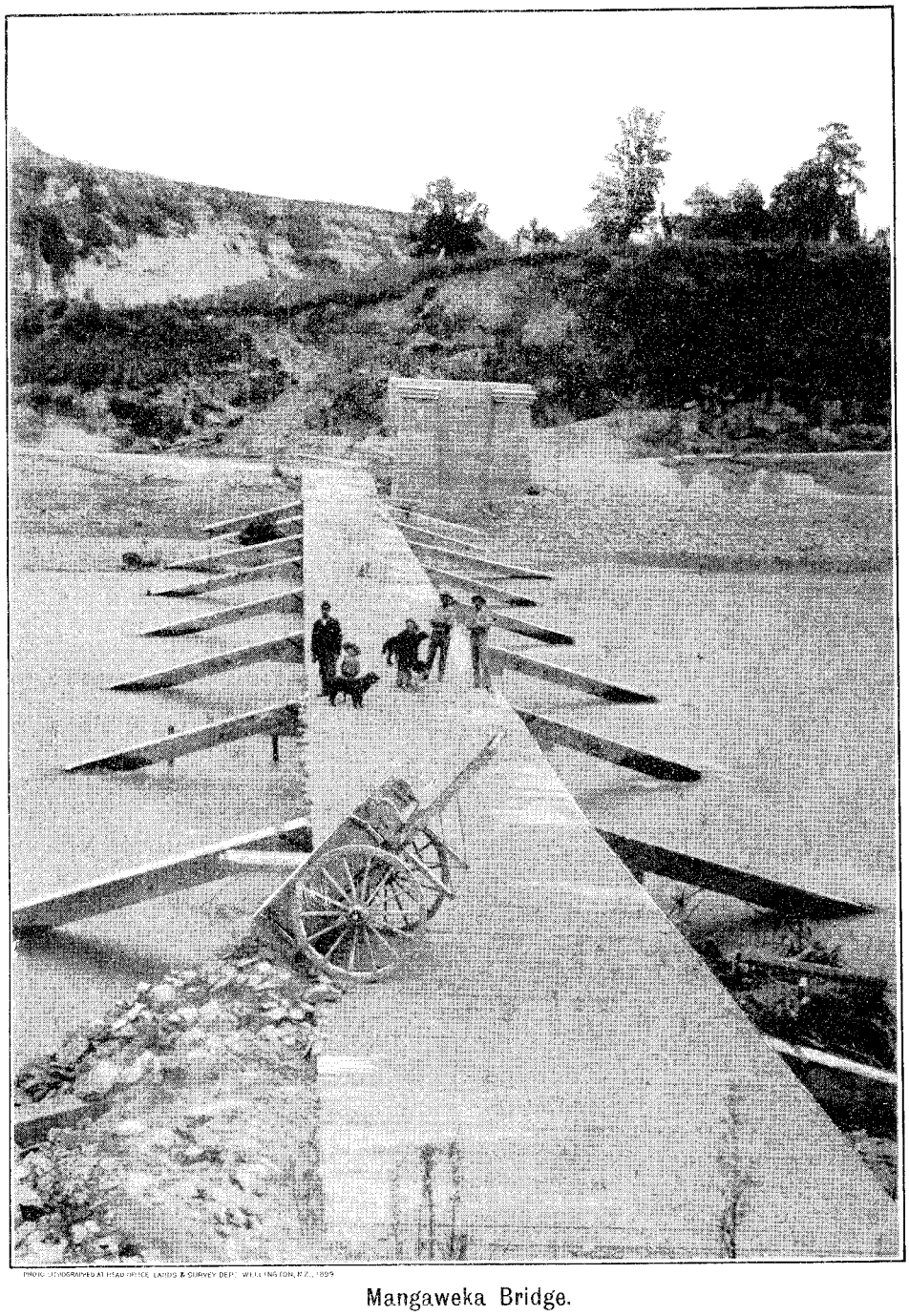


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT., WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Mangaweka Bridge.

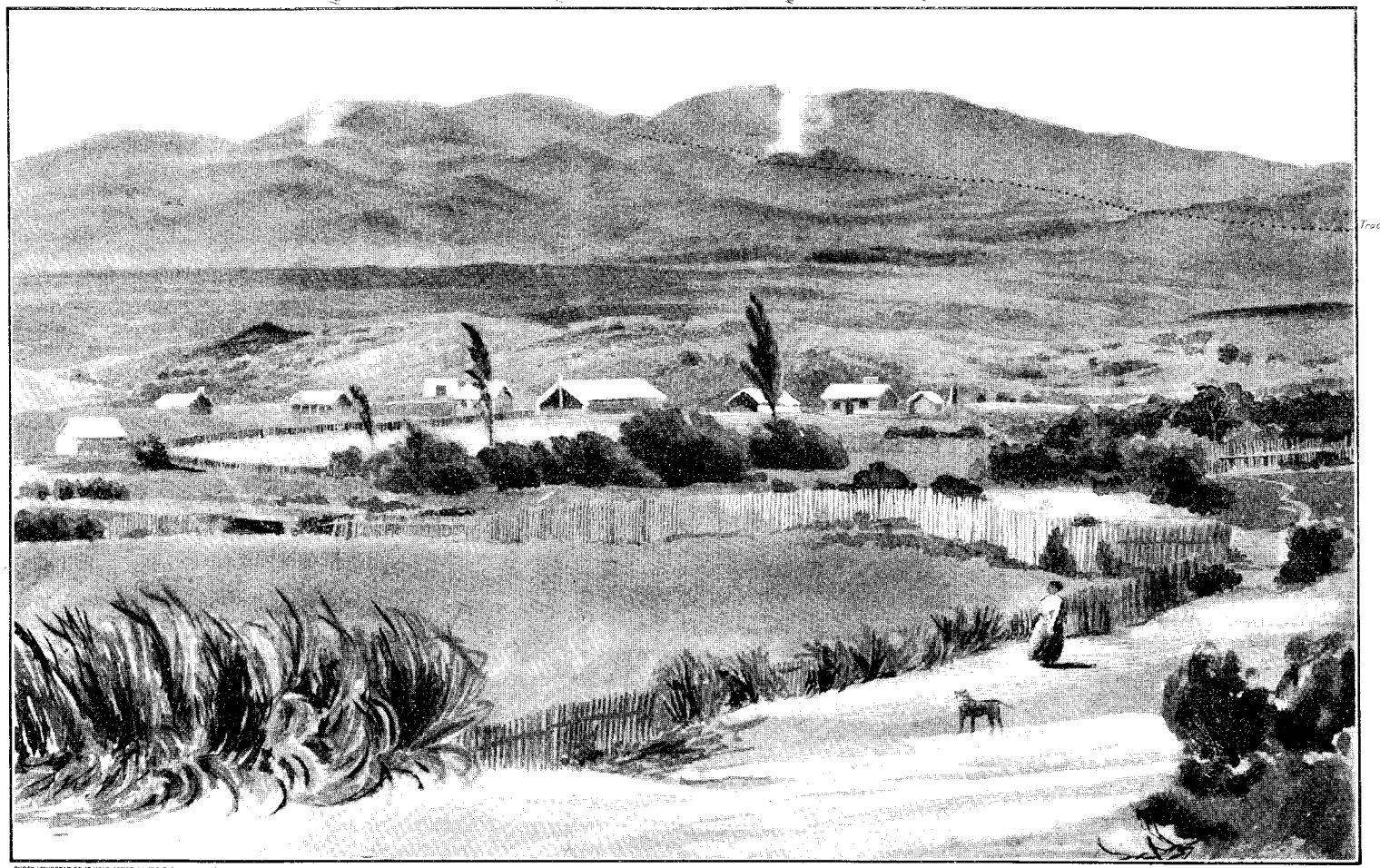


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Otukou Village, Rotoaira.

season, operations were not recommenced till January last. Since then, 1,009 cubic yards have been spread, mostly between McGinn's (31 miles), and Torere Junction (25 miles), but some patching has been done near Mangaweka, and also near Ohingaiti. All the metalling has been done at prices per cubic yard per mile of lead. Between Taihape and Te Horo the road is much in need of metal, but it is very expensive in that quarter, on account of the long cartage, and the metal itself is not of durable quality. The Turangarere Bridge, 60 ft. span, across the Hautapu, has been erected by co-operative contract, and approaches made thereto. All the timber except the maire blocks had to be brought from Taihape. This long cartage added materially to the cost. The bridge at Mitchell's, 30 ft. span, has been understrutted. The traffic from Mangaonoho to Taihape is now so heavy that maintenance is a difficult matter. During next summer, a large amount of remetalling will again require to be done. Nine contracts metal haulage are still in progress.

Waitotara River Suspension-bridge.— During February, a section of the site was taken, and general drawings for the proposed bridge made.

Mangawhero (Aberfeldie).—A section of the site was taken last April, but owing to local representations, a high-level suspension-bridge is now proposed, instead of the low-level originally intended.

Upper Wangaehu.—A low-level is also proposed at Mangameha, but no steps have yet been taken to have it erected.

Moawhango (Horouta).—This bridge, 121 ft. span, could not be started till the opening of the Horouta Road in February. Since then, the abutment excavations have been taken out. A strong scaffolding, entailing some difficult and dangerous work, is being erected. The timber and ironwork are being carted on to the ground, most of the timber and all the ironwork being taken from the stock prepared for the original design of the Mangaweka Bridge. The ironwork, and about 12,000 superficial feet of totara timber, are now delivered on the site. This bridge will be a great boon to the large numbers of settlers now on the blocks east of the Moawhango River.

Rangitikei (Mangaweka Bridge).—The low-level bridge erected in January, 1898, after successfully standing four large freshes in the river, in which the water rose 3 ft. to 4 ft. over the decking, was finally rendered impassable by the flood of the 11th November, which rose 5 ft. over the decking. A large green tree came down, stuck on the bridge, and eventually caused three spans to be carried away. A second flood came in December, and carried away three more of the spans. The re-erection of the bridge was started in February, and will be completed, weather permitting, in about two weeks. The new design is at a level of 18 in. lower than the first one, the lengths of spans being as before. Besides the upstream strut, there is also a down-stream strut, and great care is being taken in getting these struts and the strut underneath well down into the bed of the river. I forward herewith a photo. showing the structure. The chief dimensions of the bridge are: Length, 260 ft., in nine spans of 24 ft. each, with two end-spans of 28 ft. and 16 ft. respectively; width, 12 ft.; decking-level, 4 ft. 6 in. above summer-level; cant, 6 in. The decking-level is 1 ft. 6 in. lower than last year's bridge. There are five steel rails (52 lb. per yard) driven in every span, penetrating 5 ft. 1 in. into the papa on an average. The extreme length of each pier is 50 ft. The timber is practically all sawn white-pine. The work was commenced on the 1st February and completed as above on the 29th April. The total cost has been: Materials, £143 0s. 5d.; wages, £226 19s. 7d. = £370. Traffic across the river was carried on by means of the cage and a ford above the bridge-site until the bridge was re-erected.

Rangitikei (Otara Bridge).—The design adopted for this bridge was one suspension span of 250 ft. over the main current, and a span of 100 ft. reaching on to the western bank. Tenders were accepted by the Kiwitea County Council on the 22nd November, the amount of tender being £6,913. Some alterations were caused in the section of site by floods.

Wanganui River Trust.—Mr. J. T. Stewart, secretary to the trust, is submitting a special report on the year's operations.

Tongariro National Park.—During January, February, and March the track to Ketetahi Hot Springs was repaired, and then extended for 213 chains to the Blue Lake, on the summit of Tongariro. The track has already been used by tourists. The grade from the springs upwards is 1 in 8, but with flatter grades at the zigzags, of which there are three.

Mangaweka Township (drainage).—No expenditure, but it is proposed to expend this in the improvement of the suburban roads.

Momahaki Village Settlement Block.—All these roads have been handed over to the local bodies except that portion (about 57 chains) through Mr. Howie's property, which is now being well repaired, and will then also be handed over.

Clifton No. 2 Block.—All of this appropriation has been expended in the Rangataua portion. The Makaranui Bridge, 24 ft. span, has been completed, with 10 chains dray-road approaches thereto. The Makaranui Road is now being formed as a dray-road throughout, three contracts being in hand. As an alternative to that part of the Pipiriki–Waiouru Road, it will prove to be of great service. The Makotuku portion of this block requires a considerable amount of work being done on the Mangarewa Road.

Gladstone Block.—On that portion of the Taumaranui Road going through this block, 127 chains of bushwork and 136 chains of bridle-track formation, with 100 lineal feet culverts and 7 chains outfalls, have been done. On the Pukaka Road, 11 chains of bushwork, and 131 chains bridle-track formation, with 48 linear feet culverts, have been done. The formation on flats is all formed 8 ft. wide, chiefly by material excavated from large ditch on upper side. In this block 8,350 ft. of timber have been squared ready for bridges and culverts.

Kaitieke Block.—On the Taumaranui Road, passing through this block, also on the Kaitieke, Retaruke, and Oio Roads, maintenance has been carried on; also four miles engineering survey of the Taumaranui Road.

Manganui and Ruapehu.—All the work done out of this item is on the Makotuku Valley Road, and comprises 6 chains bushwork, 121 chains formation 8 ft. wide from side ditches, and 109 lineal feet culverts. This is quite passable for dray traffic, and the lower half of it is largely used by milk-carts.

Marton No. 3.—Authority for £800 received, but no expenditure as yet.

Hautapu Blocks (I., V., VI., IX., X.) and Tiriraukawa (IV., VIII.).—On the Kaweka Road 287 chains bushwork and bridle-track formation have been done. On the Mataroa Road the work done comprises 791 chains engineering survey, 97 chains traverses of deviations, 420 chains bushwork and bridle-track formation. On the Makohine Valley Road, in these blocks, 119 chains engineering survey and 81 chains bushwork and bridle-track formation have been done. Only seventeen unemployed are now left. On the Mataroa Road there was some very heavy cliff-work for about 20 chains; the bushwork is mostly heavy, but the formation generally is light.

Ohinewairua Block.—The work done comprises the following: On the Horouta Road, 31 chains bushwork and 136 chains dray-road formation, with 240 lineal feet culverts, thus completing the dray-road to the Moawhango Bridge; on the Pukeokahu Road, 189 chains engineering survey, 284 chains bushwork, and 45 chains bridle-track formation, with 24 lineal feet of culverts; on the Moawhango Valley Road, 130 chains of bushfelling. The felling has been burnt, and is now being prepared for formation.

Pukeokahu, Blocks X., XIII.; Ohinewairua, Block XVI.; and Ruahine, Block I.—The work done comprises 190 chains engineering survey, 282 chains bushwork, 16 chains dray-road formation, and 396 chains bridle-track, with 30 lineal feet culverts.

Tiriraukawa Block.—No expenditure under this item. Authority applied for on 9th December last.

Makohine Village Settlement.—On the road from Mangaonoho Station to the settlement 61 chains dray-road have been formed, with 80 lineal feet culverts.

Temporary Bridges over the Rangitikei River (Vote 91, item 448, of 1897–98).—A punt 38 ft. by 12 ft., with the necessary gear, has been put on the river at Scott's Ferry, the Government subsidy to which was £128 8s. 10d.

Lands and Survey Office, Wanganui.—A site for this proposed building will probably be obtained at the Customhouse. Drawings are now being prepared.

The office-work in connection with the year's operations has consisted of the following: 62 miles 55 chains engineering surveys plotted, with quantities; 4 miles 55 chains traverses plotted, and plans drawn.

G. T. Murray, Road Surveyor.

WELLINGTON.

Waihi–Tokaanu.—The total length of this road from the Tokaanu River to the church is 1 mile 18 chains, of which 31 chains is swamp, 20 chains side-cutting, the remainder being simple formation. On the 31 chains of swamp, fascines 12 ft. long have been laid, and partially covered with the material excavated from the side drains; but owing to the exhaustion of funds it has been impossible to have them sufficiently covered for anything but foot traffic. Of the whole length of road, 46 chains was covered with light manuka scrub, while the remaining 52 chains pass through open country. A cutting of 3 chains in length, 10 ft. wide, and 3 ft. deep, has been made to divert a stream which previously discharged its waters into the swamp through which the road passes, by which diversion the stream is now taken in a direct course to the lake. An outlet drain has been cut for a chain, from the road passing through the swamp to the lake, and this, with the stream diversion just mentioned, has lowered the swamp 18 in. A contract for supplying timber for four small bridges, and delivering it to the several sites, has just been completed. The following is the tabulated record of work done: Road engineered, 1 mile 18 chains; fascines laid, 31 chains: partial formation, 24 ft. wide, 31 chains; four bridges, of a total length of 40 ft., erected; and 62 chains of drains cut.

Tokaanu Township (Tawera Street).—This township is situate on the southern shore of Lake Taupo, and the street is laid off 1½ chains in width for 1 mile 12 chains, the formation being 24 ft. wide. For a distance of 54 chains the road-line is dry, and the formation has been made by excavating material from each side and throwing the same uniformly over the centre. In the swampy parts of the road fascines 12 ft. long have been placed, sixty-six to the chain, and the excavated material from the side drains cast upon them. This street passes through flat country, 38 chains of which is swamp, and 40 chains covered with light manuka scrub. The following work has been done: 1 mile 12 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 1 mile 12 chains formed 24 ft. wide, 40 chains of scrub felled and cleared, 5 culverts 96 ft. in length laid, 4,055 cubic yards of earth excavated, 1 mile 34 chains of drains cut, and 8 chains of corduroy and 47½ chains of fascines laid. The culverts, which are built of sound heart of totara, and are in first-class condition, serve to drain two of the swamps of a considerable quantity of water, but as the large swamp adjoining the lake is at present on the same level the outflow has not been very extensive.

Potaka Road (Awarua Block).—This road has been felled and cleared 2 miles 47 chains, graded and pegged 2 miles 48 chains, and formed 6 ft. wide for 2 miles 14 chains. One 18 ft. bridge, 6ft. wide, has been erected, 1,565 cubic yards of slips cleared, 1,835 cubic yards of rock excavated, and three miles and three-quarters maintained, all of which is in good order. It passes through steep bush country, and is consequently very expensive to construct. The total length open for horse traffic is 3 miles 60 chains, and further clearing and formation will be proceeded with during the coming year. This is one of the roads giving access to the Awarua Block, on the east side of the Rangitikei River.

Mangakokeke Road (Awarua Block).—In my last report I recorded the clearing of 43 chains of this road-line, which, being level and dry, opened up communication with Sections 1 and 2 Block X., Ruahine Survey District, in the Hautapu Ruahine No. 2 Block. Since then nothing further has been done.

Upper Kawatau Road (Awarua Block).—Not a great deal of progress has been made with this road since my last report; what has been done being 22 chains of 6 ft. formation, 11 chains of 10 ft. formation, 374 cubic yards of slips cleared, and 5,030 cubic yards of rock excavated. It passes through bush country of a very broken nature, and, as the route lies along steep papa-rock cliffs, the work of formation has been exceedingly heavy. The road is in good condition, and, as soon as further expenditure is authorised, clearing and extension of formation will be proceeded with.

Kawatau Valley Road.—The following is the record of work done on this road during the year: 2 miles 43 chains graded and pegged, 1½ chains felled and cleared, 61 chains widened to 16 ft., 10 chains metalled 12 ft. wide, 9,100 cubic yards of slips cleared, 9,360 cubic yards of rock excavated, 2 chains of embankments formed, and two miles and a half of the road sown with grass-seed. One culvert, 16 in. by 18 in., and four, 12 in. by 12 in., of a total length of 123 ft., have been laid, and one 80 ft. span truss-bridge, with a 14 ft. roadway, has been erected over the Mangawhahariki River. The annual maintenance has extended over four miles and a half. It will be seen that a large amount of very heavy work has been done, the great damage done by the Easter floods of 1897 having been repaired. The truss-bridge across the Mangawhahariki Stream is a substantial and well-built structure, and has been erected at 14 ft. higher level than that carried away by the floods. The narrow parts of the papa-cliff road have been widened to the full width of 16 ft., and, like the block-cutting deviation, has been exceptionally heavy work. As shown above, the slips have been very numerous, caused in a great measure by widening the road. The whole of the road, with the exception of a few chains of horse-road at the Kawatau end, is in very good condition, and the bridge and culverts in first-class order. The first mile of the cliff road gets into a very bad state during the wet season, and a good coating of metal is now being put on, which will undoubtedly prove a great boon to the many persons who travel this road. The total length available for horse traffic is 8 miles 10 chains, four miles and a half of which is open for wheel traffic. A further length of 2 miles 43 chains, which was felled and cleared last year, has been graded, and, as a sufficient amount has been authorised to be expended, the work will be proceeded with immediately. This very important road opens up the northern portion of the Marton Nos. 1 and 2 Blocks, and is the main artery through which that part of the Awarua Block east of the Rangitikei River is furnished with supplies.

Kew Road (Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—The only work done during the year has been maintaining 1 mile 48 chains of this horse-road, which has involved the removal of 305 cubic yards of slips, and the grassing of 75 chains. It is at present in good order, as are the culverts and log bridges.

Titirangi Road.—This road passes through very broken forest country, and has been maintained during the year for a distance of 6 miles 65 chains. It is in very good condition, and during the coming year it is intended to push forward the clearing and formation. The following work has been done: 1 mile 31 chains of bush felled and cleared, 69 chains formed 6 ft. wide, four culverts 64 ft. in length inserted, 1,605 cubic yards of slips removed, and 3,158 cubic yards of rock excavated.

Kelpie Road.—The whole of this road is now open for dray traffic, and is in good condition. The culverts also are sound. As it passes through very rugged precipitous country, the cost of maintenance is necessarily very heavy. The following work has been done: Graded and pegged, 1 mile 28 chains; widened to 16 ft., 1 mile 3 chains; and metalled 12 ft. wide, 10 chains. Two culverts (33 ft. in length) have been laid, 495 cubic yards of slips cleared, 1,860 cubic yards of rock excavated, 69½ chains of drains cut, and the full length of two miles maintained. This road is very useful to the settlers in the neighbourhood, as, by its connection with the Lagoon Road, they are enabled to get their milk to the Ruahine Creamery.

Lagoon Road (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—During the year 2 miles 23 chains of horse-road has been formed 6 ft. wide, and 58 chains widened to 16 ft. for dray traffic. This piece of dray-road is of immense benefit to a great number of settlers, as it enables them to cart their milk to the creamery at Ruahine. The road passes through hilly forest country, and, with the culverts, is in very fair order. The further details of the annual work are as follow: Twelve 12 ft. by 12 ft., four 18 ft. by 12 ft., and two 18 ft. by 18 ft. culverts, of a total length of 390 ft., have been laid; 1,580 cubic yards of slips cleared, 3,469 cubic yards of rock excavated, 24 chains of drains cut, 1 chain of corduroy laid, and three miles of the road maintained.

Auputa Road (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—During the year 1 mile 8 chains has been widened to the full width of 16 ft., and 43 chains to 8 ft.; 7 chains have been graded and pegged; three 12 ft. by 12 ft., two 18 ft. by 24 ft., and one 12 ft. by 18 ft. culverts have been inserted; one plain bridge, with a 12 ft. roadway, and 12 ft. long, has been erected; 1,140 cubic yards of rock excavated, 800 cubic yards of slips removed, 1 mile 64 chains of drains cut, and ½ chain of corduroy laid. To obviate the necessity of erecting an 80 ft. span bridge, a tunnel, 6 ft. 6 in. wide, 5 ft. 6 in. high, and 180 ft. long, is now being driven, through which the stream will be diverted. The cost of this work is estimated to be considerably less than the construction of a bridge, besides being more permanent. The widening of the road near the junction with the Mangawhahariki Road has been of great benefit to the settlers in the vicinity, as it enables them to cart their milk to the creamery at Ruahine. With the exception of a few temporary log bridges, which are in course of repair, the road, bridges, and culverts are all in good order. The full length of the road is seven miles and three-quarters, and the annual maintenance has been six miles.

Mania Road (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—This is a 4 ft. bush-track, and is maintained for a distance of two miles. It is in fair condition, and the culverts are sound. The following work has been done: 6 chains of bushfelling, 8 chains of 6 ft. formation, 336 cubic yards of slips cleared, 270 cubic yards of rock excavated, and 18 chains of drains cut. The settlers in the

locality are extremely desirous of having this horse-road widened for dray traffic, to put them in a better position for taking their milk to the local creamery.

Karewarewa Village Settlement.—Last year some felling and clearing was done here, and the road-line graded and pegged. As it passes through level and dry country, it has been available for horse traffic, and nothing further has been done.

Main South Road (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—The chief work has been the maintenance of this road 6 ft. wide in good order for three miles, besides which 10 chains have been formed 10 ft. wide, 2,890 cubic yards of slips cleared, and 1,870 cubic yards of rock excavated.

Te Parapara (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—Great activity has been shown on this road during the period under review, and, as further expenditure has now been authorised, it is proposed to metal about 75 chains of sideling which becomes impassable even for horse traffic during the winter months. Weather permitting, this work will be commenced immediately the drays have finished other urgent work. The road, with the exception of some few chains of horse-road, is in good condition; the bad parts are being made good, and further widening will be proceeded with immediately. The actual work done has been: 20 chains graded and pegged, one mile formed 8 ft. and 42 chains formed 12 ft. wide, 75 chains widened to 15 ft. and one mile and a half widened to 24 ft., 1 mile 46 chains has been metalled 12 ft. wide; six 12 in. by 12 in. culverts, 99 ft. long, have been laid; 471 cubic yards of slips cleared, 3,690 cubic yards of rock excavated, and three miles of drains cut. The maintenance has extended over three miles.

West Mangahuia (Hautapu–Ruahine, Marton Nos. 1 and 2).—1 mile 30 chains of this road-line has been graded and pegged, 1 mile 37 chains felled and cleared, 1 mile 43 chains formed 6 ft. wide, one culvert (18 in. by 18 in.) laid, 70 cubic yards of slips removed, 1,780 cubic yards of rock excavated, and maintained for two miles. The whole length of road, which passes through heavy bush country of a very broken character, is now finished, and is in very fair condition for horse traffic.

Mangawharariki and Kimbolton–Wairaki.—This road has been maintained for a distance of 12½ miles, and the whole length of the road is in very good order for dray traffic. As will be seen below, the slips on the western end have again been very numerous. About a mile and a quarter of shady sideling, which becomes almost impassable during the winter months, is now being metalled. All bridges and culverts are in good condition. The work done during the year is as follows: Slips removed, 7,280 cubic yards; rock excavated, 905 cubic yards; widening to 16 ft., 1½ chains; and metalling, 60 chains; and one culvert, 12 in. by 12 in. and 24 ft. long, inserted. 22 cubic yards of metal is put in to the chain, being 12 ft. wide and 9 in. deep. This is a very important road, as it connects Rangiwahia with Mangaweka, and will ultimately be a large tributary to the railway when the line is opened to the latter township.

Mangarere Road (Hautapu).—Maintenance extending over the whole length of this horse-road (5 miles) has been the only work done during the year. It is in fair condition, and, with the exception of a few temporary log bridges which will probably require strengthening shortly, the remainder of culverts and bridges are in good order.

Watershed Road (Hautapu).—This road passes through broken bush country, and is now in good order. During the year 42 chains have been graded and pegged, 42 chains felled and cleared, 42 chains formed 6 ft. wide, three 12 in. by 12 in. culverts (48 ft. long) laid, 300 cubic yards of slips removed, 1,963 cubic yards of rock excavated, and a mile and a quarter maintained.

Cross Road (Hautapu).—This road, which connects the Watershed and Mangawharariki Roads, was completed last year, and the only work since then has been its maintenance for four miles, in the course of which 425 cubic yards of slips have been cleared and 60 cubic yards of rock excavated. The road, bridges, and culverts are in good order, and available for horse traffic.

Peka Road (Hautapu No. 2).—A further instalment of 1 mile 35 chains of this 6 ft. horse-road has been constructed, which opens it for traffic for a distance of five miles. It passes through hilly country, partly cleared of bush, and, with the culverts and bridges, is in good condition. This road must ultimately be of great consequence to the surrounding settlers, in providing an outlet to Ohingaiti, when the railway is completed to that point, and the bridge erected over the Rangitikei River at Otara.

Onslow Block (Renfrew Road).—£500 has been authorised for expenditure on this block, but the only work yet undertaken has been the letting of a bushfelling and clearing contract; and formation will shortly be commenced.

Conspicuous Road.—This 6 ft. horse-road has been maintained in good condition for two miles, and the following work has also been done: 20 chains of 6 ft. formation, 2,320 cubic yards of slips cleared, 2,160 cubic yards of rock excavated, two 12 in. by 12 in. culverts (24 ft. long) laid, and 3 chains of corduroy laid.

Oroua Main Road (Mangoira-Coal Creek Block).—The following work has been done during the year: 2 miles 15 chains graded and pegged, 1 mile 25 chains widened from 6 ft. to 14 ft., 2 chains metalled, 1,560 cubic yards of slips cleared, 3,576 cubic yards of rock excavated, 1¼ chains of drains cut, and twelve 12 in. by 12 in. culverts (of a total length of 216 ft.) have been laid. The widening of this road has enabled dray traffic to be extended across the Oroua River, which will prove of great benefit to settlers. The maintenance extends over two miles, and is likely to be rather costly, in consequence of the singularly rotten nature of the formation rendering it liable to slip.

Kaheke Road (Mangoira–Coal Creek).—The formation promised in my last report has been carried on for 61 chains to a width of 8 ft., after being graded and pegged for that distance. A single-span bridge 25 ft. long has been erected, twenty-two culverts laid, 652 cubic yards of rock excavated, and 6¼ chains of drains cut.

Umutoi–Table Flat Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Pohangina Block).—The 6 ft. formation has been extended for a further mile, 49 chains graded and pegged, widening 27 chains from 6ft. to 12 ft., metalling (10 ft. wide) 26 chains, 1 chain of drains cut, 60 cubic yards of rock excavated, 600 cubic yards of slips cleared, and thirteen culverts (of a total length of 170 ft.)

have been laid. The total formation maintained has been 4 miles 62 chains, of which 37 chains are available for wheel traffic.

Apiti–Norsewood Road.—This road is intended to connect Apiti with Norsewood, in the Hawke's Bay Province, and during the year considerable activity has been shown in that direction. The following are the details: 2 miles 9 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 5 chains felled and cleared; 18 chains widened from 6 ft. to 16 ft., and 1 mile 71 chains widened to 14 ft.; 7 chains metalled, 2,270 cubic yards of slips cleared, 9,236 cubic yards of rock excavated, 5 chains of drain cut, and seventeen 12 in. by 12 in. culverts laid. In the neighbourhood of Coal Creek the work has been exceptionally heavy, and, owing to the loose nature of other parts of the formation, considerable expense has been incurred in clearing slips. The maintenance has extended over 2 miles 9 chains of dray-road, the remainder being in the hands of the Pohangina County Council.

Umutoi Road (Pohangina Block).—The following work has been done on this road during the year: 3 chains formed 6 ft. wide, 30 chains widened from 6 ft. to 8 ft., 5 chains metalled, two culverts (28 ft. in length) laid, 700 cubic yards of slips cleared, and 388 cubic yards of rock excavated. The road has been maintained for 2 miles 27 chains.

Umutoi Road (Umutoi Block).—Nothing but maintaining 2 miles 23 chains of this horse-road has been done since my last report, in which work is included the removal of 320 cubic yards of slips.

Tunipo Road (Salisbury Block).—Very little work has been done on this road, but it is now completed throughout, the distance maintained being 3 miles 25 chains. The following is a statement of the annual operations: 5 chains of road-line formed 6 ft. wide, one culvert (24 in. by 24 in., and 24 ft. long), 732 cubic yards of slips cleared, 10 chains of rock excavated, and 1 chain of corduroy laid.

Apiti Bridge (Oroua River).—In May last the sum of £275 was granted to the Pohangina County Council to defray the cost of repairs to the bridge across the Oroua River at Apiti. The only work yet done has been some temporary repairs to damages caused by flood. No progress-payments have yet been made.

Coal Creek North Block.—Of the £100 granted to the Pohangina County Council for the purpose of constructing a track from Coal Creek to the Main Ridge Road, the final payment of £42 has been made. The work comprised the formation of 23 chains 12 ft. wide from the Main Ridge Road, and 21 chains of 6 ft. formation at the lower end.

Umutoi Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).—The road-line reported last year as being graded and pegged has been formed 8 ft. wide for 1 mile 52 chains, and 300 cubic yards of slips removed. The following bridges have been erected: Three 12 ft. long each, and one 22 ft. long, all with a roadway of 8 ft.; and one single span of 25 ft., with a 10 ft. roadway. The distance maintained has been 2 miles 12 chains.

Takapari Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).—There was great activity shown here during the latter part of the last financial year, which was continued for the first three months of this, since when nothing further has been done. The following are the details: 1 mile 15 chains of horse-road formation, 160 cubic yards of slips cleared, 100 cubic yards of rock excavated, fourteen culverts inserted (of a total length of 148 ft.), and one bridge 14 ft. long and 8 ft. wide has been erected. Maintenance extends over one mile.

Pohangina Valley Road (Forest Reserve).—In my last report I stated that in the interests of the settlers in the valley it had been decided to open road-communication into this forest reserve, and that £150 had been granted by the Pohangina County Council for the purpose. Protective work was subsequently undertaken, which cost £50, and a further sum of £65 9s. 6d. was expended in felling and clearing a deviation of the road for 1 mile 40 chains. No further work has been done, and the grant of £150 still remains to the credit of the County Council, no progress-payment having been applied for.

Kimbolton Road.—Last year some metalling was done between Beef Creek and Whare Road, Pemberton, the cost of which was defrayed by a grant to the Kiwitea County Council, which local body has now complete control of the road.

Aorangi Bridge.—This bridge across the Oroua River at Aorangi, near Feilding, consisted originally of six spans of 60 ft. and one of 30 ft., but the latter and two of the 60 ft. spans were washed out by the Easter floods of 1897. To repair the damage it was found to be necessary to erect three 60 ft. and one 30 ft. spans, which has been done. It is a truss bridge, with a 13 ft. roadway. A grant of £725 having been made to the Manchester Road Board on the pound-for-pound condition, the work was carried out by that body, and has passed the supervising inspection of this department.

Dannevirke–Weber–Wimbledon.—Great activity was being shown when I reported last year on this road, consisting of the erection of two beam bridges (20 ft. and 24 ft. in length respectively), road-formation, river-diversion, metalling, and culverting, the Government granting a contribution of £400 to the Weber Road Board towards the cost, the final payment being made on the 15th August of last year.

Oporae Road.—The following work has been done on this road: 18 chains of road-line felled and cleared of bush, 1 mile 33 chains formed 6 ft. wide, fourteen culverts (of a total length of 226 ft.) laid, 165 cubic yards of slips cleared, 358 cubic yards of rock excavated, 4½ chains of drains cut, and 4 chains of embankments formed. The road is maintained for two miles. The formation contracts alluded to in my last report have been satisfactorily completed, and the road is now open for horse traffic to the main road at Oporae Station. This connection is of great benefit to the settlers on the Rising Sun Association Block; but to be of permanent use to them it will be necessary to bridge some deep creeks which intersect, and are quite impassable in bad weather, and to widen the road for vehicular traffic. Extensive deviations have been made in this line to procure easy gradients.

Mangatoro Valley Road.—Only 2 chains of formation has been done on this road, 34 chains having been widened to 14 ft. 554 cubic yards of slips have been cleared away, 50 cubic yards of rock excavated, 4 chains of drains cut, and a short length of embankment formed. This road, which connects with the Hawke's Bay District, passes through hilly, flat, and undulating wooded country, and is maintained from 14 ft. to 16 ft. wide for seven miles. It is all in good repair, with the exception of a few narrow places which require widening. The 1 mile 22 chains of metalling mentioned in my last report has not been extended, there being no funds available for the purpose. All culverts are in good condition, and the two bridges in good repair.

Section 183, Block IV., Aohanga (Aohanga Valley).—On the 27th January last the sum of £200 was authorised for expenditure, but, owing to the non-completion of negotiations for acquiring the land, nothing has yet been done.

Section 12, Block X., Makuri.—£50 was authorised for expenditure on this road in December of last year, and operations have lately been commenced.

Ohinereiata Road.—This is practically a continuation of the last-mentioned road through Section 12, Block X., Makuri, and when completed will connect the Waewaepa with the Upper Makuri Road. £50 has been authorised for expenditure, and the work is now being proceeded with.

Towai Road (Rising Sun Association).—Considerable progress has been made on this road during the year—36 chains of road-line has been graded and pegged, 28 chains of bush felled and cleared, three miles of road-formation (6 ft. wide), fifty-six culverts (varying in dimensions from 12 in. by 12 in. to 24 in. by 24 in., and 745 ft. in length) have been laid, 8 chains of drains cut, and 6 chains of embankments formed. The maintenance of 4 miles 40 chains has involved the removal of 340 cubic yards of slips and the excavation of 57 cubic yards of rock. About two miles more of formation will connect with the Waihi Valley Road, and open communication with Coonoor and Makuri, *viâ* Puketoi. This connection will be a great boon, and it is unfortunate that want of funds should prevent its completion, or that the same cause should operate against the maintenance receiving that attention the road requires.

Coonoor Farm-homestead Association.—In January last the sum of £200 was authorised for expenditure on constructive works in this farm-homestead block, and instructions have been issued to commence work.

Towai Road (Coonoor).—Last year I had a considerable amount of work to record on this road, but during the year under review nothing has been done but general maintenance for a distance of five miles. For four miles the width varies from 14 ft. to 18 ft., the remainder being a 6 ft. horse-track which is at present in very bad repair. The dray road is in very good order, and the culverts all in substantial condition.

Upper Makuri Valley Road.—Nothing has been done on this road but general maintenance, which has not been at all expensive. It is a dray-road, from 14 ft. to 18 ft. in width, and for ten miles passes through a sideling country. I can report it as being in fairly good order, and the bridges and culverts in good condition. The Pahiatua County Council bear the cost of maintaining a part of this road.

Alfredton–Weber Road.—During the period under review great activity has been shown on this road, the details of which are as follows: Road-survey graded and pegged, 8 chains; road-formation, 16 ft. wide, 40 chains; widening, 19 chains; and 24 chains metalling, 12 ft. wide, being about 22 cubic yards to the chain; two bridges have been erected, of 20 ft. and 30 ft. spans respectively; thirty culverts, of various dimensions, inserted, of a total length of 652 ft.; 20,047 cubic yards of slips have been removed, 1,099 cubic yards of rock excavated, 33 chains of corduroy laid, 20½ chains of drains cut, 4 chains of embankments formed, and two miles and a half of road-line laid down in grass. The timber supplied for bridges and culverts totals 26,294 ft. This is a dray-road, varying in width from 14 ft. to 18 ft., and is maintained for a distance of 35 miles 23 chains. Wheel communication is now complete to Weber, and a weekly coach-service is now running between Pongaroa and Dannevirke. This may consequently be considered as a main arterial road. In some places it passes through undulating country; in others, along white-pine swamps. For about eight miles it passes along the Akitio River, where the sideling cuttings are a constant source of trouble, owing to the liability of the earth slipping from the papa rock. All the bridges and culverts are in very good condition, but the road in many places is in very bad repair, as, owing to the unsettled weather of the past summer, no opportunity has been given to have it properly crowned, as the large staff of surfacemen were continually employed in removing slips, clearing water-tables, and other works of maintenance, and no funds were available for employing more men. I would strongly recommend that the northern end of this road be metalled as soon as possible, as a large number of settlers are dependent upon it for the carriage of their supplies. I may here state that the burnt papa metalling has proved a decided success, as a coating of 8 in. which has been on the roadway for three years is still in good order, notwithstanding bullock-dray and other heavy traffic passing over it. An unreasonable prejudice appears to exist against the use of this material.

Alfredton–Weber, Flood-damages.—In May, 1898, the sum of £300 was granted to the Wairarapa North County Council for the purpose of prosecuting this work. About 500 cubic yards of slips have been removed, and 210 lineal feet of tunnels driven. This tunnelling embraces two drives, of 100 ft. and 110 ft. in length respectively—the former 5 ft. by 3 ft., driven through tough blue papa; the latter 6 ft. by 4 ft., in stratified brown rock. These tunnels are to divert the water from culverts beneath heavy embankments, which had partially collapsed through underscour of the culvert foundations. The work in the larger tunnel was attended with considerable difficulties owing to leakage through the soft porous strata met with at short intervals throughout, which necessitated timbering the whole drive at much extra cost. Both drives are lined with concrete walls, and inverts 8 in. thick, with 4½ in. brick arched roofs set in Portland-cement mortar. Parapets, wing-walls, and aprons of concrete are provided at the inlets and outlets of each tunnel. Altogether the work has been done in a very satisfactory and substantial manner.

Waihi Falls (Pahiatua No. 3).—Work was commenced on this road in July last, when 120 chains of engineering survey was effected. Since then 55 chains have been formed 6 ft. wide, and five culverts, of an aggregate length of 87 ft., have been laid. This road passes through rough bush country, and, besides benefiting the surrounding settlers, will probably be much used during the summer by tourists visiting the falls on the Waihi River, which are very picturesque.

Suspension-bridge Road.—The work on this road comprises 1½ chains of bushfelling and clearing, 23 chains of 6 ft. formation, and the excavation of 248 cubic yards of rock. A suspension-bridge for foot-passengers and sheep traffic over the Akitio River is at present under construction, and when completed will be of great convenience to the settlers on the eastern side of the river. For the benefit of those settled down the river a 6 ft. track has been cut round the papa cliff near the bridge, but it will be necessary to clear the bush and effect some side-cutting along the river before the bridge will be of any use to them.

Waihi–Akitio Road (Pahiatua No. 3).—Besides the grassing of 71 chains of this road nothing has been done but maintenance, which has caused the removal of 632 cubic yards of slips, 3½ chains of corduroying, 1 chain of drains, and the insertion of three culverts, of a total length of 27 ft. Some portions of the road have caused a little trouble from liability to slip, but the greater part is on sound sideling ground. The distance maintained is 4 miles 40 chains.

Akitio Road (Pahiatua No. 3).—During the year 167 chains of this road has been graded and pegged, 1 chain of bush felled and cleared, 136 chains formed 6 ft. wide, 2 chains of corduroy laid, 82 chains of drains cut, 13 chains of embankment formed, and one mile of the road laid down in grass. Two bridges have been constructed, 23 ft. and 12 ft. long respectively, with a 6 ft. roadway; and forty culverts, of various dimensions, and a total length of 587 ft., have been laid. The maintenance of two miles and a half has caused the removal of 551 cubic yards of slips, and the excavation of 10 cubic yards of rock. The road connects the Mount Arthur with the Kawakawa, Waihora, and Kaituna Roads, and, owing to passing through swamp and soft papa country, it is difficult and costly to maintain. All bridges and culverts are in excellent order, but, in consequence of lack of funds, the road itself is barely passable for horse traffic.

Pukewhinau Road.—This road branches from the Alfredton–Weber Road, and provides access to three sections in the Akitio Improved Farm; and since last year, when I reported an engineering survey of 72 chains, 44 chains of bushfelling and clearing has been done.

Mount Arthur Road (Pahiatua No. 3).—A considerable amount of work has been done on this road during the year, including 34 chains of bushfelling and clearing, 83½ chains of formation 6 ft. wide, 4½ chains have been widened to 6 ft., 1½ chains of corduroying laid down, 7 chains of drains cut, 17½ chains of embankment formed, and twelve culverts of the following dimensions laid: Eight 12 in. by 12 in., one 18 in. by 14 in., two 18 in. by 18 in., and one 24 in. by 24 in., of an aggregate length of 192 ft. Maintenance of 2 miles 40 chains has involved the removal of 1,647 cubic yards of slips and the clearing of 283 chains of water-tables. A rough timber bridge of 40 ft. span has been thrown over a creek about three-quarters of a mile from Makukupara, which, being only 6 ft. in width, is only available for horse traffic. A substantially built bridge of a 54 ft. span, with two land spans of 20 ft. each, making a total length of 94 ft., has been erected over the Makukupara Stream, to connect with the Alfredton–Weber Road. It is built of heart of totara on driven piles, and may be depended upon to bear all possible traffic for many years. It is now so near completion that the approaches are being filled in. This road traverses the Akitio Improved Farm, and requires about 40 chains more of construction to complete it through that settlement. It has been of great service to the settlers in enabling them to procure provisions as well as providing an outlet for their produce. The benefit would, however, be greatly increased if it could be opened for wheel traffic, as that would in all probability lead to the establishment of a creamery, to which they could then cart their milk. The whole of the road is well culverted, and is at present in fair condition, but, owing to the siding formation being mostly on papa rock, it is always subject to slip, and is consequently expensive to maintain.

Kawakawa Road (Pahiatua Nos. 2 and 3).—This road intersects for some distance the Akitio Improved Farm, and has been maintained for a distance of 1 mile 40 chains. The other work done has been 47 chains of bushfelling and clearing, 65 chains of 6 ft. road formation, clearing 489 cubic yards of slips, and excavating 106 cubic yards of rock. Fifteen 12 in. by 12 in. and one 12 in. by 18 in. culverts, of an aggregate length of 162 ft., have been laid. These culverts are mostly built of hewn logs, and, being laid on a papa bottom, stand exceedingly well. The felling and clearing is now carried to the junction with the Kaituna Road, and the formation will be put in hand when the engineering survey is done.

Waihora Road (Pahiatua Nos. 2 and 3).—This road, which passes through Pahiatua Nos. 2 and 3 and a corner of the Akitio Improved Farm, has been engineered for 143 chains, and bushfelling and clearing for 200 chains. At present there is in operation a contract for felling and clearing 60 chains further.

Kaituna Road (Pahiatua No. 2).—The following work has been done during the year: 45 chains of scrubfelling and clearing, 167 chains formation 6 ft. wide, 40 chains of stumping, 6 chains of drains cut, and 14 chains of embankments formed. Thirty-three culverts, 384 ft. in length, have been laid. Maintenance has extended over three miles and a half, involving the clearing of 301 cubic yards of slips and the excavation of 49 cubic yards of rock. The culverts are in very good condition, and the road in fair order.

Waipatukaka Road (Pahiatua Nos. 1 and 3).—The formation of this horse-road has been extended 49 chains, and eight culverts, of an aggregate length of 102 ft., laid. 13 chains of drains have been cut, and 2 chains of embankments formed. In maintaining 1 mile 50 chains, 54 cubic yards of slips have been removed and 43 cubic yards of rock excavated. At present there are two contracts in operation, one for supplying a large quantity of timber for culverts, and one for continuing the 6 ft. formation another 38 chains, and when completed the road will be open for

about two miles from the Manuhara Road. It is intended to continue the formation to the junction with the Waihi Valley Road, and thus provide another outlet for the Akitio Improved-farm settlers.

Akaroa Road (Pahiatua No. 2).—78 chains of bushfelling and clearing has been done in this road during the year. In maintaining this two miles of horse-road two culverts (20 ft. long) have been laid, 177 cubic yards of slips have been cleared, and 1 mile 51 chains of embankments have been repaired. A contract just completed opens up this road as cleared to the Mangaone Road, but, owing to exhaustion of funds, it cannot be proceeded with just at present. As far as formed it is in fair condition.

Manuharahara Road (Pahiatua No. 1).—A considerable amount of work has been done on this road during this year—42 chains engineered, 1 mile 3 chains formed 6 ft. wide, 36 chains widened, seventeen culverts (246 ft. in length) laid, 3½ chains of corduroying laid, ¾ chain drains cut and 10 chains cleared out, and 9 chains of embankments formed and 2 miles 54 chains repaired. The work of maintaining the three miles of horse-road has necessitated the removal of 445 cubic yards of slips and the excavation of 120 cubic yards of rock. The road and culverts are in fair order.

Paraengahuata Road (Pongaroa Village Settlement).—This is a horse-road 6 ft. wide, and has been maintained for 1 mile 50 chains. One 12 in. by 12 in. culvert (16 ft. long) has been laid, 70 cubic yards of slips cleared, 2½ chains of corduroy laid, and 3 chains of drains cut. The road passes mostly through flat swampy land, and is in fairly good order.

Huia Road (Pongaroa Village Settlement).—As will be seen in my last report, a considerable amount of work was done last year on this road. This year general maintenance and repairs have constituted the only work done. I must, however, except the sawing and hauling of timber to the site of a single-span horse-bridge over the Pongaroa Stream, the construction of which will be commenced as soon as the required ironwork is on the ground. A mile and a half of this road has been maintained during the year.

Waihi Valley Road (Pahiatua No. 3).—The following work has been done on this road during the year: Bushfelling and clearing, 31½ chains; formation, 6 ft. wide, 4 miles 18 chains; 396 cubic yards of slips have been removed, 428 cubic yards of rock excavated; stumping has been done for 144 chains; 36 chains of drains cut, and 21½ chains of embankments formed. Thirty-six culverts have been bedded, varying in size from 12 in. by 12 in. to 18 in. by 18 in., of a total length of 602 ft.; and one bridge, of a single span of 20 ft., and 6 ft. roadway, erected. The road is maintained for a distance of six miles, and extends from the Waihi Road, past the Waipatukaka and Waihi–Akitio Roads, and, following the Waihi Valley, connects with the Oporae Road in the Hawke's Bay Province. The route is through dense bush country, and is at present just passable for horse traffic.

Waihi Road.—The following work has been done: 55 chains of formation from 6 ft. to 8 ft. in width, 807 cubic yards of slips removed, 5 chains of embankments formed, and seven culverts of an aggregate length of 132 ft. inserted. This road is very liable to slip, and consequently may be costly to keep in good repair. The maintenance extends over six miles, and when about 40 chains of formation has been carried over a swamp (for which a contract is let), the settlers will be provided with access to Dannevirke *viâ* Oporae, and to Makuri *viâ* Pongaroa.

Range Road (Masterton Reform).—This horse-road is six miles in length, and has been formed 6 ft. wide for 1 mile 4 chains, 3 miles 30 chains graded and pegged, nearly one mile felled and cleared of bush, 3 chains of embankments formed, and fifteen culverts of various dimensions laid. The maintenance has involved the removal of 261 cubic yards of slips, and the excavation of 1,386 cubic yards of rock. It passes through hilly bush country, and, as far as the formation is completed, is in very good repair. It is now completed to the boundary of the Rising Sun Block, the two gaps leading in and out of gullies having recently been formed. On account of the nature of the ground this road requires constant attention.

Cross Road (Masterton Reform).—This horse-road connects the Makuri–Pongaroa with the Range Road, and has been maintained during the year for two miles.

Makuri–Pongaroa Road.—Forty-eight culverts, of an aggregate length of 1,027 ft., and of the following dimensions, have been laid: Forty 12 in. by 12 in., two 18 in. by 24 in., three 18 in. by 18 in., one 9 in. by 9 in., and two 12 in. by 18 in. Bush has been felled and cleared for 13 chains, and scrub cleared for 3 miles 34 chains. The horse-road has been widened to a dray-road of 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. in width, for 5 miles 24 chains. The metalling, at about 18 cubic yards to the chain, has been extended by 16½ chains, and one mile of metalling trimmed and restored. Besides this, 8,613 cubic yards of slips have been cleared, 9,901 cubic yards of rock excavated, 4 chains of drains cut, 13½ chains of corduroy laid, 48 chains of embankments formed, and three miles of the road sown with grass-seed. The road is eighteen miles in length over all, and by making a crossing over the Mangatiti River, and using the temporary bridges, 15½ miles would be now available for dray traffic, leaving two miles and a half to be widened to reach Pongaroa. The six horse-bridges and all the culverts are substantially built, and in good condition. The cost of widening at the Makuri end has been very expensive, owing to the extensive limestone and papa-rock excavations. A contract was let some time ago to cart timber for the proposed bridge over the Mangatiti Creek, but owing to the exceptionally wet season the road until recently has been unfit for heavy traffic. A contract for sawing timber for the same bridge is nearly completed, and, as further funds are now available, contracts for supply and construction will immediately be let. This is a very important road, opening up a large area of country, and providing many settlers with the means of procuring supplies, which for nearly eight months of the year are very costly to obtain. I would strongly recommend that improvements be pushed on vigorously, and as much metalling as possible carried out during the next season. The cheapest and best method of putting metal on this road would be, as suggested by me some time ago, by means of a temporary tram-line and trucks.

Mangatiti Road (Pahiatua No. 4).—Since my last report the only work done on this road has been the erection of a 30 ft. span truss bridge, for which 9,627 ft. of timber has been supplied. The road-line passes through hilly bush country, where the formation is heavy and very liable to slips. About one mile and three-quarters of 6 ft. formation is in very bad repair, and the culverts good. This road will connect the Makuri–Pongaroa and the Alfredton–Weber Roads. The bridge just constructed has a single truss span of 30 ft., with a 14 ft. roadway, and will be of great benefit to the settlers, as the ford is not good. It would be of great advantage if this road were completed. It is a near cut for horsemen travelling from Rakaunui, who at present have to go a long way round, *viâ* Pongaroa. A further reason is that there is a prospect of getting good metal, which, if the road were opened through, would be available for a considerable distance on the Alfredton–Weber Road.

Makuri–Aohanga Road.—The following operations are recorded for the year: 5 miles 52½ chains of road-line graded and pegged, two miles and a quarter felled and cleared of scrub, 1,674 cubic yards of slips cleared, 5,270 cubic yards of rock excavated, 2½ chains of corduroy laid, 15 chains of embankments formed, and upwards of 19½ chains of drains cut. Thirty-one culverts, of a total length of 556 ft., have been inserted, 11 chains of felled timber cleared, and 2 miles 3 chains of horse-road has been widened to 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. The road is six miles and a half in length, 2 miles 68 chains being dray-road; 48 chains is being at present widened, and about three miles is still a horse-road. It passes through undulating bush country. All the culverts are in good order, and the two bridges are also in a substantial condition. It is intended to raise one of the latter 6 ft., to insure its safety. This road branches from the Makuri–Pongaroa Road about six miles from Makuri, and connects with the Alfredton–Weber Road near Rakaunui Village.

Rakaunui Village Settlement Roads.—In my last report I stated that upwards of 32 chains of these roads were being felled and cleared of bush. This work has been extended another 11½ chains; and 30¼ chains of road formed 6 ft. wide. Besides this, 2 chains of embankments have been formed, and 5 culverts, 56 ft. in length, have been laid. These roads are through undulating country, where all the bush has been felled. About 30 chains still remains to be formed to provide access to several occupied sections.

Pongaroa School Road.—A sum of £100 has been authorised to be expended in metalling this road, which work is now being proceeded with.

Aohanga Gorge Road.—The following work has been done on this road since the engineering survey of upwards of twelve miles was completed last year: Formation, two miles; scrubfelling and clearing, 1 mile 32 chains; 1,009 cubic yards of slips cleared, 2,745 cubic yards of rock excavated, 53 chains of drains cut, and 18 chains of embankments formed. Twenty-five culverts, of a total length of 723 ft., have been laid. A considerable quantity of timber has been sawn and delivered on the site of an 80 ft. bridge, the construction of which will be immediately commenced. This road, as maintained for two miles, passes through open country along the Pongaroa Stream. The banks being steep, the cuttings are consequently heavy, but, as it is mostly a sound papa formation, there should not be any great liability to slips. All culverts are constructed of totara, and are in first-class condition. The 16 ft. formation is being continued.

Pongaroa Township.—The only work done by the Government in this township has been felling 10½ acres of bush on sections.

Mecalickstone–Aohanga (Mecalickstone Block).—Last year I reported 70 chains of this road as felled and cleared. Of this, 65 chains has now been formed 6 ft. wide, and ten culverts (138 ft. in length) inserted. 77 cubic yards of rock has been excavated, 22 chains of drains cut, and 3 chains of embankments formed The road passes through level manuka-scrub country, where the formation is easy.

Kaikoura Farm-homestead Association.—£200 has recently been authorised to be spent on constructive works on this association block, and instructions have been given to proceed with the roads.

Huia Road (Woodville Block).—This road, which passes through hilly country for a distance of 3 miles 70 chains, is 6 ft. in width, and in very fair condition. Maintenance is the only work done during the year, and has involved the insertion of one 12 in. by 12 in. culvert (15 ft. long), the removal of 1,965 cubic yards of slips, the excavation of 9 cubic yards of rock, and the laying-down of 2 chains of corduroy. I would suggest that this road be widened for vehicular traffic, for the accommodation of the settlers on the line of road and on the Macalickstone Block.

Waihoki Valley Road (Mecalickstone Block).—This road passes through level country, swampy in places, with very heavy bush. It is about four miles and a half long, formed to 6 ft. in width, and cannot be said to be in a very good state. The culverts and a temporary bridge are all in good order. The following is the record for the year: 8 miles 62 chains of engineering survey, 32 chains of scrubfelling and clearing, 32 chains of 6 ft. formation, 306 cubic yards of slips cleared, 36¾ chains of drains cut, 9 chains of embankments formed, and five culverts (of an aggregate length of 64 ft.) have been laid.

Waiowaka Road (Dannevirke Centennial Block).—This road passes through very hilly country for 1 mile 32 chains, and is extremely liable to slips. Last year I reported 35 chains as cleared and formed 6 ft. wide. This work has now been extended for another mile. There has also been thirteen culverts (134 ft. in length) laid, 720 cubic yards of slips removed, 161 cubic yards of rock excavated, 2 chains of fascines laid, and 8 chains of drains cut. All the culverts are in good condition, as is also the 30 ft. temporary bridge erected last year.

Waikereru Road (Mecalickstone Block).—This road has been constructed through undulating country covered with ti-tree, is formed 6 ft. wide for the full length of 4 miles 10 chains, and cannot be said to be in very good order. The following work has been done during the year: 13 chains of fallen timber cleared, 60 chains of the road formed 6 ft. wide; eight culverts 12 in. by 12 in., and one 24 in. by 36 in., of a total length of 113 ft., have been inserted; 2,205 cubic yards of slips cleared, 196 cubic yards of rock excavated, 1 chain of corduroy and 2½ chains of fascines laid,

1½ chains of drains cut, and 6 chains of embankments formed. All culverts and the four temporary bridges erected last year are reported to be in good condition.

Waiowaka Road Extension.—£200 has been recently authorised, and plans are being prepared for further construction.

Burling's–Mecalickstone.—The following work has been done: 63½ chains of formation, 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. wide, 1 mile 4 chains widened to those widths; 1,139 cubic yards of slips cleared, 1,795 cubic yards of rock excavated, 52 ft. of tunnelling driven, 2 chains of drains cut, 21 chains of embankments formed, and five culverts (of various dimensions, and an aggregate length of 136 ft.) have been laid A large 60 ft. span truss bridge is in course of construction, for which 21,077 ft. of timber has been supplied. The tunnel mentioned above was driven to obviate the necessity of erecting a bridge near Mr. Murray's homestead, and has answered the purpose exceedingly well. Owing to the action of the weather on the papa it has been found necessary to close-timber the upper end; but the lower end, being of a more solid nature, will not require such expenditure.

Aohanga–Waiowaka.—Engineering survey will have to be undertaken before the sum of £300 lately authorised can be expended on construction.

Kuware Road.—This is a new road in the Christchurch Association Block, on which no work so far has been undertaken, but a contract will shortly be let for felling and clearing a section of the bush.

Puketoi Road (Christchurch Association).—The operations for the year comprise engineering survey, 64 chains; bushfelling and clearing, 41½ chains; formation 6 ft. wide, 53 chains; slips cleared, 80 cubic yards; and 5 chains of embankments formed. Ten culverts, of various dimensions, and a total length of 140 ft., have been laid. This horse-road, passing through both flat and broken country, is felled and cleared for about 2 miles 37 chains, and is open for horse traffic over the formation of 53 chains.

Utewai Road (Christchurch Association).—The only work done during the year has been the removal of 262 cubic yards of slips to keep the road open. This road passes through flat country, swampy in places, for a distance of four miles and a quarter, two miles of which is formed 16 ft. wide and open for wheel traffic, the remaining two miles and a quarter being a 6 ft. horse-road. The culverts, being chiefly pipes, are in good order, as also are the four bridges. The road itself, however, is in a very bad state of repair. The completion of this road right through for dray traffic would be of great benefit to the surrounding settlers, materially shortening the distance to Makuri.

Christchurch Farm-homestead Association.—Instructions have been given to devote the sum of £446 14s. 7d. recently authorised to constructive works on this block.

Smith's Foot-bridge (Totara Reserve).—The work reported last year as being in progress, and for which the Wairarapa North County Council received a grant of £100, is now completed. It consists of a foot suspension bridge, 2 ft. 6 in. wide, of a clear span of 140 ft., across the Tiraumea River. The whole of the timber used is totara. It will be of great benefit, by giving access to the Totara Reserve.

Alfredton–Tenui Road (Contribution).—The sum of £180 was authorised for expenditure on this road, but was subsequently transferred as a contribution to the Wairarapa North County Council, who have not yet commenced operations.

Makairo Road.—This road runs through flat, hilly, and undulating country, and consists of four miles and a half of dray-road, eight miles of 6 ft. horse-road, and about 40 chains at present unformed, of which 12 chains remain to be cleared. The road is in good repair, and the culverts and two bridges are in a satisfactory condition. The following is the work recorded for the year: Road graded and pegged, 1 mile 19 chains; widening to 16 ft., 7 chains; metalling (19 cubic yards to the chain), 23 chains; slips cleared, 2,038 cubic yards; and rock excavated, 395 cubic yards.

Makairo–Kumeroa Road.—This road, on which work was commenced last year and an engineering survey was completed, passes through both level and hilly country, and is constructed as a dray-road from 14 ft. to 18 ft. wide for a distance of a mile and a half, three miles as a horse-road, and for another mile the bush is felled but not yet cleared. The culverts are in very good repair. The following is the annual record of work: Scrubfelling and clearing, 40 chains; formation, 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. wide, upwards of one mile; stumping, 67 chains; rock excavated, 404 cubic yards; drains cut, 1 mile 15¼ chains; slips cleared, 72 cubic yards; embankments formed, 10 chains; and six culverts, 152 ft. long, have been laid.

Waewaepa Road.—The condition on which the sum of £100 was authorised to be spent on this road—viz., that the adjacent settlers should give an equivalent in labour—not having been complied with, no work has been undertaken.

Thompson's Road.—Last year I reported an engineering survey of 52 chains. Of this, 51 chains has now been formed to 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. wide, after being stumped. The other work has been the erection of a 29 ft. single-span truss bridge; the insertion of eight culverts, 235 ft. in length; rock excavated, 210 cubic yards; drains cut, 45¾ chains; and embankments formed, 10 chains. The road passes through low-lying swampy country, and consists of two miles of dray-road, the culverts and bridges being in good condition.

Malton Block.—Last year I reported upwards of three miles of road-lines cleared, on which the following further work has been done on the Woodville–Ashhurst line through the block: 1 mile 35 chains formed to a width of 6 ft.; 30 cubic yards of slips cleared; 91 cubic yards of rock excavated; 2 chains of drains cut; and eighteen culverts (214 ft. in length) inserted. As further funds have been authorised for expenditure on construction-works in this block, the formation of two by-roads cleared last year will immediately be undertaken.

Central Road, Hall Special Settlement.—The funds authorised for expenditure in this block having been exhausted, no work beyond the laying-down of 2 chains of corduroy has been done. This road runs for a mile and a half through hilly country, covered with bush and dense undergrowth. A new authority having, however, been issued, two formation contracts have recently been let.

Cross Road, Hall Special Settlement.—Scrubfelling for 44 chains, and 41 chains of 6 ft. formation, in the course of which 2,860 cubic yards were excavated and three 12 in. by 12 in. culverts (42 ft. long) were laid, is the record of work done on this road. It is 6 ft. wide throughout, and has been in a very bad state of repair, owing to the exhaustion of funds. Further authority for expenditure having recently been issued, two contracts for 6 ft. formation have been let.

Fitzherbert Bridge, Palmerston North.—Last year I had to report on the serious damage done to this bridge by the Easter floods of 1897, and the repairs—with the approximate cost—which it would be necessary to make. This work has now been completed, at a cost of about £5,510, towards which amount the Government has contributed £2,000 by way of grant. This work is of very great importance, for on the stability of this bridge the Borough of Palmerston North is dependent for its water-supply, as the aqueduct from the reservoir is supported on the joists. I am informed that the bridge was erected upwards of twenty-two years ago, and, as portions are already showing symptoms of decay, the local authorities will undoubtedly have to face the renewal of the older portion in the early future. When this becomes necessary, I would suggest the raising of the bridge some 5 ft. or 6 ft. on cylindrical piers, and the construction of 120 ft. spans in the place of the present 85 ft. By adopting these measures the trusses would be secure from floods, and the extended width of the spans would prevent all chances of timber jamming between the piers. The work, which has been very satisfactorily carried out under the supervision of the engineer to the Palmerston North Borough Council, consists of the sinking of eight cylinders 56 ft. in length and 4 ft. 6 in. in diameter, forming four piers; one ironbark pier has been driven, and the remaining five piers materially strengthened. The approaches have been made good, and secured by sheet piles where necessary; and the decking of the bridge has been renewed throughout.

Ballance–Manawatu Gorge Road.—This road passes through both gorgy and flat country, and consists of 1 mile 48 chains of 6 ft. horse-road, the remaining 2 miles 23 chains being felled and cleared. At the Ballance end the road is in very good repair, but the gorge end is bad. The work for the year has been: Bushfelling and clearing, 3 chains; scrubfelling and clearing, 10 chains; formation 6 ft. wide, 15 chains; slips cleared, 98 cubic yards; rock excavated, 408 cubic yards; and three 12 in. by 12 in. culverts, 37 ft. long, have been laid.

Pahiatua–Palmerston Road.—This road, passing through both hilly and flat country, for six miles is 8 ft., and the remaining distance 10 ft., in width. The only work done has been the grading of 6 miles 72 chains of the road-line. A sum of £800 has been voted for widening this road for vehicular traffic, which work will be prosecuted as far as that amount will admit. It is at present in bad order, owing chiefly to the large sheep and cattle traffic over it, to which special attention was directed by me in my report of 1895-96. Of the two bridges, it has been necessary to replace one by a new structure. Besides this work, the cost of which was defrayed out of authorised expenditure, the Pahiatua County Council has received a grant of £80, which has been devoted to the erection of a plain beam bridge of two spans 47 ft. in length, with a 14 ft. roadway. This bridge is at present in good condition, and suitable for heavy traffic.

Makuri Township Roads.—There are about two miles of dray-roads in this township which are in very good repair, but the river-fords require some attention. A few necessary metalling repairs have been done to the main road, two culverts shifted, and 26 chains of fencing erected to enclose a number of township sections for use as a Government paddock.

Woodville–Aohanga Road.—This road passes through hilly country, and consists of four miles of dray-road, five miles and a quarter of horse-road, and 60 chains of bush felled and cleared. The culverts are in good repair, and three traffic bridges and three horse-bridges are also in good order. A contract is in course of preparation for forming the 60 chains cleared, and another contract has been let for supplying timber for the Waitakotora Bridge, the first instalment of which is expected shortly. The following is the annual record of work done: 26 chains of bushfelling and clearing, 146½ chains of logging, 2 miles 27 chains of 6 ft. formation, 22 culverts (326 ft. in length), 1,768 cubic yards of slips cleared, 1,042 cubic yards of rock excavated, 1¾ chains of corduroy laid, and 2 chains of embankments formed.

Ngaturi–Aohanga.—£350 having been recently authorised for expenditure on this road, the work of formation will be proceeded with as soon as the engineering survey is complete.

Toritea–Makuri Road.—Maintenance of 17 miles 50 chains has been the work of the year, and has involved the execution of the following details: 13 timbered culverts have been replaced by 318 ft. of pipes; metalling repairs, at 10 cubic yards to the chain, have been effected for 25 chains; 1,219 cubic yards of slips cleared, 257 cubic yards of rock excavated, and 7 chains of drains have been cleaned out. Before the winter sets in it will be necessary to incur some expenditure for maintenance metal.

Kaitawa Ridge Road.—Bushfelling 1 mile 1 chain, formation 1 mile 2½ chains (incurring the insertion of nine culverts, of an aggregate length of 90 ft.), and maintenance of five miles and a half of this road is the recorded work for the year. 1,338 cubic yards of slips have been cleared, and 157 cubic yards of rock excavated. The road passes through hilly country, and is formed 6 ft. wide for 4 miles 20 chains, the remaining 1 mile 20 chains being available for wheel traffic. All culverts and the horse-road are in good repair, but the mile and a quarter of dray-road is at present in a bad state. The department is in no way responsible for this condition of things, as hitherto the road has been under the control of the local body. As fresh expenditure has recently been authorised the road will immediately be repaired and the formation extended.

Tiraumea Valley Road.—This road, passing through level and undulating country, has been constructed for vehicular traffic for a distance of ten miles—six miles of which has been grassed this year. Of the seven bridges five are in good repair, one is very doubtful, and one is in a positively bad condition, being unfit to carry more than 1 ton. Instructions have, however, been issued for immediate repairs. No work of construction has been done on the road. In September last some surfacing was done, and 772 cubic yards of slips cleared, but owing to scarcity of funds a thorough state of repair could not be effected. A contract was let to supply timber for the Rotoponga Bridge,

but through the dilatoriness of the contractors the work of construction has only lately been commenced.

Tiraumea River Road, Pa Valley.—This road is formed 6 ft. wide through undulating country for a distance of 1 mile 72 chains, and is at present in a very bad state. This is owing to the fact that in the early part of the season no funds were available for maintenance The only work done during the year has been an engineering survey of 1 mile 14 chains. A contract to form 31 chains to connect with the Tiraumea Valley Road has been let, and the work has now commenced.

Pahiatua Railway-station (Repairs, £1 for £1).—A sum of £200 was granted to the Pahiatua County Council, £1 for £1, for the purpose of effecting repairs and improvements to the Station Road and bridge at Pahiatua. After being graded and cleared the road has been widened from 14 ft. to 33 ft. for 66 chains, four culverts have been laid, and 50 chains of drains cut. The bridge over the Mangatainoka River consists of seven 70 ft. truss spans, and has been sheathed with light planking to preserve the original decking from wear. When these improvements are completed a good substantial road will connect the Township of Pahiatua with the railway-station, over which considerable traffic now passes in feeding the railway.

Bridge Road to Makakahi.—10 chains of metalling, 24 cubic yards to the chain; embankments, 3 chains; fascining, 10 chains; and maintenance of 1 mile 10 chains, are the details of the work done. Besides this, three single-span plain bridges have been erected, 10 ft., 28 ft., and 30 ft. respectively in length; also, one single-span truss bridge, 40 ft. long, has been constructed. These bridges have absorbed upwards of 25,000 ft. of timber. This dray-road, which has been constructed 18 ft. wide through a level country for about three miles and a half, is reported to be in very good condition. The road leads from Konini Village, on the main road, to the Makakahi Railway-station.

Tutaekara–Nikau.—Engineering survey is at present being carried on, and when completed the work of construction will immediately commence.

Nikau–Omata.—A recent authority to expend £100 on construction having been issued, instructions have been given to proceed at once with the work.

McKenzie Special-settlement Block (Tutaekara Railway-station).—Authority to expend £150 has only just been received; consequently, nothing has yet been done.

Mangatainoka (Tutaekara Crossing).—Contracts for providing the timber for this bridge have been let and the iron under-chords obtained. When completed the bridge will consist of a single 120 ft. truss span, with the under-chords resting on ironbark piers.

Tutaekara Village Settlement.—On the 25th August last £75 was granted to the Pahiatua County Council for construction of Takawa Street and the road east of the main road. The roads mentioned pass through flat swampy ground, and the work done consists of the grading, clearing, and formation of 25 chains, the insertion of four culverts (96 ft. in length), and cutting 20 chains of drains. One progress-payment has been made, leaving a balance to the credit of the local body for expenditure on further work.

Hukanui-Masterton Special Settlement (Road through Native K2 Block).—This road passes through level country, densely covered with heavy timber, which has been felled and cleared for 1 mile 54½ chains. 1 mile 15 chains has been graded and pegged, and two formation contracts were prepared and let as soon as funds were available. This road will ultimately be of great service to the settlers.

Mangatainoka River (Newman–Stirling).—In January last £200 was authorised for expenditure, but no work has yet been undertaken. Plans, however, are to be prepared as soon as the sections are taken.

Hukanui–Kakariki Road (leading to Kakariki Special Settlement).—The following work has been done on this road during the year: Scrub felled and cleared, 78 chains; formation, 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. wide, 78 chains; six culverts, of a total length of 168 ft.; 70 chains of embankments formed, 153 chains of drains cut, and 1 chain metalled at 20 cubic yards to the chain. A metalling contract has been let, which will be accounted for during the next financial period. This dray-road has been formed through level cleared country for about three miles and a half, and is in a very good state of repair.

Waiwera Roads.—In December last £240 was authorised to be expended on construction of roads in the Waiwera Block, but nothing has yet been done pending the completion of the engineering survey.

Mangatainoka River (Hamua).—£300 was recently authorised to be expended on the construction of this bridge, and plans will be prepared as soon as the sections are taken.

Newman–Stirling Road.—The £300 granted to the Eketahuna Road Board in March, 1898, has been satisfactorily expended by laying 1,602 cubic yards of metal on those parts of the road where most urgently needed, and other general repairs made.

West Road (Kakariki Special Settlement).—The only work done during the year has been felling and clearing 55 chains of the road-line. The road lies through undulating and swampy country, and is so wet as to be unfit for traffic during the winter months. As, however, funds have been authorised for expenditure, it is intended to have the road graded and culverts laid to release the swamp and flood-water.

Mangaone Road (Norling's), Tiraumea North.—25 chains of metalling has been done on this road by the Eketahuna Road Board, being the completion of work commenced during the last financial year. This has exhausted the sum of £200 granted to that local body on the 16th January, 1897.

Bowen's, Hastwell.—£150 has been authorised to be expended on this, and the work of construction will commence immediately upon the completion of the engineering survey.

Tawatahia Road.—£250 having been authorised for expenditure on this road, an effort was made to start the work; but it was found to be too late in the season to commence operations.

Eketahuna–Alfredton Road.—The grant of £50 to the Wairarapa North County Council has

now been expended on metalling repairs to this road between the Tawatahia and Mount Baker Road junctions. A further sum of £50 appears on the appropriations, for which an authority will probably be shortly issued.

Flat Bush.—Authority to proceed with this work having very lately been given, no action has as yet been taken.

Barton's Road.—In my last report I had to record a considerable amount of work as having been done. Since then only 8 chains of dray-road has been formed, and the 24 ft. span bridge completed, for which 5,890 ft. of timber has been supplied. This road connects Mangamahoe and district with Alfredton and Tiraumea, and is formed for dray traffic for a distance of 1 mile 4 chains; the remaining 3 miles 15 chains being horse-roads of such grades as to admit of future widening. It passes through felled-bush country excepting for a short distance, where the standing bush keeps the road continually wet; elsewhere it is in very fair order, and the culverts in substantial condition.

Lang's Section, Wairere (Dagg's Road), £1 for £1.—A sum of £250 has been granted (£1 for £1) for expenditure by the Upper Taueru Road Board, which local authority has been requested to submit plans and specifications for the approval of the department.

Mount Baker (Tawataia Tollgate), Mangamahoe.—A recent authorisation of £200 having been made, instructions have been issued to at once proceed with the engineering survey.

Mangatainoka Valley Road.—A sum of £200 was granted to the Eketahuna Road Board, which has been expended by that body on this road. Besides this the department, out of an authorised expenditure of £300, has done the following works: 2 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 23 chains of bush felled and cleared, 21½ chains formed 14 ft. wide, 23 chains metalled, one single-span bridge (24 ft. long) erected, eleven culverts (of an aggregate length of 181 ft.) laid, 10 cubic yards of slips cleared, 151 cubic yards of rock excavated, and 5 chains of drains cut. This road now only requires another 20 chains of formation to complete its full length. As far as it is formed it is in good order, but requires bridging and culverting in several places, which cannot be done until further expenditure is authorised, which work will now be undertaken, and £100 (recently authorised) expended.

Parkville–Mangatainoka Road.—The £250 authorised for expenditure on this road has been increased by £150, all of which is at present available. The reason for operations being delayed is the inability of the local body to perfect arrangements with some of the settlers for taking the road through their holdings.

Kakaamu.—The work of construction, for which the sum of £200 has recently been authorised, will be carried out by the Masterton Road Board, subject to the supervision of the department.

Bideford Road, via Mangapeka (£1 for £1).—A sum of £200 has been granted for expenditure by the Castlepoint Road Board on the basis of £1 for £1. Plans and specifications of the work have been approved by the department, and the work will be shortly started.

Mount Holdsworth Tracks.—Out of £300 authorised for expenditure, £150 was transferred by grant to the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board to defray the cost of erecting a bridge across the Mangatarere Stream, in the place of the one destroyed by a bush-fire some time ago. The new structure just completed is a truss bridge of a single span of 75 ft., to support which it has been necessary to put in two concrete abutments. A further sum of £83 18s. 5d. has been expended in metalling, a contract for completing one mile being nearly finished. The remaining £150 was subsequently transferred and still remains to the credit of the local body to be spent on these tracks.

Ruamahanga Bridge (£1 for £1), Masterton–Gladstone Road.—This is a new bridge over the Ruamahanga River, about five miles from Masterton, on the Masterton–East Coast Road, which is the main connection between the East Coast district and the Town of Masterton and Wairarapa Valley. It is a substantial structure of three main Howe trussed spans of 81 ft. centres, with approach spans at each end of 40 ft. trussed and 18 ft. beam bridges. The contract for construction was let on the 22nd December, 1897, and the work was completed on the 21st February last, at a cost of £1,940, towards which a sum of £500 was granted on the basis of £1 for £1. The operations were carried on under the direction of the engineer to the Masterton Road Board, and have been satisfactorily completed.

Makakahi Road (Kaiparoro Block).—The following work has been done on this road during the year: 5 chains graded and pegged, 1 mile 10 chains of bush and 10½ chains of scrub felled and cleared, 22½ chains of road formed 6 ft. wide, three culverts (78 ft. long) laid, and 5 chains of embankments formed. This road is very serviceable to settlers up the Makakahi Valley, up which it extends as a dray-road for 30 chains, and is available for pack-horse traffic for a further four miles.

Te Mara Roads.—£400 stands to credit for expenditure on the roads in this block, and the necessary works will shortly commence.

Tenui Valley Road.—A sum of £200 has recently been authorised to be expended on this road, and constructive works will commence immediately upon completion of the engineering survey.

Tenui Bridge and Road, Taueru Bridge.—On the 10th February last a contract was let by the Wairarapa North County Council for the construction of a bridge to replace a worn-out structure over the Tenui River about three miles and a half east of the Tenui Township. The full amount of contract is £886 7s., towards which the Government contributes £300, none of which has yet been advanced. The bridge is situated on the main Masterton–Waimata Road, which connects the East Coast runs with the Wairarapa Valley. The length over all is 149 ft., and consists of one beam span of 29 ft. and two truss spans—one 81 ft. and the other 39 ft. The bridge is constructed of totara superstructure with Howe trusses on single Australian ironbark piles, with totara abutments and wing-walls. Six chains of approaches have been formed 16 ft. wide, and metalled to a depth of 9 in. by 12 ft. in width. The whole work is expected to be completed by the end of July next.

Uruti–Castlepoint Road.—The Wairarapa North County Council last year expended £100 of a Government grant on this road between Blairlogie Homestead, on the East Coast Road, and the junction of the Tenui loop-line, at Birkett's. Since then £100 has been authorised for expenditure by the department, and works will commence on the completion of the engineering survey.

Wingate, or Castle Hill, Road.—In March, 1897, the sum of £180 was granted to the Wairarapa North County Council for expenditure on this road, for which a very considerable amount of work was reported by me last year. Since then—in January last—a further sum of £200 was granted to the same local body, which amount still stands to its credit for expenditure.

Alfredton–Tenui Road (Contribution).—The Wairarapa North County Council was recently granted a contribution of £180 for construction, and that local authority has been requested to forward plans and specifications for the approval of the department.

Mikumiku Bridge.—This bridge was described in my last report as being under construction by the Masterton Road Board. It was satisfactorily completed on the 30th January last, at a total cost of £643. It has been built over the Waipoua River to replace the bridge burnt by the bush-fires two years ago. It is situate about ten miles north of the Town of Masterton, on the Mikumiku Road, which connects the pastoral district in the Mikumiku Valley with the Upper Opaki district road system. It consists of two trussed spans of 72 ft. and 46 ft. respectively, on concrete centre pier, with abutments and wing-walls of the same material. The sum of £500 was originally authorised for expenditure by the department, but in August, 1897, it was transferred to the control of the local body.

Mangatariri Road (Kaitangata Block).—The activity exhibited on this road last year has been in a great measure continued, comprising a mile and a quarter of road graded and pegged, 1 mile 18 chains of bush felled and cleared, 55½ chains of 6 ft. horse-road formation, 32 chains widened to 12 ft., nine small bridges (of a total length of 111 ft.) erected, ten culverts (130 ft. in length) laid, 451 cubic yards of slips removed, 7½ chains of drains cut, and a mile and a half of road sown with grass-seed. This road, which crosses the Kaitangata Block in the direction of Mount Holdsworth, is available for horse traffic for five miles, and 70 chains of it is being widened for dray traffic. The work is progressing favourably, and I expect by the time the authorised funds are exhausted to have a mile and a half opened for wheels. It will be a good road, but costly to construct, owing to the very hard nature of the bluestone rock through which a great part of it has to be cut.

Waingawa–Te Mara (Kaitangata Block).—This road is at present in very indifferent condition, and cannot be made available for dray traffic until a suitable bridge has been thrown across the Waingawa River. The only work of importance undertaken has been the erection of a strong wire suspension-bridge, 132 ft. in length, which was completed in April of last year. This bridge is of material service to the settlers on the Mara and Kaitangata Blocks, as providing them with a ready means of egress.

Waiohine Road (Kaitangata Block).—The record of work for the year is 48 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 53 chains of bush felled and cleared, 39 chains of formation 6 ft. wide, four culverts (44 ft. in length) laid, 176 cubic yards of slips removed, 1,921 cubic yards of rock excavated, and 25 chains of road-line laid down in grass. A further authorisation of £100 having recently been issued, the work on this road will be continued.

Dalefield Road (Kaitangata Block).—The only work undertaken has been the formation of 9 chains of dray-road 14 ft. in width, which was completed during the autumn of last year.

Tauweru Bridge (Masterton–East Coast Road).—In March of last year a grant of £300 was issued to the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board to be expended, £1 for £1, on the construction of this bridge, and a further sum of £300 has recently been granted to the same local body. Acting on instructions, I inspected the river and arranged the site of the bridge; but no work has yet been done, and consequently no payment yet made, as the Masterton residents have not yet fulfilled their promise to guarantee the sum of £300 towards the cost of erection.

Kaiwhata Valley.—In January of last year £437 was granted to the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board for the purpose of constructing a dray-road from Wharau to the Kaiwhata River. The whole amount has been spent on the following works: Two miles of road-line graded and pegged, one mile formed 14 ft. wide, and 640 cubic yards of slips removed. The maintenance extends over three miles, and passes through undulating hills originally covered with scrub, which was cleared when the original track was formed. The Karaka Bay end of this road has been kept open for bullock-dray traffic only; the remainder, which was formed out of accrued "thirds," was subsequently improved out of the above-mentioned grant. A further sum of £300 has been authorised for expenditure by the department on the continuation of this road, and plans are now being prepared for the immediate prosecution of the work.

Hurunui-o-rangi Bridge.—On the 2nd February of last year the sum of £1,600 was granted to the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board, to be expended, £1 for £1, on repairs and improvements to this bridge. Of this sum advances have been made to the local body on the satisfactory progress of the work. The bridge is 568 ft. in length, and the operations of the year include raising the old structure (four truss spans of 74 ft. each) 6 ft., and constructing two new spans of 111 ft. each, with ironbark trusses and piers, to replace that portion of the bridge which was carried away by the Easter floods of 1897.

Flat Point Road.—Maintenance of twenty miles, 12 ft. wide, has been the only work undertaken by the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board, who have the control and supervision of this road. The route passes through hilly and cleared bush country, and is costly to maintain, as is shown by the removal of 2,600 cubic yards of slips. The only constructive work has been the insertion of ten culverts. £300 has been recently authorised for expenditure by the department, and operations will shortly commence.

Small Grazing-run 51, Rewa Survey District.—The sum of £150 has recently been authorised to be expended, and instructions have been issued for the engineering survey to be proceeded with.

Kaiwhata, Run 49.—£200 having been authorised, the road-line is now being engineered, with a view of letting the work on the co-operative system.

Kaiwhata–Rewa Road (Kaiwhata Reserve Run, near Brancepeth).—Last year work was undertaken on this road for the purpose of providing access to the Crown runs in the Kaiwhata district, but the project has not yet been completed, 3 chains of widening and 6 chains of fencing removed being the only record for the year. The road is in very bad order, traffic being impeded owing to the want of funds.

Rocky Hill, Wainuioru.—Last year £250 was expended by the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board on this road, and recently a further sum of £50 has been granted to the same local body, but so far none of it has been spent.

Turner's, or Driscoll's, Road.—This road passes through part hilly and part swampy country, which was originally bush. During the year the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board has received £150 on account of grants voted for assisting in construction, and £170 still remains to credit for further works. The expenditure is accounted for by 32 chains of formation 18 ft. wide, 78 chains 10 ft. wide, 45 chains of widening, two culverts of a total length of 46 ft., and 20 chains of drains.

Craigie Lea–Douglas Road.—In October last £150 was granted to the Taratahi-Carterton Road Board for expenditure on this road, but so far nothing has been undertaken, owing to the negotiations for taking the necessary land not being completed. Instructions have been given to proceed with the engineering survey as soon as possible.

Range Road (Featherston Road District).—This road is situated in the Featherston Road District, to which Road Board a sum of £150 was granted in December last for the purpose of widening the existing track to an 8 ft. roadway. The route lies through low hills of blue-and-white clay, partly covered with birch. No operations have yet been undertaken, but tenders have been invited, and, when accepted, the work will at once proceed.

Wirokino Bridge, Manawatu (£1 for £1).—This bridge is intended to span the Manawatu River near Wirokino, and the sum of £1,500 has been granted to the Foxton Borough Council, on the basis of £1 for £1, for expenditure on construction. Operations are delayed pending the arrival of plans and specifications for the approval of the department.

Ohau Bridge.—As reported last year, this low-level bridge was completed, and I have since inspected and passed the work done as satisfactory. This is an experiment which, so far, has proved a success, for no flood during the year has done it any permanent injury, and after a little more experience it might be judicious to make another trial with a similar stream. The Horowhenua County Council had control of the construction, subject to the supervision of the department, for which the sum of £350 was advanced by way of grants.

Akatarawa–Waikanae Road.—Last year the Hutt County Council spent £150, granted for the purpose of opening a bridle-path between Rikiorangi and the dray-road on the Hutt side of the Akatarawa Range. A further subsidy of £100, granted in March of last year, has been expended in widening 10½ chains of this road to 12 ft. A plain bridge of a single span of 22 ft. has also been erected across a sharp bight in the cliff. The work of widening has been expensive, owing to its being heavy rock-cutting round an abrupt bluff. The whole of the work has been done satisfactorily by day-labour.

Paikakariki–Waikanae–Hadfield Road.—On the 1st March, 1898, the sum of £500 was granted to the Hutt County Council, and has been expended in the following works: 1 mile 72 chains of 18 ft. formation; one bridge 10 ft., one 14 ft., and one 18 ft. long, each with a roadway of 16 ft. in width; thirteen culverts; 42 chains of outlet and 2 miles 50 chains of side-drains have been cut. The above formation commences at Kapiti Street, Paraparaumu, and extends southward for 63 chains to Howell's Crossing; and again, commencing at the Whauroa Road, has been carried northerly for 1 mile 9 chains nearly to the 30-mile peg on the Wellington and Manawatu Railway-line. This constitutes another instalment in the construction of the main north-western road-line, which will ultimately connect the City of Wellington with Palmerston North, Foxton, and the districts beyond. There still, however, remains a gap of 2 miles 13 chains to be completed within the Hutt County boundaries.

Paikakariki–Paraparaumu Road.—A contract has been let to cut 105 chains of drains across the swamp crossed by this road-line, 75 chains of which is now completed. This drain has a large carrying capacity, being 7 ft. wide on top, 3 ft. wide at bottom, with an average depth of 2 ft. 9 in. A further contract for forming 22 chains of road and cutting 44 chains of side-drains has been let, but the work has not yet started. In December last £500 was granted to the Hutt County Council for this work, but no progress-payment has yet been applied for.

Mungaroa Valley.—£200 having been granted to the Hutt County Council in January last, work was commenced on the 1st March by day-labour, and at present 57 chains of road has been graded and pegged, about 20 chains formed 12 ft. and 14 ft. wide and five pipe culverts (of a total length of 80 ft.) inserted. The formation is all sideling cutting.

Whiteman's Valley Road.—In my last report I stated that a mile of this road was in course of construction. This work has been completed, and a subsidy of £100 (£1 for £1) has been paid over to the Hutt County Council. There still remains a distance of 57 chains to be formed to connect the Upper with the Lower Whiteman's Valley. The details of the work, which has been done by day-labour, are as follow: Formation (14 ft. wide), one mile; metalling (9 ft. wide), 5 chains; two bridges, 14 ft. and 12 ft. long respectively; and seven pipe- and three timber-culverts.

Sections 48–56, Block V., Rimutaka Survey District.—A sum of £100 has been recently authorised for construction of this road, and operations will immediately be proceeded with upon receipt of definite instructions.

Sections 236, 237, Block X., Belmont (Russell's Road).—A grant of £50 was made to the Hutt County Council towards the cost of constructing this road, which passes through Section 61, Block V., Rimutaka Survey District, and Sections 236 and 237, Block X., Belmont Survey District. A branch road has also been laid off to a subdivision of Section 236. The land required in Section 61 has been purchased, at a cost of £10, the Council having to pay all costs of transfer, and to fence the road. The formation of 40 chains 12 ft. wide has been done by day-labour, besides

which 67 chains has been graded and pegged. Three bridges (each 12 ft. wide, and 14 ft., 15 ft., and 19 ft. long respectively) have been erected, and three culverts (two of pipes and one of timber) have been laid. The cost of labour and material has been £52 16s. 6d., this amount being exclusive of the cost of survey and other incidental charges.

Moonshine Road.—48 chains of this road has been graded and pegged, and plans and specifications of formation will shortly be submitted by the Hutt County Council for the approval of this department. The amount granted to the local body for this purpose is £100.

Korokoro Settlement Roads.—£400 has been authorised to be expended on the construction of roads in this settlement, and an engineering survey of 2 miles 23 chains completed.

Ngahauranga–Horokiwi Road.—In May, 1898, the sum of £100 was granted to the Hutt County Council to be expended, on the basis of £1 for £1, on improving this road for the greater convenience of the settlers on the back portion of the Paparangi Settlement. Formerly it was a horse-road, and used only by two or three settlers, but since the establishment of close settlement it has been found to be of insufficient width for the increased traffic. It has consequently been widened to 14 ft. for the full distance of 73 chains, and metalled 9 ft. wide. The improvements have been effected by day-labour.

Paparangi Estate.—The completion of these roads has involved 10 chains of formation 16 ft. wide, 1 mile 62 chains of metalling 10 ft. wide, and 8 chains 20 ft. wide; 1,600 cubic yards of rock was excavated and utilised as road-metal. In the course of maintaining two miles of road 104 cubic yards of slips were removed. The works on this settlement being now completed, they have recently been handed over to the Hutt County Council.

A. C. Turner, Road Surveyor.

NELSON.

Clifton–Pohara Beach.—The Collingwood County Council has spent a part of the grant in forming 61 chains of dray-road, including ditching, fascining, embankment, stone culverts, &c.

Takaka Roads and Bridges.—A credit balance of £52 14s. 6d. brought forward from last year is still unexpended, but the Collingwood County Council purposes making application for that sum to be diverted, to increase the amount now available for the Motupipi Bridge, which is found to be inadequate.

Takaka–Riwaka.—The amount of £75 5s. was expended on maintenance of the main road between the two settlements.

Aniseed Valley.—There was a grant of £200 for the construction of a road round a rocky siding to avoid two rough and dangerous fords on the Roding River. 8 chains 45 links of road, 10 ft. wide, has been made, under the supervision of the department. The cutting was very heavy, being through hard rock the whole distance, and a very bad slip had first to be cleared. There is a balance of £57 16s. 3d., which should be supplemented, so that the road now unfinished and useless may be completed.

Brooklyn Valley.—This was a small grant of £50 to the Riwaka Road Board, out of which about 30 chains of bridle-track has been formed 6 ft. wide; but a large portion of the section previously constructed had to be repaired where damaged by floods.

Maitai Road.—The works on this road have been carried out by the department under the co-operative system. A dray-road 10 ft. wide, on an improved grade, has been carried for a distance of 47 chains. This, with previous year's work, has carried the dray-road 1 mile 20 chains from where the bridle-track joined the old dray-road.

Motueka–Waiwhero.—The sum of £73 18s. 11d. was diverted from actual roadwork and expended by the Motueka Road Board in purchase of a necessary deviation of the road through private property.

Neudorf–Dovedale.—This grant of £50 to the Road Board will be spent partly in new works, the remainder in maintenance.

Rawson's Creek Road.—The Riwaka Road Board has spent £25 7s. to date in forming a bridle-track, and the work with the balance of the grant has been completed, and is ready for final inspection.

Riwaka Valley.—The Road Board has re-formed 35 chains of this road 14 ft. wide, which had been carried away by slips, and 75 chains have been metalled.

School Hill, Ngatimoti.—The Waimea County Council has called for tenders for this work on three occasions, but, as none of the tenders received were considered eligible, it is proposed to again call for fresh ones.

Wairoa Gorge.—This vote has been expended by the local body in forming 30 chains of dray-road, in extension of that already made.

Wakefield–Stanley Brook.—This grant to the Waimea County Council has been expended in the formation of 95 chains of road, repairing portion of road previously constructed, and metalling 23¾ chains of the new road.

Wangamoa.—The Suburban North Road Board has received an advance of £85 15s. 11d. on works on hand, which consist of one mile and a half of formation, varying in width from 10 ft. to 14 ft.

Takaka River Protective Works.—The river, at a point a short distance above the township, has for some years past been making serious encroachments, and protective works were imperative, so as to save the township and the adjacent farms. Had it not been stopped the probability is that it would have completely changed its course and devastated the farms in the low part of the Motupipi Valley. Three groins were erected at intervals, 27 chains of strong embankment made up, and 16 chains of fascines facing constructed. Channels were cut to direct the river into a straighter course, and divert it from the points encroached upon. There have been several exceptionally heavy

floods in the Takaka River since these works were completed in August last, and from reports they are proving very successful.

Motueka River Protective Works.—Very costly and extensive works have been done through a long series of years by private enterprise, which have prevented the river leaving its natural course and forcing its way through the fertile cultivated flats. Additional work was found necessary to strengthen a weak part and continue the embankment. £200 was voted for this purpose, in addition to the £100 spent last year, £85 of which has been paid on account of works in hand.

Purchase of Land for Roads.—Land for roads through properties acquired in the early days, which blocked access to the land behind, has been purchased in three instances this year, at a total cost of £100 12s. 6d.

Belgrove–Westport–Reefton.—This grant of £300 to the Waimea County Council has been spent in general repairs and metalling the portion of the main coach-road through the country.

Wangapeka–Wanganui.—The work this year has extended the horse-track another three miles through rugged forest country in the direction of the West Coast, and it is now within three miles of the saddle on the divide between the waters flowing eastward into Tasman Bay and those going westward to the coast between Mokihinui and Karamea. A considerable length of the track made this year had to be blasted out of the solid rock, which made it very costly. Mr. Brough, the overseer, is to be commended for the manner in which he has conducted this difficult and at times dangerous work for three seasons past without accident. The Little Wanganui takes its source close to the saddle, and it is intended to continue the bridle-road down its valley to the sea, a distance estimated at from fourteen to fifteen miles. A surveyor will be sent early in the summer to explore and grade a road-line to the coast, and make an estimate of the probable cost of forming the part that remains yet to be done.

THOMAS HUMPHRIES, Chief Surveyor.

MAIN ROADS.

Belgrove–Tophouse–Tarndale.—The work which was begun in the previous financial year was continued for a short time in this financial year, and the two protective banks—one in the Buller River itself, to protect the road round the slips; and the other to divert Speargrass Creek, and thus reduce the pressure on the protective bank in the Buller River—have been completed, and the road has been made on the river-bed, instead of passing through the slip, as it used to do.

Belgrove–Westport–Reefton Road.—This road has been well maintained during the year. Many bridges have been repaired or renewed, and the approaches have been improved. The principal are: The Nine-mile Bridge; the Coal Creek Bridge; the Overflow Bridge; the small bridge at Lamplough's; the West Creek Foot-bridge; the new bridge near coal-mine (Junkers); the crib-logging at Walker's Creek; two new bridges—one at Black-sand Creek and the other close by; a new span of 55 ft., trussed, with one new pier, at Larry's Creek, and approach at south end, and protective works higher up the river; small new foot-bridge over stream at Larry's; bridge and approaches at Bell's Creek, north of Larry's Creek; and track for foot-passengers at Keily's overflow, near Westport. In several places the old crib-logging has given way, and some of the old log-culverts have broken down. Where possible the road has been widened by cutting further into the hill, instead of rebuilding the crib-logging. This has been done at Cascade Point and near Batty's Creek, and also at the Inangahua Junction. The Matiri Hill slip has required a good deal of attention the whole year. The road-deviation at Berlin's has been completed, and it was needed almost as soon as it was finished. Gravelling and metalling have been done in places.

Slips Road.—Authority for work on this road was recently issued to me, but nothing has yet been done.

Clarke River Road.—This authority was issued more than a year ago, but as yet I have been unable to go up to see what is required. During the greater part of this year the Grey River has been in partial flood, and Messrs. Delaney and Gillin, both of whom are anxious to have the work done, told me that it was useless for me to attempt to go up.

Ahaura–Haupiri Road.—The sum of £200 was granted to the Grey County Council for extending this road, and about 35 chains of road have been formed and metalled, with the necessary bush-felling, ditching, and culverts.

Flood-damage, Grey County.—Repairing bridges on main road between Reefton and Greymouth. The sum of £500 was granted to the Grey County Council for repairs to these bridges, and the work is now nearly completed. Three out of four bridges are completed, and I have certified for £365 17s. 9d. on account of work done.

Bridge, Landing Creek.—This bridge and the approaches were tendered for, and the tender of Mr. James Reynolds, of Hokitika, was accepted, the amount being £247 10s. An alteration was afterwards made which involved an extra of £24 9s., making the total amount £271 19s. The bridge is 90 ft. long. The work has been satisfactorily completed, and the public appreciate the improvement.

Bridge, Walker's Creek.—A contract was let to Mr. James Dixon, of Reefton, to build this bridge and approaches for £181 14s. 8d. The contract has been satisfactorily completed, and the bridge is in use. The bridge is 60 ft. long.

Improving Ford or Bridge, Granity Creek.—Nothing has been done here except in the way of ordinary maintenance.

Bridge, Dee Creek.—Nothing has been done since the plan and section were prepared.

Mangles Bridge.—The contract for this bridge and approaches was let to Messrs. McKechnie and Fleming, of Dunedin, for £2,965 18s., for everything except the suspension-cable, which was supplied to them. In August last the contractors began to sink the anchor-shafts and drive the tunnel, but slow progress has been made. There has been great difficulty in getting the ironbark timber, and it is not all delivered yet. The New Zealand timber is cut, and most of the ironwork

is prepared, but not delivered at the bridge-site. The concrete is being put in for the piers, to support the trestles over which the cables are to pass.

Bridge, Glenroy–Matakitaki Gorge.—Authority for £300 for this work was recently issued to me, but nothing has yet been done.

Ahauru–Haupiri Road.—An authority for £400 for the continuation of this road has recently been issued to me, but no work is yet done.

FREDERICK WITHER, Road Surveyor.

MARLBOROUGH.

Arapawa–Te Awaiti.—For the year ending the 31st March, 3 miles 52 chains 66 links of bridle-track have been formed.

Anakoa–Manaroa.—This is a continuation of Manaroa–Okoha track, and is now passable to Mr. Redwood's homestead, at head of Anakoa Bay. The total length of track formed for the year is 3 miles 19 chains 50 links.

Beatrix Bay–Kenny's Isle.—During the year 3 miles 77 chains of track has been formed from junction of Manaroa–Okoha track, leading to Piripaua Neck cutting, which eventually will connect with Captain Harris's, at Ketu Bay.

Crail Bay–Homewood.—1 mile 40 chains of track has been formed. Fresh contracts are now being let.

Crail Bay Track.—2 miles 70 chains of track has been formed under this heading.

Harvey's Bay–Pelorus Sound.—This is a track starting in Harvey's Bay going to Opouri Saddle to connect on with the Rai Valley–Opouri track. Length of track formed, 2 miles 75 chains 50 links.

Hakahaka–Opihi.—The work done during the year under this heading is a connection of line of track between White's Bay and Port Underwood. Length of track formed, 2 miles 66 chains.

Kenepuru–Anakoa.—2 miles 54 chains 50 links of track has been formed from the head of Kenepuru, going up Kenepuru Valley, passing over Kenepuru Saddle, and giving settlers access to Endeavour Inlet.

Kenepuru Sound.—During the year 1 mile 41 chains 75 links of horse-track has been constructed in Kenepuru Sound to connect on to tracks already formed. In addition to formation, a horse-bridge has been erected; length, 46 ft.

Manaroa–Hopai.—The only work done on this track for the year was a little repairing.

Manaroa–Okoha.—6 miles 26 chains 75 links of track has keen formed, which connects Okoha Bay on to Manaroa, and will eventually connect Titirangi to Manaroa.

Ohinetaha–Te Mehia.—During the year 8 chains of bridle-track has been made, thus giving a connection to the portions formed; also, four miles of track has been maintained.

Piripaua Neck.—This neck connects Kenny's Isle to the mainland. It is a razor-backed ridge, 80 ft. high, and 145 ft. wide from high water to high water. Boats have been hauled over this ridge on several occasions, as the difference between going across the neck and going round Kenny's Isle is no less than seventeen miles. It has lately been lowered by an open cutting for 40 ft., and another contract has been let to lower the cutting 30 ft. more, which will then be only 10 ft. above high-water mark. This will be a great convenience, as when some rough skids are laid down it will be an easy matter to haul boats through.

Robin Hood Bay–Ocean Bay.—The track from Robin Hood Bay to Ocean Bay has been formed; length, 5 miles 4 chains 50 links. This will enable settlers to ride from Picton to Blenheim, *viâ* Port Underwood.

Te Mehia Bay–Portage Bay.—During the year 6 miles 32½ chains of track has been formed. Other work has been done as follows: Repairing 527 chains of track, removing slips on three miles of track, and making five gates. This is a portion of the main track, Mahakipawa to Kenepuru.

Torea Neck.—Work done on this track during the year has been general repairs and removal of slips. This track leads from Queen Charlotte Sound to Kenepuru Sound, *viâ* Torea Neck.

Tracks, Queen Charlotte Sound.—No work has been done on these tracks during the year beyond providing material for gates.

Tory Heads–Whatamonga–Picton.—9 miles 44½ chains of track has been formed during the year on the east and west shores of Onapua and Opua Bays, Tory Channel; also, providing gates and tools.

Whatamonga–Port Underwood Track.—During the year the bridge on this track and the ford have been repaired.

White's Bay–Port Underwood.—No work has been done during the year on this track, but a contract has been let for general repairs to track.

Nydia Bay–Havelock.—Under this heading 16 chains of track has been formed during the year, which is only a small proportion of the length of line uncompleted; the new work is now in hand.

Picton–Waikawa.—This vote was expended by the Picton Road Board in erecting a foot-bridge over the creek on the road from Picton to Waikawa; length of bridge, 64 ft.; cost, £97 6s. The same local body have expended £34 in repairing 37 chains of road—Kaituna–Tua Marina Road.

Tawhiunui–Rai.—This track, of which Harvey's Bay track is a portion, will connect Brightlands and Rai Valley.

Anakiwi–Grove.—2 miles 18 chains of track has been formed, twenty-two culverts built (length of each, 5 ft. = 110 ft.), and 16 chains of track improved; also two gates erected. This track will connect Anakiwi with Grove Road.

Awatere River (Taylor–Redwood Pass).—Cutting on Awatere River Road. Work was done by Omaka Road Board out of a Government grant.

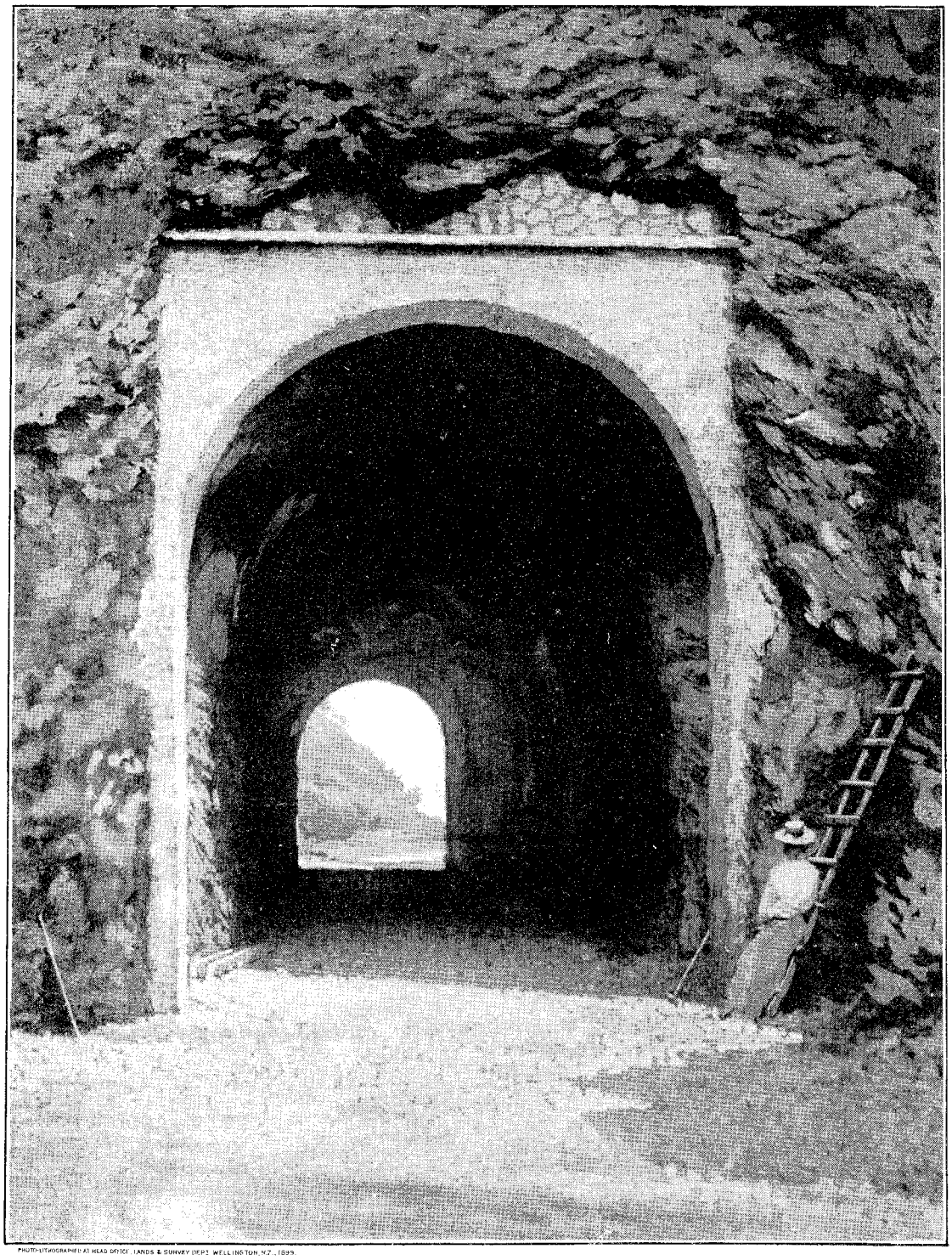


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT, WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Raramai Tunnel (South End).

Blind River Road.—During the year 75 chains of dray-road has been completed on the above work, which gives settlers access to the various sections on the Blind River Block.

Bluff Cave and Port Underwood.—This work consists of making a track to a landing at Bluff Cave, to enable the settlers to land in a boat from Ocean Bay and Robin Hood Bay. Length of track formed, 6 chains 25 links, principally rock-cutting.

Havelock–Blenheim.—Work completed under this heading represents the general repairs to Wairau traffic-bridge. The work was carried out by Spring Creek Road Board.

Picton–Queen Charlotte Sound.—This is practically the Picton–Grove Road. The only work completed under this heading was the removal of a few slips, and sundry expenses at the Picton end of the road.

Redwood Pass.—Improving Redwood Pass Road, two miles in length. The work was carried out by Omaka Road Board.

Starborough.—During the year 5 miles 5 chains 97 links of dray-road has been formed. The road-machine was used on this work, which considerably lessened the cost of construction.

Waihopai River Protection.—Waihopai River protection-works carried out by Omaka Road Board.

Blenheim–Kaikoura–Waiau.—The work performed under this heading consists in the maintenance of above road by the Awatere Road Board, Kaikoura County Council, and Amuri County Council.

Nelson–Havelock (and Bridges).—During the year a traffic bridge has been erected over Flat Creek, on main road Havelock to Nelson (Rai Valley). The length of bridge is 46 ft., and 5 chains 58 links of approach. The work has been completed, but final payment has not yet been passed for the approaches.

Havelock Mudflat Bridges.—Repairing Mudflat bridges on Road Havelock to Grove. Work carried out by Pelorus Road Board.

Omaka Bridge (Contribution).—Work carried out by Omaka Road Board. Erecting 5 chains stop-bank, Omaka River, Renwicktown.

Wakamarina and Kaituna Bridge.—Reflooring bridge, Wakamarina. Work carried out by Pelorus Road Board.

Clarence Bridge.—The vote was expended in constructing protective works to the bridge.

Drain, Wairau River–Gravel-pit.—Cutting drain, to protect road from being flooded, on road near Wairau River, towards Havelock. Length of drain, 40 chains; 9 ft. by 3 ft.

Picton–Grove Road (Mines Department).—During the year 25 chains of dray-road has been formed and one mile of bridle-track made 6 ft. in the solid; also, nine culverts have been built. When the contracts on hand at the Grove end were completed for the formation of the dray-road it was found necessary to cease making the dray-road, as the cost of the maintenance of the work by the time the road was completed to Picton would amount to a considerable sum of money. It was therefore decided that a track 6 ft. in the solid should be made to connect with work at the Picton end. This would enable us to get the connection through quickly, and the cost of maintenance of this work would be a nominal sum—in fact, as each slip came down so it would widen the track. In many places the old track has been worked into grade, and we have for the price of our 6 ft. track a 10 ft. road. I altered the line of road in parts as surveyed, as the present work entailed too large an expenditure for the present requirements. The work is progressing satisfactorily, and about two miles will be completed about the end of April, but only one mile is shown in the returns. A further grant is applied for on this road, and we hope to have the track through to join the work at Picton end before Christmas. Before any further work is done at the Grove end it will be necessary to run a few trial grades to decide upon the line. There remains to be done, so far as grading is concerned, the unexplored portions from Shakspeare Bay to Humphries Bay.

Since the New Year the road has been graded from end of work at Grove to Ngakuta Bay, and points have been fixed as far as Humphries Bay.

Omaka Estate (Land for Settlements).—Work completed on the above roads during the year consisted of repairs to road caused by flood.

Kaiaho Canal.—In 1882 a channel was cut through the Kaiaho Neck, which had the effect of saving three-quarters of a mile of land-carriage to all the settlers in the upper half of Kenepuru Sound. This channel silted up a year or so afterwards, and became useless. Seventeen years' accumulation of silt and shingle has lately been removed, and two wing walls built at each end of the canal, to prevent the silt washing in again. It is now available for boats at all states of the tide, except for an hour or so before and after low water. It requires deepening another 3 ft. or 4 ft., when it would be available for boats at all states of the tide. A sum has been placed on the estimates for this purpose.

Cheviot–Kaikoura Road.—Mr. F. S. Smith, District Surveyor, reports: The length of dray-road constructed is only 3 miles 48 chains, but a large proportion of the expenditure was incurred on work which is in an unfinished state, on the Kahautara Bluff, and cannot be returned as completed. This cost also includes the charges against maintenance of sixteen miles of road completed last year; a 46 ft. span bridge, costing, without abutments, £87 6s. 4d., and three open-tender contracts, costing, with material and supervision, £1,131 7s. 1d. The gross cost of the Raramai Tunnel is £980 7s. 11d.; but the trucks, rails, &c., are almost as good as new. The net cost of the tunnel, without supervision, is £911 0s. 6d., or about £16 5s. per lineal yard of driving through very hard rock. The length of the Raramai tunnel is 56½ lineal yards. The only other work done on roads in this district is 1 mile 22 chains up the Puhipuhi River, at a total cost of £350 18s. 5d., for open-tender works. The earnings show the usual difference between good, skilful men and men unused to the work.

The co-operative system has worked very well indeed this year; we have not had one single

instance of trouble with the men, who have worked cheerfully and well. This is in a measure due to Mr. Young's tact in managing them, and the very good class of men we have had; and I think is also in a great measure due to the fact that they have learnt by experience that we have neither the power nor desire to defraud them of their earnings. The average daily wage earned is 7·92s. This is due greatly to the small loss through bad weather, and the superior class of men we have had. Most of the work has been rock-work in dangerous positions; in some cases the men have to work on a rope on the face of a steep cliff, under which conditions only experts were able to work. The proposals for the next year are: To proceed with the Kahautara Bluff section of the Cheviot–Kaikoura Road; the construction of a road from the Waiau–Kaikoura Road at the Shearing Reserve to the Greenburn; a small deviation of the Waiau–Kaikoura Road, also at Shearing Reserve; roads in the Kaitao Block; and roads to open up the Puhipuhi Block.

C. W. ADAMS, Chief Surveyor.

WESTLAND.

Block 112, Kokatahi (Cropp's Road).—This road and bridge over Harris Creek has now been completed as far as is considered necessary. It is now in good order for traffic, and is found of great convenience to the settlers in that locality.

Cook's Valley, Karangarua.—Authority for £300 has been received, and contracts will be let shortly.

Cook's River (Upper).—The sum of £139 has been expended upon this work, in clearing, re-forming, and gravelling track. When this track on to Havelock Creek is completed a connection will be made for horse traffic between Cook Valley, Karangarua Valley, and on to Hunt's Beach.

Franz Josef Glacier.—During the year the maintenance of this track has been kept up at a small cost. The balance of authority in hand will be expended during the current year upon works in connection with huts at glacier and hot springs, with branch tracks leading thereto.

Great South Road.—This is a continuation southwards of widening to a 10 ft. metal road. The work is now progressing favourably, under charge of Mr. Purcell.

Hokitika Flat.—No work has been done during the year on this road, the authority for expenditure having only been recently received. Contracts will be let forthwith.

Hunt's Beach–Makawhio.—This track, having been very imperfectly formed at first, has got into a most dilapidated state, and a party, under charge of Mr. Ritchie, is now making the necessary repairs, after which it will be handed over to the care of the Westland County Council for its future maintenance. This track is very much used, as all goods landed at Bruce Bay have to be packed over it.

Haast–Blue River.—This expenditure was incurred in connection with an authority issued to the Westland County Council for repairs to this section of Main South Road, to which I have certified.

Haast Pass Track.—This track extends from the mouth of Haast River, at Ocean Beach, to top of pass, being a distance of forty miles. During the past twelve months the floods in the river have done a deal of damage to this track, parts of it in the lower flats having been completely washed away, which necessitated the formation of a new track altogether. At some of the bluffs on the route, especially that of the Clarke Bluff, the river undermined the old track, and to form a new one necessitated a deal of rock-blasting, which in that locality becomes expensive. The bridges and culverts were also attended to, so the track was never in better repair than it is at the present time, the amount spent being £345. I have to thank Mr. Stewart, of the Makarora, for his free services in looking after the upper portion of track from Bourke Junction to pass, which has been the means of saving long journeys to us on the Westland side. I may here state that for the safe guidance of strangers Mr. Adair has erected guide-signals wherever a man might have any difficulty in picking up the track, and no traveller need now have any fear of losing his way.

Okuru Cemetery Road.—Authority has been granted to the Westland County Council for the sum of £100, of which nothing has been spent during the year.

Paringa River Road.—The Westland County Council have this work in hand, but up to date a report on the expenditure has not been received.

Stafford–Waimea Road.—The completion of clearing and formation of this road has just been let to three co-operative parties, who are now at the work. There still remains the entire distance to be gravelled, and this, together with making good part of the original formation (which has sunk down and been otherwise destroyed by cattle), will take a sum of, say, £600 to properly finish the work. The gravel has all to be taken from the creek-bed above the upper end of the road, necessitating the laying-down of a tramway the whole distance of the road. This road when completed will be of very great service to the inhabitants of Stafford and Waimea.

Turnbull River Road.—The expenditure has been for widening and gravelling. The road is subject to flood-water from Turnbull River, and after floods gets very much scoured. It passes through a good farming country, and is of great benefit to the settlers.

Track to Fox Glacier.—This track is now completed, at a cost of £267, and travellers can ride up on horseback to within a short distance of the glacier, whereas before the construction of the track it was almost impossible to take a horse nearer than about two miles. At the termination of track an iron shelter-hut with three compartments has been erected, and, on a push, about twelve travellers could find accommodation.

Wahapo Lake–Waitangi River (Widening).—There has been expended about £300 in widening and gravelling part of the above road through the flat between north end of Lake Wahapo and the Waitangi River, but there still remains about three-quarters of a mile to be completed to river. The work was done under the control of Mr. Bell, engineer for the Westland County Council. I have inspected this work, and it is exceedingly well done.

Whitcombe Valley Track (Kokatahi).—This is a continuation of the Hokitika Valley Road, and was benched out 18 in. wide last year up to Price's Flat. The sideling for about three miles below Price's Flat has suffered very much from landslips, and nearly the whole of this work will have again to be gone over, as it is almost impossible to get along in its present state. I have now a survey party, under charge of Mr. C. E. Douglas, running road-grade from Price's Flat to pass (8 mile 40 chains), and so far as they have gone the country is most difficult and bad to get through. They have been obliged several times to return and bring up a new grade to clear bluffs or bad-standing country which I know existed between Price's Flat and Cave Camp; but from what I have seen of the place I do not anticipate any difficulty in the last four miles. After the grade is run through I intend to bring the party down to clear out and make good the 18 in. benched track, as at the present time, owing to the condition of the track, provisions are very difficult to bring up. When this is done the benching 18 in. wide will be gone on with from Price's Flat to pass, a distance of eight miles and a half. The wet weather we have had for the past six months has greatly retarded this work; and even after the rain ceased it was impossible to ford some of the larger mountain-streams for at least a couple of days. The work is, however, being pushed ahead as much as possible under the circumstances.

Woodstock–Mahinapua.—The work consisted of the filling-in of ruts and of new culverts, and the road is now finally completed. It is found to be of great service to the farming and mining community. I have handed it over to the Westland County Council.

Waitaha–Kakapotahi.—This work is held over pending completion of survey; there has been no expenditure.

Hokitika–Christchurch Road.—This road extends from Kumara Borough boundary to top of Arthur Pass, being a distance of forty-two miles; and its ordinary maintenance during the past year has in no way decreased. The extraordinary expenditure has been increased, on account of the damage done by recent floods, but more especially by those on the 30th and 31st January last, which brought down large slips, carrying away the road at different places in the Otira Gorge and above and below Kelly's Creek, along the steep sideling there. To effect the necessary repairs a considerable number of extra men had to be employed. I have also had to increase the number of maintenance-men upon the Otira sections, as the slips were too numerous for the ordinary number. The flood of January last scoured away part of the north approach to the lower gorge bridge, which dropped down about 12 in., and to secure it for the future I have had a foundation of concrete built up, which will now resist any scour. This alone will cost £120. I also contemplate building a concrete wall at the bluff beyond the upper bridge, as our timber-work at that place is continually being swept away; cost, £170. Three deviations on this road are very necessary works, which should be taken in hand so soon as funds are available. The first is at Peg-leg Creek, where the present grade is 1 in 6, the proposed grade being 1 in 13, besides doing away with a ford that gives a deal of trouble in wet weather, as it is continually getting scoured out. The second deviation is at the moraine; the present road skirts along near the top of the moraine, and the road may be carried away at any time; besides, the grade at the place is very steep, being 1 in 8, and by the proposed deviation the grade will be 1 in 14½. The third deviation is at Rangariri Flat, where the Teremakau River is encroaching very fast upon the present road, and, as matters stand now, the road is under water after a small fresh in the river. The proposed deviation will be expensive, as three parts of it is along a steep rocky sideling, which cannot be avoided. The road throughout the entire distance has been exceedingly well kept, and reflects credit on Mr. McIntosh, when the heavy traffic that has been passing along it between Jackson's Railway-station and beyond Kelly's Creek, by cartage of material for Midland Railway construction, is taken into consideration. The bridges and culverts along the road are getting worse for wear, and are very much in need of a coat of tar, which work should be taken in hand at once. It is also necessary that a roadman's cottage be erected at the bottom of Otira Gorge, which would accommodate, say, ten men, as extra hands are continually required to clear slips in the gorge and snow on the pass. At present they have only the hotel to stay at, which is not suitable for labouring-men, besides being expensive. An iron stable is also necessary for holding three horses.

Contingencies and Engineering.—The expenditure took place upon the Arawata and Jackson's Valley Road. At the crossing of Clark and Potter's Creeks one of the bridges was renewed, and, as the bridge over the other had decayed, a good ford was made, which is very suitable for all traffic on that road.

Stillwater Bridge.—Of the amount authorised to the Brunner Borough Council for construction of the above work nothing has been spent.

Hungerford's Bridge.—The sum of £350 has been expended upon repairing this bridge, the work having been done satisfactorily under the supervision of the engineer to the Westland County Council.

Little Waitaha Bridge.—This work has not been taken in hand yet.

Waitaha Bridges.—This expenditure is held over, pending survey.

Teremakau Traffic-bridge.—The repairs to this bridge are proceeding under grant to Westland County Council.

Westland Ferry-service.—On behalf of the Westland County Council, I have certified to the sum of £132 for assistance to carry on above service, which has been efficiently carried out over rivers and streams between the Mikonui River and Arawata River, a distance of 175 miles.

Flood-damages to Roads and Bridges (to Account).—An amount of £725 was expended in repairs to road through Otira Gorge, rendered necessary by flood-damage on the 30th and 31st January. £277 was also expended by the Westland County Council on repairs to roads throughout the district.

Stable, Paringa to Haast.—The erection of above stable at a point about half-way (the day's journey is forty miles) has supplied a great want, as, in case of being stuck up by flood, horses have now shelter for the night.

Blue River and Turnbull River Track.—This is portion of Main South Road, and the money has been expended in general repairs by Mr. Adair on behalf of the Westland County Council. The expenditure has principally been caused by land-slides, which take place after heavy rains on the south side of the saddle.

Mahitahi–Paringa Track.—This is a portion of the Main South Road, and was very much in need of repairs. The track passed through some three or four miles of low swampy country, and was very much subject to scour from creeks on upper side. The repairs were done under the charge of Mr. Adair, for the Westland County Council, and I certified to the sum of £290 having been expended thereon in a satisfactory manner.

Black Bridge.—A sum of money has been expended upon above bridge by the Brunner Borough Council, which I have certified to as being satisfactorily spent. There still remains a balance to credit from original vote.

Poerua Estate.—The high floods of the 30th and 31st January did a deal of damage to this road through the estate, in so far as in places the formation has been washed out by an overflow of Slatey Creek. The side-drains have also been scoured to a depth of 4 ft., and in places the road-formation has been taken away to its centre, so that now traffic is almost blocked. As the settlers are now using the road for the conveyance of timber to build residences, I should recommend the road being put in order at once, and the metalling of it proceeded with, as in wet weather it is soft for wheel traffic.

Makawhio to Mahitahi.—A balance of an old authority was expended in repairing one mile of above road.

Greenstone–Teremakau Road.—The balance on hand from last year's vote has been expended upon this road, and it is in splendid order. The settlers can now get out with their produce to market whether the river is fordable or not.

Bell Hill Road.—This road is now widened from a bridle-track to a dray-road for a distance of 1 mile 10 chains, being from Poerua Railway-station to Deep Creek. The remaining portion, from Deep Creek to opposite Crooked River Road, through the centre of Poerua Settlement, being a distance of 2 miles 30 chains, is most urgently required, as the settlers are now beginning to build up their homes, and they have to cart nearly all their timber from Poerua Railway-station.

Reefton–Hokitika–Ross Road.—During the past twelve months this 38 miles 31 chains of road has been kept in excellent order throughout, considering the wet season we have passed through. The raising of the Stafford Bridge with approaches has now been completed, and will do service for years to come. The Stafford protective works have withstood the different floods remarkably well, but they require a good deal of attention and extra labour, which has all to be charged to the general maintenance account. I have therefore asked for a separate vote for this work, which continually requires repairs on account of the quantity of tailings discharged into the creek by miners sluicing, but without those works the main road and lower part of Stafford would have been submerged at different times, and have caused a deal of damage. By the flood in January last the north approach to Arahura Bridge was swept away, and now there exists a gap of about 60 ft. between the end of the bridge and river-bank, having a depth of 25 ft. from top of decking. Since the date of the flood all traffic has been stopped by this route, and now passes over the railway-bridge, being about 30 chains further up the river. Should repairs not be effected to original traffic-bridge it will be necessary to put the deviation road in proper repair, which at present is barely 9 ft. wide, and will likewise require a 9 in. coat of gravel all over, as at present it is very bare, and in places goes down upon the formation. The Paddy's Creek culvert and embankments constructed last year have answered admirably, and have given satisfaction to all. Between Hokitika and Kanieri a deal of heavy carting of stones to harbour-works was done, which cut up the road considerably, but now the carting has ceased we have the road in fairly good order again. The bridge over the Hokitika River at Kanieri has undergone a deal of repairs, and still more are necessary, as the original beams are now beginning to decay and must be replaced by new and sound timber. The bridge over Donnelly's Creek at Ross will at once require to be strengthened, as a good many of the stringers are very much gone. About £150 is required to make this bridge safe. All the bridges and larger culverts along the whole route badly require a coat of tar for their preservation.

Karangarua Bridge Approaches.—This track has now been finished; it leads to the upper fords of the river. Formerly the lower fords and lagoon had to be crossed, and these were bad, being subject to quicksands and unsafe for horse traffic, but the completion of the track now obviates this.

New Road, Stafford to Awatuna.—20 chains of this road has been cleared and formed.

Widening Cook's River Flat Road.—A small sum was expended in general repairs to existing track.

Construction Okuru River Ford Track.—An amount was expended in sowing grass-seed along slopes of new formation.

W. G. Murray, Chief Surveyor.

CANTERBURY.

Hokitika–Christchurch Road.—The cost of maintenance and repairs on this road during the year is £2,531 12s. 11d. This is in excess of previous periods, due to the many floods which took place, one on the 1st February being an extremely severe one, causing considerable damage to the road, blocking the sideling-cuttings with large land-slips, and reducing width of same in several places in the Bealey Valley. In addition to the river scouring the road away in places, a short sideling-cutting near the 47-mile peg in the Bealey Valley had to be abandoned and the road put below it in the river-bed. During the winter the snow did not give much trouble, though a heavy fall in August blocked the road for a few days on Porter's Pass. A few men were put on to cut a road through the drift, and, being late in the season, the weather soon cleared the rest away. The

works carried out comprised chiefly removing land-slips off sideling-cuttings; repairing breaches in road, cutting ditches, drains, and shingling road in Starvation Gully; protecting approaches to fords at the Porter and Broken Rivers with log- and boulder-work; improving road down the Craigieburn, protecting same, and diverting a short length on to rock-cutting to avoid two fords; building scrub bank and groins, and strengthening two already put in at river-bed near 45-mile peg; rebuilding sideling-cutting scoured away by river near 49-mile peg, a length of 4 chains; and making new coach-road on flat at 51-mile peg. Log-cribbing has been built up in several places, three culverts renewed with log timber, and three replaced with drain-pipes. Two short spans of the Bealey Gorge Bridge have been lifted and replaced with new timber, and substantial additions and repairs made to the overseer's house, also to the roadman's house near the 7-mile peg. Along the road there have been several patches of shingling done, and the same is badly in want of more. A large amount of work in making fords and roads across the river-beds has been created by the loose shingle washed off the mountain-sides by recent rains accumulating in the creeks and river-beds, which in flood-time rolls along, causing the rivers to shift about. There is plenty of work in hand to keep the extra men going for some time yet in completing the necessary repairs; and I may here state that the usual routine work of maintenance has been duly carried out, and every care taken for the safety of the traffic on the road.

Oxford Bush Roads.—Out of the £300 voted for these works, a sum has been expended on the construction of two concrete culverts on the Main Bush Road and one each on Sladden's and Luer's Bush Roads. Respecting the balance of the vote proposed last year to be expended on the erection of a girder bridge over Gammen's Creek, the Oxford Road Board, who are carrying out the works, report that, after repeatedly calling for tenders for its construction without success, they have, with my approval, substituted a rubble and concrete arched bridge for same, and tenders have now been called for its erection.

Waipara–Cheviot Road.—Money has been expended during the year on shingling about 95 chains of the Omihi Valley portion of this road. The work was carried out by ordinary contract under the supervision of the engineer to the Waipara Road Board, who reported it extremely well executed and the road now in good condition. It is proposed to expend the balance of the vote in deviating, re-grading, and improving the road at the Omihi Saddle.

Highbank Settlement Roads.—The only expenditure was for two water-crossings and carting and spreading forty loads of shingle, executed during last year. The Ashburton County Council have been notified that a vote of £500 has been granted them for the entire completion of these roads, after which it is intended that the Mount Hutt Road Board will take over their future control. The work will consist chiefly of shingling the roads already formed.

Tengawai–Fraser's Road.—£25, as a pound-for-pound subsidy, was granted the Mackenzie County Council for this work, which was carried out in order to give Mr. Fraser better access to his Crown leasehold, and comprised the formation of 20 chains and shingling 11 chains of the road on the northern boundary of Section 20359, commencing at the eastern end of the construction completed last year.

Fairlie–Pukaki Road.—Amount voted, £400. The works carried out comprised regrading, shingling, and removing large boulders on road Pukaki to Tekapo, about 100 chains; removing boulders and shingling of 110 chains of road between Lake Tekapo and Burke's Pass, and shingling about 30 chains of road between Burke's Pass and Silverstream. The works were carried out by the Mackenzie County Council's own men under the supervision of the county engineer, the Council supplying free the necessary horses, tools, and plant. It is proposed to expend the balance of the vote in forming and shingling a portion of the Fairlie–Pukaki Road between Balmoral and Wolds Station, a length of 110 chains—a very necessary work.

Pukaki–Mount Cook Road.—The works carried out comprised 11 chains of light formation 18 ft. wide between Twin and Whale Creeks, also three stone fords and 32 chains of catchwater drain, besides which ten large rocks were taken out of the surface of the old road. Near Old Glentanner 8 chains of the 1894 cutting was widened, the batter sloped back at the sandy place, and 5 chains of it gravelled; 6 chains of the soft piece of cutting was gravelled, as were also 6 chains of the cutting north of Whale Creek, and 8 chains at the bay three miles south of Old Glentanner; at the latter place a 1 ft. by 1 ft. stone culvert was built with intake and outlet drains 2 chains long. At five miles down the lake, where there was a bad place, 9 chains of formation 18 ft. wide, two stone fords, one 1 ft. by 1 ft. stone culvert, and 5 chains of catchwater drain were made. The road has been in good order all the season. Several large floods have made the usual washouts at the creeks, and kept the surfacemen busy, but the traffic has not been stopped. The improvements suggested last year are still very much wanted—viz., new road round Lake Pukaki, repairs to old formation on lake, re-forming section near Jack's Creek, and clearing cuttings between Bush Creek and the rabbit-fence.

Mount Cook and Glaciers (Tracks).—Money has been paid over on account of these works, which were completed and fully described last year. They are now in very fair order, but will require some little attention by next year.

Clement's Road.—£250 was granted the Waimate County Council for providing access to J. R. Clement's Section 28059, and was expended as follows: On the purchase of 65 acres and 21 perches of Section 27826; forming 49½ chains of road, and fencing same 99 chains. The work was found on inspection to be satisfactorily carried out, and the Council has conveyed the land purchased to the Crown.

Nukuroa–Studholme Junction.—The work carried out comprised gravelling to a width of 12 ft. that portion of the 50-link road between the railway and Meikle's Road, a length of 40 chains, and the construction of 3 chains of flat formation, in addition to re-forming, breaking the large stones, and filling in the ruts of that portion of the said 50-link road gravelled last year.

Nukuroa (Railway-gates).—The work is being carried out by the Working Railways staff, and comprises removing two railway-gates, which were a great inconvenience to the settlers in the vicinity, and substituting cattle-stops therefor; also, fencing, &c.

Hooker Bridge.—This work was carried out and described last year. A board or two was stripped off this year by the heavy gales, and was repaired by the surfacemen at Birch Hill, and the change in temperature made it necessary to tighten up the cables a little with the union screws provided for that purpose. The Birch Hill sheep were driven over the bridge on to the Mount Cook spur, and this must be a great convenience, as the runholders, with such access, can make the most of the country, and are no longer dependent on the state of the fords for getting the sheep on and off what is an excellent summer feeding-ground.

Rocky Gully Bridge.—Amount of vote, £50, as a pound-for-pound subsidy. The bridge is for the use of stock, and will be attached to the present railway-bridge over Rocky Gully Creek. The work will be carried out by the Working Railways staff, that department charging the Mackenzie County Council the sum of £95 therefor. The usual wing-fences and approaches will be made by the Council, subject to approval of the Railway Department.

Tengawai Stock-bridge. — £80, as a pound-for-pound subsidy, was granted the Mackenzie County for this work. The bridge is attached to the existing railway-bridge over the lower Tengawai, and has a length of 154 ft., exclusive of sloping approaches 30 ft. long at each end, width 3 ft. 6 in., and was constructed by the Working Railways staff to the order of the County Council.

Selwyn Bridge.—This bridge was completed on the 4th August last, the total cost being £2,839 18s. 11d., less £100 received for the old bridge, the Government vote-in-aid being £1,500 as a pound-for-pound subsidy; out of this amount £500 has been paid over, and an application for the balance due—viz., £869 19s. 6d.—has been forwarded. The work, which was fully described last year, was carried out by contract under the supervision of the Selwyn County from plans prepared by E. Dobson, M.I.C.E.

Waimakariri-Ashley Irrigation.—Vote, £500, out of which expenditure has taken place on the following works: Rangiora district—constructing the Fernside and Rangiora Races, 10 miles 44½ chains; South Fernside branch races (partly out of vote), 13 miles 39 chains; and Peacock's–Davis's Race, four miles. Mairaki district—Hurley's–Turner's Race, 1 mile 24 chains; and Winter's–Elliot's Race, 1 mile 62 chains: in all a length of 31 miles 9½ chains. The balance of the vote is being expended on various small loop-races in the Township of Oxford, Cooper's Creek subdivision, a total length of about a mile. The bottom width of the races is 1 ft., with flat side-slopes except where the cuttings are over 18 in. in depth, when the side-slopes are 1 to 1. All depressions at gullies, &c., are crossed either by flumes or embankments, with side-banks 2½ ft. wide on top, with side-slopes of 1½ to 1. All the contracts for these races include the necessary flumes and culverts, which are of a substantial character, also fords at road-crossings, pipes, &c., and everything necessary for the efficient working of the races. In addition to the before-mentioned amount expended, £100, the balance of a previous vote of £300 was paid over on account of works in the Brown's Rock subdivision completed last year, and which were fully described at that time.

Hekeao Settlement Roads.—These works, reported as in progress last year, are now drawing to a close, and I expect shortly to be notified of their completion, when all the roads within the settlement, a length of 540 chains, will have been formed and metalled. In addition to these road-works, 305½ chains of fencing, enclosing the plantation reserves within the settlement recently planted by the Ashburton County, have been erected at a cost of £172 10s., the Government paying £105 towards same; also deviating and constructing a water-race to give Sections 23, 31, 32, 33, and 34 a water-supply, at a cost of £17 2s. 8d.

Albury Settlement Roads.—Contracts are in progress for the completion of these works, which will absorb the amount available—viz., £365 (Land for Settlements Account). The works comprise forming to a width of 18 ft. the road between Sections 44 and 45, the road between Sections 46 and 48, and the road between Sections 49 and 51—in all a length of 202 chains—and shingling the same as far as the amount available will allow. The Mackenzie County are carrying out the works, under the supervision of the department.

Rangitata River-mouth Protective Works (Reserve 100).—An expenditure was incurred with the object of diverting the course of the river, which during floods encroaches on the above reserve. The work carried out comprised the erection of 15 chains of fencing, in four sections, composed of 12 ft. railway-iron posts, driven 8 ft. in the ground at intervals of 22 ft., bored for twelve wires 4 in. apart; between the posts, and at intervals of 5½ ft., willow-stakes were driven not less than 2 in. in thickness, and strutted with stakes of the same dimensions. All the works were carried out in one ordinary contract, the department supplying the materials. Shortly after the completion of the works they were, unfortunately, put to a very severe test by one of the heaviest floods known for years, with the result that practically half the fences have been damaged. They, however, have done good work, and prevented the destruction of more of the bank by making dead-water, and causing the silt to deposit above them, and are still affording a great deal of protection. To repair the damage would cost from £15 to £20, but £100 might be spent with great advantage in erecting additional fences, with banks at the back of them.

Otarakaro Drain.—A small contract for this work was carried out by two of the settlers, and comprised the cutting of a drain through Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, and church property Reserve 51, into the existing drain along the Clyde Road, in order to provide an outlet for the stagnant water which accumulated during wet seasons on these sections.

Pawaho Hamlet Road.—A small sum was expended during the year in the formation of the road passing through Sections 22, 23, and 24 a length of about 15¼ chains. The work comprised chiefly side-cutting, and was carried out under the supervision of the department, by two of the settlers, in one ordinary contract.

Planting Reserves, Mackenzie County.—A considerable sum has been expended during the year on planting that portion of Reserve 2923 adjoining and south of the block previously planted, an area of about 20 acres, and enclosing same with a wire-netting fence 42 in. wide, 1½ in. mesh, and 16 gauge, and sunk in the ground 6 in., barb-wire above top of netting. Altogether about five

hundred *Pinus insignis*, a thousand oaks, two thousand larch, five hundred Douglas spruce, five hundred Norway spruce, fifteen hundred *Pinus ponderosa*, and a thousand *Pinus laricio* have been put in. The planting was done by contract, under the supervision of the Mackenzie County; trees to be renewed for two years, when the final payment will be made.

Cheviot Dairy Factory Well.—This work was completed last winter, and promised at the time to be a success, but the flow has since fallen off considerably, so that unless some means be found for securing a better supply the factory may have to be removed to a better site.

Mount Cook Hermitage (Repairs).—A small sum was expended during the year. The work carried out comprised repairing water-pipes which the action of the frost had burst, carpentering, materials, &c., and travelling-expenses of plumber from Timaru.

S. WEETMAN, Chief Surveyor.

OTAGO.

Kartigi Beach Road.—1 mile 5 chains of this road has been surfaced and gravelled, which now makes it very passable for dray traffic.

Port Road–Beach, Moeraki.—1 mile 18 chains of this road has been re-formed and gravelled, which now gives good access to the Township of Moeraki, and will be found of great benefit to the fishing industry of the port.

Kyeburn–Livingstone Road.—This road has been improved for a distance of a little over a mile. The greater portion of the money was spent in widening some bad portions of the road at the junction of the north and south branches of the Maruwhenua.

Blueskin Road.—The work done on this road consisted of spreading metal over a length of 40 chains and in removing slip; also in lengthening some culverts.

Lower Harbour Road.—17½ chains of sea-wall has been built, three pipe-culverts put in, and a distance of a mile and a half has been repaired by metalling worst portions.

Waitati–Waikari Road.—1 mile 64 chains has been re-formed, 75 chains of which has been cleared of scrub, and 28 chains metalled.

Bendigo–Matakanui Road.—This road was pegged and levelled for a distance of 25 miles 30 chains, the longitudinal and co-sectional plans prepared, quantities taken out, and an estimate made of total cost of formation over the whole length.

North Harbour and Blueskin Road.—This road has been formed and gravelled for a distance of 15 chains, which will be found of benefit to the settlers coming from Pine Hill to the Leith Valley.

Pukereraki Station–Beach Road.—This road has been surfaced for a distance of 66 chains, and 19 chains of new road has been formed in several sections, and one stone culvert built.

Ravensbourne Road.—A small sum has been expended by the Borough Council on metalling and surfacing portions of this road.

Normanby–Mount Cargill Road.—6½ chains of this road has been regraded and re-formed, and about 120 chains of protective fences erected in the most dangerous places.

Chatto Creek–Tinker's Road.—1 mile 40 chains of this road has been formed and gravelled, which work has been carried out under the supervision of the Vincent County Council.

Galloway Station–Ida Valley Road.—This road has been formed for a distance of three miles, including the building of ten stone culverts, and is being carried out under the supervision of the Vincent County engineer. This road will require a further grant of money, and when completed will shorten the route considerably between Alexandra and Ranfurly.

McCabe's Coal-pit, Gibbston.—20 chains of this road has been constructed by the Vincent County engineer.

Makarora–Haast Valley Road.—This work was laid off and carried out under the supervision of Mr. Neill, Assistant Surveyor. The improvements consist of 96 chains of new road through heavy forest which was felled 1 chain wide, formed 6 ft., with ten culverts and one pitched crossing. In connection with this road I have to thank Mr. W. G. Stewart, of Lake Wanaka, for attending to and keeping a general supervision over the whole track.

Tracks, Head of Lake Wakatipu.—This work was carried out under the supervision of the Lake County engineer; it consists of forming 16 chains and improving generally about four miles and a half of the Routeburn and Ben Lomond tracks.

Albert Burn Track.—This track has been completed, and includes 37 chains of formation (6 of which was rock), and four stone culverts.

Hollyford Valley Track.—Improvements to ten miles of this track have been effected, including the erection of a hut and the enclosure of a paddock at Pyke Creek.

Martin's Bay–Lake Wakatipu.—This track has been formed and improved for a distance of two miles and a quarter, for the benefit of tourist traffic.

Pembroke–Matukituki.—This work, which was undertaken last year, is now finished, and includes 1 mile 50 chains of formation, and eight stone culverts.

Anderson's Bay Road.—The Boroughs of St. Kilda, South Dunedin, and Caversham were granted a sum of £175 for this work, which was spent in metalling 50 chains of the road.

Otago Peninsula, Block II.—One mile of this road has been improved. The work includes the widening of cuttings, raising of embankment, clearing out side-drains, and giving the road a general finish from end to end. 270 cubic yards of rotten rock and 695 cubic yards of broken metal were spread over the whole length.

Portobello Beach Road.—25 chains of sea-wall was built, and 25 chains of road widened and metalled, the work being carried out by the Portobello Road Board.

Blair Taieri Roads.—This work consists of improving about a mile and a half of roads in the township, and was carried out by the Taieri County Council.

Beaumont–Rankleburn Road.—This road has been formed for a distance of 77 chains, including 20 chains ditching, 20 chains bush-clearing, and the building of 38 lineal yards of stone culverts, and was carried out by the Tuapeka County Council. A further vote will be necessary to complete this road, which, when finished, will open through traffic from Beaumont to Clydevale.

Taieri Beach Village-settlement Roads.—This road has been formed for a distance of 39 chains, including 22 chains of bush-clearing, and gives better access to several sections in Block V., Clarendon District. The work was carried out by the Bruce County Council.

Catlin's, Block IV.—This work, which consisted of 29 chains of metalling, was carried out by the Clutha County Council.

Water of Leith Protective Works.—The work done by the Maori Hill Borough Council was building a solid masonry wall 3 chains in length, and removing boulders from the bed of the creek for several chains in the most dangerous places.

Ophir District Water-supply.—This work is completed, and is successful in every way. Some 2,700 ft. of mains and 1,900 ft. of service-pipes have been laid, a concrete tank to contain 68,000 gallons has been built, and a windmill erected.

Gimmerburn Blocks.—This work consists of the formation and gravelling of 3 miles 40 chains of road, includes the building of a 15 ft. bridge (piles and beams are of ironbark) which spans the Gimmerburn Creek.

Lower Wanaka Block.—This road has been formed for a distance of 40 chains by the Vincent County Council, and included the building of two culverts.

Dunback Bridge.—This is a foot suspension-bridge over the Shag River, and leading to the Makareao Estate. The work was carried out by the Waihemo County Council. The structure consists of three spans, one of 176 ft. and two of 25 ft. each.

Catlin's–Waikawa Main Road.—This road has been further improved during the year on several of the worst sections, covering a distance of 240 chains. The work done consisted of a short deviation, re-forming, and metalling. These improvements were effected over the thirty miles of road between Owaka and Chasland's, and will benefit greatly the rapidly increasing number who use this road, especially during the winter months. There is still a good deal of metalling wanted; but if the present progress in metalling is maintained for a season or two the gaps will disappear. With the exception of 65 chains which was done by contract, all the rest of the work was carried out by day-labour, embracing 3 miles 28 chains metalling; four culverts, 75 ft. long; logging-up 7 chains, and 3 chains fascining.

Waipati Improved-farm Settlement Road.—The roads through the block have been continued, and are now drawing to completion. A bridge is required to span the Waipati Stream, and, with this exception, all the roadwork in this block will be about finished in another month, which will leave only the section bushfelling to do. The roads in this block have been widened and formed an additional 74 chains; and 191½ acres of bush felled on sections, burnt, and grassed.

Heathfield Improved-farm Settlement Road.—The road leading to Sections 27, 28, and 29 in this block has been widened and repaired for a length of 60 chains, which, with 113 acres of section bushfelling, are the only works done on this block. Many of the settlers were employed on the main road metalling, &c.

Tautuku Village Settlement, Block IV.—This road, which gives access to Sections 8, 9, and 10, has been stumped and levelled down for 42 chains.

Tahakopa Valley Road.—This road has been metalled for 55 chains and repaired for 160 chains in length, which work has made it fairly passable for present requirements.

Rimu, Block XIII.—The centre road, being the principal road through this block, has been gravelled, in places when the formation was of a soily nature, a distance of 80 chains. A pile bridge, 95 ft. long, is now being built, by ordinary contract, over the Tahakopa River, which, when finished, will be of considerable benefit to the settlers on this and adjoining block.

Rimu, Block XIV.—Bushfelling was done for a distance of 2 miles 49 chains along main road leading through the district.

Rimu Improved-farm Settlement Road.—Bushfelling and logging and formation has been done on this block for a distance of 105 chains of 10 ft. wide, and 122½ acres of bush felled on sections, burnt, and grassed. There are about three miles of formation and culverting still to do before access is effected to all sections on the block.

Newton Road, Block V., Woodland.—This road has been formed 14 chains along the eastern bank of the McLennan River, to open up sections.

Gordon Road, Block X., Woodland.—This road has been widened from a 6 ft. track for a distance of 24 chains, and a further extension of 12 chains is still wanted to give an outlet to Sections 22 and 24.

Purakauiti Stream Road.—Bushfelling and logging has been done in an extension of the road for a distance of 59 chains, but the vote was not sufficient to continue the formation.

Woodland, Block IX. (Purakuiti and Puaho Improved-farm Settlement).—Formation and culverting of 103½ chains of 10 ft. road, and 45 chains of bushfelling and logging done, besides repairing 210 chains of road, and 27 acres of bush felled on sections, burnt, and grassed.

Maitland Road, Block VIII., Woodland.—In extending this road towards the coast, bushfelling, logging, culverting, and formation 10 ft. wide has been done for 36 chains in length.

Warnock's Road.—This road was surfaced and improved for a distance of some 50 odd chains.

Ratanui–Whitehead Road.—Bushfelling and logging has been done on the road for 64 chains, and formation, 10 ft. wide, 40 chains in length, and further formation is in progress.

Wingfield Road, Block I., Woodlands.—This road has been formed an additional length of 30 chains, 10 ft. wide.

Scadden's Road, Block VIII., Catlin's.—The formation, 10 ft. wide, has been extended 70 chains on the road. The vote being exhausted, the work was brought to a standstill. There are 20 chains of formation required to finish this road to the Catlin's River, when the ford will answer for some time.

Catlin's, Block VII.—Roads have been formed in this block 68½ chains, 10 ft. wide, and bush-felling done for 100 chains.

Catherwood Road, Block II., Catlin's.—This road has been formed 91 chains, 10 ft. wide, which used up the vote; about 40 chains more formation is required.

Thomson's Road, Block II., Catlin's.—This road has been formed another distance of 20 chains, 10 ft. wide, which cost rather more than at first expected, owing to hard stone being met with.

Ivimey's Road, Block I., Catlin's.—This road has been felled and logged a distance of 43 chains in readiness for the formation to be gone on with.

Barr's Road, Block I., Catlin's.—This road has been formed 10 ft. wide a length of 106 chains, and work is in progress extending the formation.

McKenzie Road, Block X., Glenomaru.—This road has been formed an additional length of 35 chains, 10 ft. wide, and 12 chains of bushfelling and logging done.

Katea to Owaka, Block IX., Glenomaru.—This road has been formed a distance of 60 chains, 12 ft. wide, connecting with Hunt's Road, and giving an opening to the factory.

Goldsbery's Road, Block V., Glenomaru.—This road has been formed a further distance of 42 chains, and work is in progress in forming 30 chains additional.

Lake Village-settlement Road, Block VIII., Glenomaru.—This road, which has been taken through the settlement, is a deviation from the old surveyed road, which was too precipitous to be of any use to part of the settlement. The length of this new road, which has been formed 10 ft. wide, is 46 chains, and gives access to five sections which hitherto have had no outlet.

Ward's Road, Block IV., Glenomaru.—This road has been formed 29 chains, 10 ft. wide, to give access to Section 41.

Freston Hill Road, Block VII., Glenomaru.—This road has been formed 29 chains, 10 ft. wide, and bushfelling and logging done for a distance of 41½ chains. The formation on this road will be continued when a fresh authority is available.

Hunt's Road.—Some of the worst portions of this road were widened and metalled and generally surfaced over a distance of four miles.

Makaraeo Estate.—On this estate two miles and a quarter of railway has been constructed, and one bridge built with twelve spans of 26 ft. each, and two of 24 ft. 6 in., and another bridge started which is to have nine spans of 20 ft. each. All the formation-work has been practically finished, and a contract let for the excavation and building of a limekiln.

Momona Estate.—On this estate the drainage outlet from the estate to the main ditch was cleaned for a distance of 6 chains, the bottom planked to a width of 3 ft., and sides slabbed to a height of 2½ ft., and a flood-gate was erected.

Culverts.—In connection with the Catlin's works during the year 103 culverts have been built, aggregating a total length of 2,655 ft., and varying in dimensions from 12 in. by 12 in. to 3 ft. by 18 in.

JOHN HAY, Chief Surveyor.

SOUTHLAND.

Mr. Falkiner reports as follows:—

Te Anau–Sutherland Falls.—Nothing beyond clearing away remains of avalanches and fallen trees, and general repairs to the track, has been done between Te Anau and Beech Huts; the track from Beech Huts to Sutherland Falls has been improved and repaired, and two iron huts have been erected at the junction with the Milford Sound Track. These huts give sleeping-accommodation for eighteen people. Mr. Rothwell, with a party of men, is now forming a track from Beech Huts to the saddle, a distance of three miles, with a grade of 1 in 6.

Tracks to Western Sounds.—The track is now completed from Milford Sound to Beech Huts, with the exception of a bridge over the Arthur River. When this bridge is erected there will be uninterrupted foot traffic through to Te Anau, except in flood-times, when some of the small creeks are difficult to cross. Most of the old wooden bridges are becoming unsafe, and will need to be renewed. When possible, I intend to make fords for horses, with a light plank-bridge, with wire handrail, for foot-passengers.

Te Anau–Wakatipu Road.—A considerable sum has been spent on this work. 72 chains of road has been made and culverted. The work has been handed over to the Lake County Council to complete, as it is within easy access of Queenstown.

Waikawa–Catlin's Road.—Tenders were called for breaking metal, and the work was done by the settlers. The remainder of the work was surfacing, repairing culverts, and removing slips at day-wages. There is a contract in hand now for carting and spreading metal. I hope next year to have the worst portions of this road permanently metalled.

Clifton–Tisbury.—Two contracts—one a co-operative contract for bushfelling, logging-up, and fascining 36½ chains. Tenders were called for the other contract, as we could not get men to take up the work, which consisted in cutting ditches and spreading the material on the fascines. The road is now open for dray traffic during the summer, but, like all clay roads in the bush, is impassable in winter.

Invercargill Hundred, Blocks XVII. and XX.—Four co-operative contracts were carried out. The work consisted of bushfelling, logging-up, and draining.

Kingswell's Creek.—There were two small co-operative contracts, but the bulk of the money was spent in cutting a drain to carry the Kingswell Creek water, which used to overflow badly in flood-time. One mile of drain has been cut along the general course of the creek, which acts very well; the material has been roughly spread along the road-line so as to help in the future road-formation. Another section of 68 chains has been let, and when this is completed there will be very little chance of the flood-water doing any damage. It would be satisfactory if the channel could be extended from Elles Road on to the estuary so as to allow the flood-water to get away.

Mokoreta, Block XIV.—One co-operative contract. The work is finished, and gives the Scrubby Hill settlers an outlet to the Waikawa–Wyndham Valley Road.

Oteramika.—One co-operative contract. Corduroying and culverts were put in so as to give the settlers along the Mataura River a way to get their cattle to and from the sections. It will be necessary to do some further work on this road, as the Mataura River floods badly, and sometimes occasions a considerable loss of stock.

Seaward Bush.—Eight co-operative contracts have been carried out in bushfelling, formation, culverts, gravel, ditches, &c.

Seaward Bush, McQuarrie Street.—Progress-payments have been expended on this road. The contract is forming and gravelling, and the work will be completed by the end of April.

Waikawa District.—Four co-operative contracts have been carried out in surfacing, gravelling, and logging-up.

Waikawa, Block VII.—Five co-operative contracts have been completed. The work done was fascining, drains, culverts, and formation to connect the Waikawa Improved-farm Settlement with the Niagara Bridge.

Waikawa–Otara Road.—All the work done was in surfacing, culverting, and repairing the present road between Otara and Six-mile, and was carried out by men on day-wages.

Waikawa–Wyndham Valley Road.—Six co-operative and one open contract have been carried out, comprising two miles and three-quarters. Four miles are now open for traffic, and the bulk of the work is done. There is yet about three miles of tussock and scrub country, with gullies and creeks to cross, before a junction is made with the county road at Mokoreta. About £750 would open the road throughout.

Clifden–Redcliffe Creek.—Progress-payment has been spent on this road. One co-operative contract has been completed, but it will be necessary to put in some culverts, fascines, and formation before ordinary summer traffic can be properly maintained.

Longwood (Blocks XVI. and I.).—A sum of money has been spent on this work in one open contract, which is now completed. The County Council is carrying the road further along.

Longwood (Blocks XV., XVI., XVII.).—One co-operative contract for formation, culverts, bushfelling, &c., has been completed, and one open contract for the erection of a 30 ft. span bridge across the Holly Burn Creek is in course of erection. It will be necessary to carry this road about two miles further, so as to give an outlet to some of the back settlers, who have improved their sections, and are in a position to supply milk to the factory, but have not any means of access. It will take about £500 to form and culvert this road so as to be of use to these men.

Longwood (Block XVIII.).—Progress-payment has been spent on this work. One open contract for bushfelling, logging-up, stumping, fascines, and ditches is now in progress. Some of the settlers in the Longwood district have requested that in future "tenders be called for in all cases," as they prefer this to the co-operative system.

Manapouri–Te Anau.—One co-operative contract has been let and completed.

Orawia–Clifden.—Open contract for forming and three co-operative contracts for bushfelling and logging-up. There has been a great deal of dissatisfaction about the schedule price on these co-operative contracts; but we have calculated the rate of wages from our own time, giving the contractors the benefit of all doubts. The work was principally done by the Papatotara settlers.

Orepuki–Waiau.—Two open contracts for formation and gravel have been completed, but there is still a final payment due on one of them.

Orepuki–Wairaurahiri Road.—Three open contracts have been let during the year. One let at the end of last year, to erect a 20 ft. span bridge and approaches across Boundary Creek, is completed, and the others, to form and gravel portions of the road, are in hand. Another contract, to form and gravel the remainder of the road up to the lower bridge site, is in hand, and is progressing well.

Te Anau–George Sound Track.—The work on this track was reported on last year, but the payments appear in this year's report. I have no further remarks to make on this work.

Outfall Drains, Otatara.—One co-operative contract was carried out in ditching, felling, and logging-up. It would be advisable, if Government money is to be spent on drainage, either in Otatara or any other district, that a general drainage scheme be decided on and powers taken to force drainage through private property, but care should be taken that no water is diverted from its natural course.

Roads, Preservation Inlet.—£80 of the amount voted was handed over to the Alpha Gold-mining Company as payment for work done in cutting a track along the top of the ridge from the tramway to the Alpha battery; the remainder of the money was spent in improving and widening this track. The work was done by open contract.

Orepuki–Preservation.—This track is now cut through 10 ft. wide, and is available for foot traffic. Bridges, chairs, or boats have been supplied at all the principal rivers. Portions of the track are very rough, but can be improved as the country is explored and opened up.

Tracks, Cromarty.—A track has been cleared and partly formed from the Wilson's River tramway to the boundary of the Te Oneroa Township. The work was let in three open contracts, and is now completed.

State Forest, Seaward Bush.—Of this work 69 acres of bush have been felled, and three co-operative contracts were let and satisfactorily carried out.

Mr. D. Macpherson, Wallace County engineer, reports as follows:—

Avondale Saddle (Vote, £100).—There has been 31 chains of cuttings and embankments and about 125 chains of grading done. This was subsidised by the County Council to complete grading.

Black Creek Bridge (Vote, £200).—A slight deviation has been made from the original surveyed road, and a bridge 55 ft. in length has been constructed of ironbark and blue-gum, with necessary approaches. The balance of this vote will be spent next season in grading road leading to bridge.

Heddon Bush (Vote, £100).—73 chains of gravelling has been done, 16 chains of which is not satisfactorily completed yet.

Lillburn Bridge (Vote, £30).—This was all the Council got out of a grant of £260 for Clifden–Lillburn Road. It helped to pay for the erection of a bridge which cost £72.

Clifden–Redcliffe (Vote, £400).—Some 50 chains of road has been formed and gravelled, and 43 chains of cuttings and embankments are now in course of construction.

Line of Hundreds (Vote, £150).—41 chains of this has been gravelled, at a cost of £182 10s.

Longwood (Blocks XV., XVI., and XVII.).—52 chains has been stumped and formed; 1 mile 47½ chains bushfelling, stumping, and culverting, which has been completed; 24 chains forming, stumping, and gravelling is almost completed.

Road leading to Run No. 23, Centre Hill District (Vote, £50).—22 chains has been ditched and formed, and a contract for gravelling has been let to absorb the grant.

Mr. T. S. Miller, Campbelltown Borough engineer, reports as follows:—

Point–Ocean Beach Road.—35 chains of formation, clearing, and culverts has been completed during the year, making a distance of 137 chains of formation from the Pilot-station, where the work under Government vote commenced. A further extension has been laid off, and the unexpended votes will probably complete the formation to Look-out Point.

Mr. Howorth, Southland County Engineer, reports as follows:—

Centre Bush Road (Vote, £100).—This vote has been expended in forming 18 chains, gravelling 31 chains, and cutting 21½ chains of ditch, including an outfall-drain for the drainage of the village. The vote gives further access to Crown lands.

Devereux Road, East Winton (Vote, £50).—8 chains of formation and corduroying and 25 chains of ditching have been carried out by the settlers in this district. The vote gives access to Crown lands in Winton Bush.

Dipton–Balfour Road (Vote, £100).—This work, which has just been let, provides for about 1 mile of formation, with the necessary culverts. The balance of this vote should be authorised, in order that the road may be completed to the Okaiterua Bush.

Forest Hill Roads (Vote, £200).—This vote is equally divided, and includes gravelling on the road adjoining Forest Hill tramway and road through Block II., Winton Hundred. It is proposed to gravel 70 chains of the worst portions of these roads. Access is given to bush-lands in the localities.

Fortrose–Tokonui Gorge Road (Vote, £300).—About 60 chains of the worst portions of the road in the gorge have been laid out, of which 20 chains are completed to date.

Gore–Pukerau Road (Vote, £150).—Tenders have just been accepted for 50 chains of gravelling.

Hokonui, Section 795, Road (Vote, £50).—Plans of a very necessary road-deviation have just been completed. After the necessary transfer of land is carried out the formation of 30 chains of the new road will be put in hand.

Hokonui–Henderson's Road (Vote, £200).—The work has recently been let. The plans and specifications provide for about a mile of road.

Invercargill Hundred, Block XV. (Vote, £100).—This work is now completed, the quantities being 200 cubic yards earthwork and 50 chains bushfelling, clearing, and grubbing.

Main North Road—£1 for £1 (Vote, £600).—This work, together with that done by the County Council's contribution of £600, provided for 158 chains of trimming and metalling and three pipe-culverts.

Main North Road, Winton (Vote, £300).—In order to link in all the ungravelled portions of the Great North Road, £150 of this vote, together with £150 of the previous vote subsidised, was taken, and with the amount—viz., £350—altogether 70 chains of the road were gravelled, thereby completing the work between Invercargill and Winton.

Makarewa–Grove Bush Road (Vote, £250).—This work is not yet started. It is proposed to gravel 60 chains and form 120 chains.

Mataura Island Dairy Factory to Pine Bush Railway-station (Vote, £250).—20 chains of ditching has been done to date. The work will, however, be pushed on during winter, it being suitable for that time of year. The road gives access to the Seaward Bush Railway.

Mokoreta, Blocks VIII. and IX.—£1 for £1 (Vote, £100).—This work is still held over pending the completion of road-exchanges. Only about half the vote is expended.

Tramway Road (Vote, £150).—35 chains of formation and gravelling and formation have been completed. The work was rendered expensive through the high rate of the haulage of the gravel by rail from the county pit at Opora, the amount paid to the Railway Department being about half the vote.

Waikawa District Road (Vote, £300).—This vote has been expended in extending the metalling of the main Fortrose–Waikawa Road 80 chains. The vote was supplemented by a vote of £50 from the County Council.

Wendon District, Section 80, Block I., and Blocks VIII., IX., and XIV. (Vote, £150).—The work which is completed consists of 50 chains of formation and gravel.

Line of Hundreds (Vote, £100).—30 chains of formation and gravelling have been carried out. This is one of the worst roads in winter in Southland, and further sums will be required before it is made to a passable point.

Argyle Bridge (Vote, £125).—This is a light traffic bridge. The width of the roadway is 6 ft., and length 120 ft., in six spans. The timber used is heart of red-birch. The bridge is a boon to miners working in the Argyle Valley.

Balfour Bridge, over Mataura River (Vote, £300 to account).—This vote partly provides for the erection of a stock-bridge. A further vote of £200 will be required to complete it. The work is in hand.

Evan's Bridge, Otapiri (Vote, £150).—It is intended to erect a bridge of three spans of 20 ft. The work is in hand.

Eyre Creek Bridge (Vote, £300).—This work is completed. It consists of a light traffic bridge of fourteen spans of 20 ft. each. The vote was supplemented by a vote of £150 from the County Council. The erection of this bridge is a great boon to the travelling public as well as to settlers in the locality. All the streams between Invercargill and the Lakes are now bridged.

Garvie Burn Bridge, Hickey's Ford (Vote, £150).—A bridge consisting of three spans of 20 ft. each has been erected.

Hedgehope, Titipua, and Dunsdale Bridges (Vote, £500).—These bridges are in hand. They consist of 40 ft. spans (trussed) for the Titipua and Dunsdale, and 60 ft. for the Hedgehope. They are built almost entirely of 52 lb. steel railway-rails, the exception being the flooring and some bracing. They are a new departure in bridge-building, and the cost is cheaper than that of similar bridges built entirely of timber. They have been thoroughly tested as to their stability for carrying traction-engines, the test being thoroughly satisfactory.

The following bridges are also in hand and will be completed by the end of this year: Laura, Makarewa, Mimihau, Oreti, Otapiri, Forest Hill, and Winton Creek Bridges.

Waiau Bridge, Clifton.—This bridge was passed by me, and opened for traffic by the Hon. J. G. Ward on the 5th of April last. The work has been well carried out by Mr. William Baird, the contractor. The bridge had a thorough test as to its stability on the day of opening, it being fully loaded at one time with vehicles and pedestrians. The bridge has also been well tested as to wind-pressure, and, although not present, I am informed that there was no perceptible movement. The bridge is very stiff, and the movement, or wave, from a trotting horse is insignificant. The span is 366 ft., with roadway 12 ft. wide, sufficient for one line of traffic. The deflection of the cables is one-thirteenth of the span. The dead- and live-load capacity are respectively 147 and 137 tons, or a distributed load of 142 tons on each side of the bridge. The cables are galvanised steel, of which there are fourteen on each side. They are 5 in. in circumference, and have been tested by Kirkcaldy, of London, to stand a breaking-strain of 82 tons each. The total strength of the ropes works out at 2,296 tons, and, as the maximum possible strain at the towers equals 482 tons, a factor of safety of 5 is provided. As some engineers allow only 3½ to 4, this should be ample, and allows of considerable increase in the live load. The roadway timbers and ironwork is designed to carry traction-engines. The towers are of concrete, made of Millburn cement (Dunedin), which I consider superior to the imported article. The sand and cement found in the locality is of the very best for concrete purposes, and a thoroughly sound and satisfactory job has been made of this work. The ropes are anchored in the limestone in vertical shafts, which it was found necessary to fill with concrete to keep out the water. The timber has been carefully selected; the tranverse beams, blocks, and fillings are of ironbark; horizontal bracing of blue-gum; and chords, flooring, and joists of heart totara. The life of the totara may be estimated at twenty-five years; the ironbark, as far as is known, at forty to fifty years; and the ropes, ironwork, and concrete, which represent four-fifths of the cost, as permanent. The contract price for the bridge was £4,877 10s., which with extras amounting to £590 7s. made the total cost £5,468; but this does not include engineering and inspection. The scale of wages paid on the work was: Carpenters, 12s. per day; masons, 15s.; labourers, 8s. to 9s. A heavy item in the cost of the work was cartage of material from Otautau Railway-station, the distance being twenty-two miles.

D. Barron, Chief Surveyor.

APPENDIX No. 4.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF CHIEF AND ROAD SURVEYORS ON THE WORKING OF THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1899.

AUCKLAND NORTH.

During the past twelve months 354 contracts have been completed on the co-operative principle on roads in this district. The work in nearly all cases has been carried out by local settlers, and it has been generally fairly well done, the men working amicably together. Where work is to be done, after preparing the plan and specifications, I put up at the nearest post-office a notice calling offers for the work, and at the same time stating the price I intend giving for the jobs, and asking settlers anxious for the work to form themselves into gangs and to apply on a fixed date. If more gangs offer than I have work for I have a ballot taken before some Justice of the Peace or responsible person, so as far as possible to prevent the appearance even of favouring.

The average daily wage earned was 5s. 10¼d. per day of eight hours.

The total amount paid to co-operative contractors during the past year was £14,357.

Gerhard Mueller, Chief Surveyor.

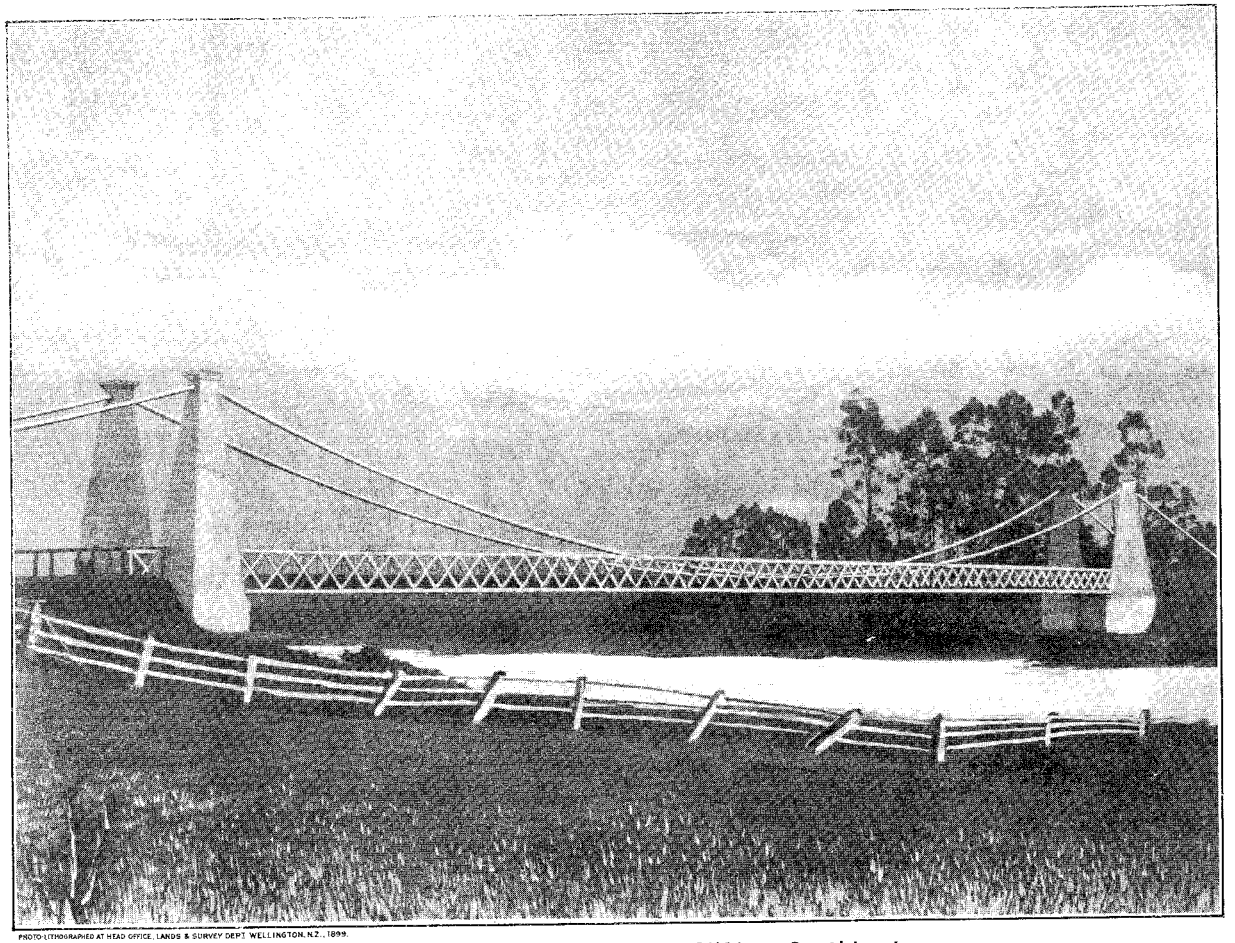


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Bridge over the Waiau River at Clifden, Southland.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

The number of contracts completed is seventy-five. The average amount per contract paid in cash to contractors is £50 1s., and including explosives, tools, &c., the average amount is £58 7s. 6d.

As regards the wages earned, the average for the whole district has been 6s. 2½d. per day of eight hours. The above general average wage appears to be as near right as could be expected, considering the situations of the works in regard to the base of supplies.

As a rule the men have done the work well, and everything in connection with it has gone on smoothly and without friction of any kind. C. W. Hursthouse, Road Surveyor.

ROTORUA.

The number of contracts completed under this system during the year was 125, of which only forty-three were undertaken by Europeans and eighty-two by Natives. The average number of men on each contract was five, and the character of work done was bushfelling, clearing, and road-formation.

The average wage per day of eight hours for the whole district was 8s.

When possible I inform the Labour Agent in Auckland of the nature of the work the men will have to do when they get here, that they may not expect to earn too much at the start at work they are unaccustomed to, such as bush-work or rock-work. Unfortunately, many men in town, in their natural anxiety to obtain work, persuade themselves and others that they can do much more than they really can when put to a test, and generally, instead of being satisfied with a low rate of wage until they can get experience and earn more, leave the work, condemning the system and its connections, when the fault often is at their own door.

As you are aware, the Natives carry out their work in such an erratic manner that it is almost impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the hours worked, time lost, or wages earned on their contracts, and no attempt has been made to keep such record.

The cost of tools, inspection, and management is proportionately high, owing to the high rates of freight, and the distances and expenses of travelling in a scattered district far from its base of supplies. Robert H. Reaney, Road Surveyor.

HAWKE'S BAY.

During the year 98 miles 73 chains of road has been constructed by co-operative labour, twenty-two miles being dray-road and 76 miles 73 chains bridle-road. Ninety-two miles were in forest country, which is cleared 1 chain wide on the line of road. Two hundred and thirteen contracts have been in operation, the maximum number employed in any week being 318, and the minimum 131, giving an average of 226 throughout the year.

The average wages earned in the district is 7s. 9¼d. per day of eight hours.

Generally the works have gone on smoothly, and have been carried out in a satisfactory manner. It must be expected that among a number of men, some quite inexperienced to the work, that some are disappointed in the amount that they are able to earn, but our average is satisfactory. I regret to have to report two accidents at Ngapaeruru, by which William Little and Patrick Harding were killed while employed felling and clearing forest on the roads. There is a danger in sending men into the bush who are unaccustomed to bush-work.

Eric C. Gold Smith, Chief Surveyor.

TARANAKI.

As a rule, the work done under this system has been well finished. It has all been through heavy bush, and generally on steep sideling ground underlain with papa or sandstone rock, the clearing and formation of which is usually expensive.

As the work is always in advance of settlement, the cost of food supplied to the workmen is much greater than to workmen under local bodies, and men with families have to exercise rigid economy unless they earn an average of over 6s. 6d. per working-day.

The average rate over all the works was 6s. 6½d. per day of eight hours. The average is certainly no more than should be earned in back districts, where the food-supply in winter (the time we do the most of our work) is from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. higher than in settled districts.

The number of co-operative contracts completed during the year was 351; average number of men on each contract, 2·82.

An endeavour has been made as far as possible to raise the number of men employed on contracts to from four to six in each party, as it is found those numbers in heavy work answer best.

Very few complaints have been made by the men during the year, and those that have been made are of a trivial nature.

No loss has been incurred on tents or explosives, these being supplied to the men at a slight advance on cost; and the loss on tools is very trifling—the men purchase their own axes, grubbers, picks, shovels, &c., and pay for the use of jacks and saws; and the only plant supplied free is barrows, hand-carts, and wagons.

The majority of the men on the works are improved-farm settlers and special settlers, these being always accorded the preference.

G. Robinson, Road Surveyor.

WANGANUI.

The system has been applied to works of the following nature: Stumping, clearing, and forming bridle-tracks and dray-roads, sawing, squaring, culverting, bridge-building, stripping and breaking shell-rock for metal, metal cartage, bushfelling, grass-seed sowing.

The number of men employed has ranged from a minimum of 155 men in December to a maximum of 250 men in August last, the average per month being 198·7.

Except on the Upper Makohine Block (vote 113, item 114), where unemployed from Wellington, Wanganui, and elsewhere have been employed, nearly all those now on the works are settlers. Wherever possible the settlers on the improved-farm settlements have had first offers of any works available; but, owing to their always having so many home-duties to attend to, their time at the contracts is very irregular, and difficult to arrive at with any certainty. Still, there is no doubt that this system is suitable for them. By the ordinary contract system they would either have to work the full time which the contractor wished, thus neglecting their home-duties, or otherwise not be able to obtain work at all.

The number of contracts completed has been 294.

The average wage per day of eight hours for the whole district was 8s. 5½d.

The metalling has nearly all been done this year at prices ranging from 2s. to 3s. 3d. per cubic yard per mile of lead, and has worked satisfactorily on the whole. The difficulty is to obtain sufficient teams in districts such as Raetihi, where horse-feed is very expensive, and the climate very wet. The distance from markets is great, and the season so short that owners of drays do not care to risk the journey unless tolerably sure of a long job, and this it is not possible to guarantee. Where teams are obtainable the system is good, but in inaccessible districts it would be better to let contracts for considerable amounts early in the season, so that a large number of drays could be taken up and push the work through in the best of the weather.

Owing to long uphill leads on both the Pipiriki–Waiouru and Ohingaiti–Tokaanu Roads the prices had to be raised to 2s. 9d. and 3s. 3d. respectively, but on the flatter or downhill leads the prices ranged from 2s. to 2s. 3d. per cubic yard per mile.

The average rate per day for each team for all weathers throughout on the Pipiriki–Waiouru Road was £1 11s. 6d., all the teams carrying 1½ cubic yards a trip. While on the Ohingaiti–Tokaanu Road the average was £1 1s. 11¾d., here generally only 1 cubic yard was carried, though on easy grades 1¼ cubic yards was occasionally loaded. In both cases there was very little broken weather during the time in which metalling operations were in progress.

Taking into account the risk of broken weather and of getting horses killed, and the high price of feed, the earnings on the Pipiriki–Waiouru Road were not too high as compared with those on the Ohingaiti–Tokaanu Road. The maximum number of teams employed at any one time on the two roads was eighteen.

During the year there have been but few complaints from the men, partly on account of the system being better understood, and partly owing to many of the men being now experienced workmen.

G. T. Murray, Road Surveyor.

WELLINGTON.

There is little to add to my previous remarks on the co-operative system of contracting. Some difficulties still exist in satisfactorily associating the men, and consequently complaints come from the able and physically fit that their remuneration is not in proportion to the work they do. On the other hand, the less favoured by nature and those whose previous training has not qualified them for this kind of labour complain that the rate of pay is not sufficient for them to earn a satisfactory wage. This is a difficulty which demands patience and discrimination. If those who consider themselves aggrieved would apply to me for the rectification of their wrongs the vast majority of cases would be quickly settled.

The average wage per day of eight hours was 7s. 2½d.

Complaints are made by settlers who are unable to procure employment, but with the funds at my disposal I find it extremely difficult to satisfy them all. Crown settlers are considered to have a prior right to Government work, and many strive to make it continuous. Then, again, many who are not themselves settlers claim the right to employment as deputies of their fathers or brothers who are; and it is often very embarrassing to discriminate between them.

A. C. Turner, Road Surveyor.

MARLBOROUGH.

During the year the work carried out under the co-operative system has worked satisfactorily. The only difference which arose was with the men who were working on the Picton roadwork; but I think there may have been some slight misunderstanding between the parties, hence the apparent difference of opinion which existed at the time. The men are now working well. It was necessary to divide the number of men and have two parties of five each instead of one contract for ten men. Not more than five men should be called upon to work in one party, and my experience is that contracts should always be arranged to allow of four men working together, and no more.

For the period under review 127 contracts have been completed under the co-operative system, and the work was of such a nature that it was particularly well adapted for the system, being heavy work, principally on sideling ground and bush-clearing.

The average wages earned for the whole of the co-operative works was 7s. 3½d. per day of eight hours.

C. W. Adams, Chief Surveyor.

NELSON.

The department has only had the direct control of the expenditure of three road votes; the remainder were intrusted to the various local bodies to spend. Of the three, two were small sums for the Matai and Aniseed Valley Roads, in the vicinity of Nelson; the other, a Mines vote, for the Wangapeka–Wanganui Road.

On the work near Nelson the men have averaged 6s. 6¾d. and 6s. 3¼d. a day of eight hours. The weather was very good, and comparatively little time was lost on that account. No overseer or timekeeper was required, as the sums for expenditure were so small, though the works were occasionally visited by an Inspector; consequently the rate of wages had to be calculated on the time that had elapsed between the beginning and end of each contract; so it is more than likely that an average of 7s. a day was made by the men.

The co-operative works at Wangapeka have only lately been started, and though only seven contracts are returned, several others are just completed but have not yet been paid for, so they are not included in the table. An average wage of 9s. 3½d. per day of eight hours has been earned. It should, however, be explained that the men are not of the mixed class of town unemployed, many of whom are artisans and others unaccustomed to the class of work required in road-making, but bushmen and miners residing in the vicinity—the best of workmen. Besides, owing to its being an out-of-the-way place and all stores having to be packed many miles, the contracts were priced at a higher rate than usual.

THOS. HUMPHRIES, Chief Surveyor.

WESTLAND.

During the year seven co-operative contracts have been completed. One is for the construction of a road-bridge, 51 ft. long, with approaches and wing-walls to protect the approaches. Three are for bushfelling and forming a dray-road with the necessary culverts and ditching, and the other three are for bushfelling, forming, and metalling a horse-track. The work has been satisfactorily performed.

The average daily wage earned per man is 10s. 2½d., which includes that of bridge-builders.

FREDERICK WITHER, Road Surveyor.

OTAGO.

Under this system 140 contracts, all in the Tautuku district, were completed during the year, and the average daily wages earned per man was 6s. 5½d. per day of eight hours.

A considerable amount of work has to be done by day-labour in this district, such as repairing, reforming, metalling, &c., which could not very well be effected under co-operation.

The works have been well done under the immediate supervision of Mr. Sutton, who has not had any disputes or misunderstandings with the workmen worthy of mention during the whole year, thus putting in evidence the careful scheduling of rates for the works done under his supervision. One great drawback to all road operations in this locality is the very wet climate obtaining throughout the greater period of the year.

JOHN HAY, Chief Surveyor.

SOUTHLAND.

During the year sixty-three co-operative contracts have been let, giving employment to 270 men. The average wage earned was 6s. 10d. per day of eight hours for road contracts, and 5s. 9½d. for the improved-farm settlements. The work on the whole has been satisfactorily carried out.

The question of keeping the actual working-hours when the Inspector is not along with the party has become a somewhat difficult problem, the tendency being to keep the time-sheet practically a full one, so as to make the earnings and prices appear low.

Taking the system as a whole, apart from the above exceptions, it has worked fairly well. In some districts there has, however, been a tendency to prefer open contracts, the settlers in Longwood district requesting that this might be done. This was, however, to a certain extent the outcome of some co-operative disagreement. This is also partly the cause of a greater number of works being carried out under open contract during the past year than formerly. I might add that, with the exception of one corner of the district, there have been few demands for work except from settlers.

D. BARRON, Chief Surveyor.

APPENDIX No. 5.—IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS AND OTHERS ON THE IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1899.

AUCKLAND NORTH.

Rangatira.—This settlement has still the three original settlers reported as resident last year, the total number of souls being eight. Forest to the extent of 87 acres has been felled, and 76 acres of it has been grassed. Several chains of fencing has been erected, and the settlement has 3¾ acres of garden-ground dug up. It has ten head of cattle, two horses, eight sheep, besides pigs and poultry. The total advances to date, less repayments, amount to £145 3s. 4d., whilst the total value of improvements amount to £409 10s.

Awatuna.—The four settlers previously reported are still resident, holding 405 acres. The total area of bush felled amounts to 365 acres, whilst 351 acres have been burnt and grassed. Fencing to the length of 150 chains has been erected, and 9½ acres of garden-ground dug up. The settlement possesses twenty-five head of cattle, seven horses, nine pigs, and eighty head of poultry, so that practically there is no advance of any kind since last year. The advances still outstanding amount to £818, whilst the improvements are valued at £1,293. The total number of souls is twenty.

Mangatu.—Its ten original settlers are still resident, and with families number seventy-three souls. They hold 991 acres, and have felled 663 acres of forest, have burnt and grassed 517 acres. They have erected 360 chains of fencing, and have 14 acres of garden-ground. They possess eighty-one head of cattle, twenty-three horses, twenty-one pigs, and 145 head of poultry, whilst houses and outhouses are valued at £363. The total outstanding advances amount to £1,433, and the improvements are valued at £2,623. This settlement is holding its own, and shows signs of advance.

Katui Settlement has this year only eight selectors, holding 775 acres, who with their families numbering fifty-five souls reside on the land. Some 408 acres of forest has been felled, and 347 acres grassed. The settlers have erected 710 chains of fencing, and have 21 acres of garden under cultivation. They own 137 head of cattle, eighteen horses, twenty-three sheep, sixteen pigs, and 340 head of poultry. The houses and outbuildings are valued at £323. The outstanding advances amount to £763, whilst the improvements are valued at £2,279, showing an equal if not superior advance to Mangatu.

GERHARD MUELLER, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Te Rauamoa.—This settlement is all bush land; it was founded towards the end of 1895. During the past year no roadwork in connection with the settlement has been undertaken. However, the settlers have been employed a large part of their time on roadworks in the vicinity of their homes. Since last annual report an area of 132 acres of bush has been felled, and paid for under the regulations, which makes the total felled 683 acres. Of this an area of 545 acres is now in grass, 240 acres of which has been twice sown, as the first sowing was destroyed by fire and caterpillars in the summer of 1897–98. There now remains to be sown last season's felling, amounting to 132 acres, which, when completed, will bring the area under grass up to 677 acres. The remainder of the felling is occupied by gardens, orchards, crops, &c. The following are the total estimated values of improvements to date: Felling, burning, and grassing, £1,266; cottage dwellings, £157; other buildings, £26; gardens, orchards, &c., £50; fencing, £160: total, £1,659, an increase for the year of £423. The total amount authorised as advances for building and fencing is £300, and the total amount of advances made £206 11s. 10d. The settlers have thirty horses, thirty milking-cows, sixty-nine head of other horned cattle, one sheep, seventeen pigs, and seventy-two poultry. The population consists of nineteen adults and thirty-one children, which is a decrease of six adults and five children during the year, caused principally by two families having given up and left their holdings, only one of which has been reallotted, that to a single man who was previously a resident at the settlement in his father's family. I wish to call attention to the fact that the grassed land is not, and has never been, sufficiently stocked with cattle, and to point out that understocking is bad for the future of the pasture, as second growth and weeds soon spring up and smother the grass.

Paemako (Karuotewhenua).—The section so long vacant in this settlement has been allotted, making the present total number of settlers twelve. Several of them have not yet taken their wives and families to live on the land, but have made applications to be excused from doing so

for the present, which have been forwarded to the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Auckland to deal with. No roadworks have been required or undertaken within the settlement. The settlers have, however, been largely employed on the main road near their homes. The present estimated total value of improvements is: Burning off, clearing, and grassing, £277; cottage dwellings, £132; other buildings, £6; gardens, orchards, &c., £88; fencing, £320: total, £823. The total amount authorised as advances for building and fencing is £330, and the total amount of advances made is £298 8s. 1d. The area in grass is 370 acres; under crop this season, 17 acres; gardens and orchards, 4½ acres. The stock consists of thirty horses, seventeen milking-cows, 189 head of other horned cattle, eleven pigs, and sixty-three poultry. The population is twenty adults and twenty-three children, being a decrease from last year of one adult. The grass does not take well when surface-sown after burning off the fern and scrub. Most of this has been done, and it is worse than it otherwise would be, as in most cases it is insufficiently stocked, especially in the spring, and this allows the fern, which is then sprouting, to overcome the grass.

Tawai Settlement (near the mouth of the Awakino River).—There are eleven selectors holding 218 acres, the number of souls being twenty-three. The total area felled and grassed in the settlement is 304 acres. The stock amounts to forty-five head of cattle, twenty-seven sheep, and fifteen horses. The areas allotted each settler were far too small for the settlement to be a permanent one, as there was little employment to be obtained outside of road-formation works. The Chief Surveyor, Taranaki, has supervised this settlement.

C. W. Hursthouse, Road Surveyor.

HAWKE'S BAY.

We have two of these settlements, Waikopiro and Akitio, only two sections of the latter, however, being in this district, most of the settlement being in the Wellington District.

Waikopiro was founded in 1895, when fifteen selectors were put on 1,771 acres, the country generally being broken forest land with fair soil. All the settlers are residing; 806 acres have been felled and grassed, and 143 acres felled ready for burning, &c. The settlement is making fair progress considering that up to the present it has had bad road-access, but now that a bridge is being built over the Manawatu River, if the main road is metalled during the next summer, good communication will be established with Ormondville, and the settlement should advance and be flourishing.

Akitio was founded in 1896, and only two selectors, holding 145½ acres, are within this land district, the others being in Wellington. Both tenants are living on their selections. A full report on this settlement has been given by the Chief Surveyor, Wellington.

E. C. Gold Smith, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

Ngaire.—169 acres 2 roods 30 perches, in sixteen sections, all of which are held; 161 acres felled and grassed. Seventy persons on the land, and live-stock consists of 106 head of cattle and nineteen horses. One settler was assisted with a grant of £10 for the erection of his house. The settlers have made improvements at their own cost to the extent of £636. Two new settlers came into the settlement during the year.

Poti.—108 acres, in eight sections, all occupied; 106 acres felled and grassed. There are forty-nine persons on the land, and live-stock consists of forty-eight head of cattle and thirteen horses. Two settlers were assisted to the extent of £50 in the erection of houses. Improvements at selectors' own cost amount to £407.

Ma-ata.—30 acres, in three sections, occupied by two families, the total number on the land being six. The live-stock consists of twelve head of cattle and two horses. One selector was assisted to the extent of £20 in the erection of his house, and the other selector increased his holding by 10 acres. Improvements at the settlers' own cost amount to £52. The area felled and grassed is 23 acres.

The three settlements above mentioned are situated in the Ngaire Block, close to the Township of Eltham, and have progressed very satisfactorily during the year, and it is pleasing to add that there are no rents in arrear. Only one section was forfeited, and was taken up again during the year.

Tongaporutu.—2,500 acres, in sixteen sections, of which eight are held as improved farms, while three have been taken up by persons already holding land as additions to their farms, under the ordinary conditions of the Land Act. One section was realloted during the year to one of the settlers from the Greenlands Settlement as an exchange. The population is thirty-nine, and the live-stock consists of 152 head of cattle, 123 sheep, and nine horses. One section was forfeited for abandonment. Improvements at selectors' own cost amount to £323. 307 acres have been felled and grassed.

Mangaere.—Thirteen sections, comprising 482 acres 2 roods 13 perches, situate on Ohura Road, of which 399 acres are felled and grassed. Eleven sections are held by ten persons, the total number on the land being forty-six. One selector increased his holding by 15 acres 1 rood 24 perches. The live-stock consists of 203 head of cattle and twenty horses, showing an increase, as does also the value of improvements done at the settlers' own cost, it having nearly doubled, representing £1,040. The rent in arrear is only 16s. 4d., by one selector. A creamery was erected in the settlement during the year, and the selectors may be said to be making good progress.

Oruti.—Seven sections, comprising 697 acres, of which five are held by three persons, two of them having increased their holdings during the year. One section is vacant, the other being held under the ordinary conditions of the Land Act. There are nineteen persons on the land, the live

stock consists of seventy-five head of cattle and three horses. Improvements at selectors' own cost are valued at £145 5s. The area felled and grassed is 502 acres. There are no rents in arrear, and I think the selectors can hold their own independently of Government aid.

Taumatatahi.—Four sections, comprising 430 acres 2 roods, all occupied. Twenty-six persons resident, the live-stock belonging to them consists of fifty head of cattle, fifty-seven sheep, and seven horses. 159 acres have been felled and grassed, and the selectors have put on improvements at their own cost valued at £368. One settler was further assisted in improving his house to the extent of £15. There is no rent in arrear, and the settlement is progressing steadily.

Whangamomona.—111 sections, comprising 10,543 acres, of which sixty-four are occupied, of a total area of 6,096 acres. Five are non-resident, but one of these keeps a boardinghouse in the adjoining township, while two others have been incapacitated at various times, and have obtained leave of absence. The two remaining absentees will be served with notice as defaulters. Thirty-five of the sections are each represented by one person only. The total number of persons on the land is 168. The live-stock consists of 858 head of cattle, 250 sheep, and seventy horses, showing an increase on last year; while the improvements effected at the settlers own cost are valued at £4,049, having nearly doubled during the year. A rearrangement of sections and applications from settlers for additions to their holdings will be dealt with during the coming year. There have been two forfeitures and one surrender. The area felled and grassed is 3,052 acres, and the felling last season amounts to 354 acres, which will shortly be sown in grass.

Huiroa.—Nine sections, comprising 668 acres 1 rood 21 perches, of which seven are held; the number of persons on the land being thirty-four, and the live-stock fifty-six head of cattle and five horses. 358 acres have been felled and grassed. One of the sections was opened under the optional conditions of the Act, and taken up by an adjoining holder; the other section has partly been taken for a school-site, and the remainder of it, 29 acres, is not suitable for allotment, being cut into two, and a little swampy. The value of improvements at selectors' own cost amounts to £455, and there are no rents in arrear. This block is in the midst of settled lands, and may be considered independent of Government aid.

Okau.—Nineteen sections, comprising 1,889 acres 2 roods. Four sections held, the number of persons on the settlement being twenty-two, and the live-stock seventeen head of cattle and seven horses. 650 acres have been felled and grassed, and 15 acres felled during the year. The improvements at selectors' own cost amount to £110. It is intended to rearrange the vacant sections and offer them under the optional conditions of the Land Act. This settlement is a failure, principally through the majority of the selectors being single men, who thought more of obtaining work than in making homes for themselves.

Derwent.—Thirteen sections, containing 1,369 acres; nine persons holding 973 acres. One section was forfeited and one was reallotted during the year. Two of the sections formerly vacant have been taken up under the ordinary conditions of the Act by adjoining holders, and there are two sections at present vacant, which will be offered under the optional conditions. Twenty-six persons are residing on the land, the live-stock consisting of 119 head of cattle, 285 sheep, and nine horses, the sheep showing an increase. The area felled and grassed is 633 acres. Twenty-one acres were felled during the year, and the value of improvements at selectors' own cost is £464. The rent in arrear is £22 11s. 9d., by four selectors. Two selectors were assisted with £60 for the erection of their houses.

Nihoniho.—Sixteen sections, comprising 1,406 acres, of which three are held, the area being 213 acres 2 roods, and the number of persons on the land fifteen. Two of the occupiers are single men, brothers, and are proving very good settlers. 119 acres were felled and grassed. 28 acres were felled during the year. The settlers found all their own seed. The live-stock consists of 102 head of cattle, forty sheep, and sixteen horses, and the value of improvements at selectors' own cost £149, having increased by £92. There are no rents in arrear. The land in this settlement is first class, but as the surrounding lands are still in the hands of Natives, and ordinary settlement is very remote, the selectors may perhaps be too far away from a market to occupy the lands beneficially.

Greenlands.—Six sections, comprising 603 acres, of which two are held, the number of persons resident being nine, and the live-stock seventeen head of cattle, sixty-five sheep, and three horses. 250 acres were felled and grassed. 6½ acres were felled during the year. Three grants were made towards erection of houses, the amount being £50. The value of improvements at selectors' own cost amounts to £89 10s. The land is difficult of access, and distant from ordinary settlement. Rent was due on the 1st January last, and one payment has been made.

Mangapoua.—Seven sections, with an area of 702 acres, of which three are held by single men, the others being vacant, and will probably be added to the present occupiers' holdings. The area felled and grassed is 60 acres, and the value of improvements at selectors' own cost is £42. There were four forfeitures during the year. Two settlers have been assisted with £10 each in the erection of their houses. The live-stock consists of 110 head of cattle, seventeen sheep, and five horses; and one of the settlers is now building his house. Rent is not payable until the 1st January, 1900.

JOHN STRAUCHON, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WANGANUI.

There are still seven of these settlements in the district. The Ohutu Settlement is progressing most satisfactorily; the Hautapu, Rongoiti, Taihape, and Masterton-Tenui Settlements are making fair progress; the Otuarei Settlement has scarcely yet started. The work this year has consisted much more of fencing, buildings, and other interior improvements than of bush-felling, as has been the case in former years. Wherever possible, the settlers have been given

first chance of any roadworks which may have been available in their vicinities. There has been most work available in the neighbourhood of the Ohutu Settlement; but many of the settlers are now able to go on horseback considerable distances to work, on account of the improved means of communication. There have been no forfeitures during the year, and several of the sections previously forfeited have been again taken up.

Horopito Improved-farm Settlement, Waimarino.—The original area was 2,000 acres, of which, however, only three sections of 100 acres each were allotted. Only two are now occupied. The section forfeited last year has not been reallotted. 97¼ chains of fence-lines have been felled round the sections. There are now on the settlement three houses, 86 acres of grass, 31 acres felled but not grassed, 3¼ acres of garden, and 103 chains of fencing. The number of souls on the farm is five, with fifty-three cattle, five horses, and thirteen pigs. The bridle-track through the settlement is at present being widened out into a dray-road. The total value of improvements on the settlement is £545 11s. 5d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £250 13s. 1d.

Hautapu Improved-farm Settlement, Motukawa.—Original area of 1,204 acres, of which eleven sections of about 100 acres each are taken up, and all being resided upon. Except repairs, there has been no roadwork within the settlement during the year. Seven sections are accessible by dray-road, and the remainder by bridle-tracks. The settlers have mostly been employed at roadworks in the vicinity of the settlement. A considerable area of bushfelling was done during the year—viz., 84 acres—but, owing to the wet season, there have either been bad burns or none at all. The seed sown last autumn has grown very well. The number of souls now on the farm is fifty-nine, with 141 cattle, twenty-seven horses, and thirty-four pigs. The total area now in grass is 447 acres, including natural clearings and areas felled without advances. The fencing done amounts to 517 chains, and the area in gardens is 11¾ acres. A school is about to be erected on the farm. The total value of improvements now on the farm is £1,457 6s. 9d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £644 19s. 9d.

Masterton-Tenui Improved-farm Settlement, Awarua.—This settlement consists of twelve sections totalling 1,168 acres, all of which are taken up and being resided upon. The number of persons resident on the farm is fifty-seven, with 171 cattle, seventeen horses, forty-two sheep, and sixty pigs. The total area now in grass is 376 acres, including that done without advances, and 74 acres of bush have been felled this season, of which 48 acres have not been advanced upon. The sections are all accessible by dray-road. A large amount of fencing and internal improvements have been done during the year. The fencing done amounts to 616 chains, and the area in gardens is 6 acres. Most of the settlers have been employed on the railway-works in the vicinity, with occasional contracts on the roads. The only roadwork within the settlement that has been done during the year is 107 chains of bridle-track formation on the Mataroa Road, but this is charged against the Upper Makohine Block. This bridle-track will shortly be widened out into a dray-road for about 50 chains. The total value of improvements on the settlement is £1,821 4s. 4d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £1,049 3s. 5d.

Ohutu Improved-farm Settlement.—Area, 2,187 acres, divided into twenty-eight sections, of which twenty-six are taken up, and nineteen being resided upon. The number of persons resident is forty-eight, and the stock amounts to 137 cattle, thirty horses, 184 sheep, and fourteen pigs. The total area now in grass is 635 acres, and the area of bushfelling burnt, or ready for burning, is 174 acres. The length of fencing done is 563 chains, and the area in gardens is 7 acres. Fifteen sections are now accessible by dray-road, and the remainder by bridle-track. During the year the work done comprises 82·8 chains dray-road, 108·5 chains bridle-track, and 280 lineal feet culverts. Besides this, there were done 85 chains bridle-track formation along boundary of settlement, and giving improved access thereto, but chargeable against the Awarua vote. Some of the settlers have been employed on the railway-works, but most of them have been on roadworks in the block, or within a few miles of it. A dairy factory is proposed to be started. The total value of improvements on the settlement is £2,499 11s. 9d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £1,321 6s. 9d.

Otuarei Improved-farm Settlement.—The area is 2,000 acres. It was originally divided into twenty sections, but the number of sections has been reduced to twelve by enlarging the areas. The locality is quite unsuitable for 100-acre sections, the result being that the settlement has made very slow progress. Now that the access is becoming easier, there is a fair amount of energy being shown by the settlers. The number of persons resident on the settlement is fourteen, the number of sections being taken up six, which are all being resided on. The area in grass is 50 acres, not including natural clearings, of which there are 986 acres. The area felled and ready for grassing is 35 acres. The length of fencing done is 70 chains, and the area in garden 1 acre. The numbers of stock are twenty-four cattle, five horses, 300 sheep, and two pigs. The work done on the road comprises 48 chains of bridle-track clearing and formation, and 3 miles 13 chains of engineering survey. The total value of improvements on the settlement is £227 7s. 10d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £86 1s. 1d.

Rongoiti Improved-farm Settlement, Te Kapua.—The area of this farm is 2,387 acres, but only eight sections, totalling 789½ acres, have been allotted, and seven sections are being resided upon, the number of persons resident being sixteen. The stock consists of three cattle, eight horses, 445 sheep, and two pigs. The area in grass is 90 acres, and 41 acres additional has been felled and burnt, besides 234 acres of natural clearing. The length of fencing done is 145 chains, and the area of gardens is 4¼ acres. The settlers have mostly been employed on roadworks within or adjacent to the block. The roadwork done during the year comprises 110 chains engineering survey, 85 chains clearing and dray-road formation, 35·75 chains clearing only, one bridge 24 ft. span, 94 lineal feet culverts. Two of the sections are now accessible by dray-road, and three more will shortly be so. The class of settlers is good, but they are very much handicapped by the remoteness from markets, by the scarcity of employers of labour, and by the altitude of the settlement above sea-level. The

total value of improvements on the settlement is £466 7s. 5d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £194 19s. 6d.

Taihape Improved-farm Settlement.—Area, about 200 acres, divided into fourteen sections, but allotted to ten settlers, all of whom are residing. The number of persons resident on the settlement is thirty-nine. The stock consists of thirty-seven cattle, nineteen horses, and two pigs. The area in grass is 178 acres, and area of bushfelling ready to be burnt is 23½ acres. The length of fencing erected is 437 chains, and the area in gardens 6¾ acres. All the sections are accessible by dray-road. There have been 20 chains of dray-road constructed and 60 lineal feet of culverts erected during the year, and all the roads repaired. On this portion there have been 31 chains of bridle-track formed, besides five miles engineering survey done and 645 acres sown in grass. The number of stock appears small, but the settlement practically joins Taihape Township, and the settlers almost all take in horses or cattle for grazing, and grow garden produce. Some of them find constant work in the township, but most of them have been employed at roadwork. They are now, however, getting to be fairly independent. Probably they will soon have their leases issued and be transferred to the class of ordinary selectors. The total value of improvements on the settlement is £1,012 15s. 9d., of which those effected at the settlers' own unaided expense amounts to £369 3s. 9d. Adjoining this land is an area formerly known as the "State Farm," for in the year 1897 a block of 885 acres of forest land near Taihape, in the Awarua district, was set apart for that purpose, and 642 acres were felled and grassed by co-operative labour, at a cost of £1,608 6s. 1d. The land was afterwards surveyed into sections of from 60 acres to 185 acres each, of which 632½ acres were grassed, and offered for public application, when the whole was disposed of at a rent of £138 17s. 8d., seven sections being leased in perpetuity, and two with a right of purchase. There were two sections containing 9 acres 1 rood 27 perches reserved, the cost of felling and grassing which came to £23 10s. 11d. The unimproved value of the land offered for sale was £1,152 10s., and the improvements effected were, as above stated, £1,608 6s. 1d. A road has, however, yet to be finished across the block.

G. T. Murray, Road Surveyor.

WELLINGTON.

Kawatau Improved Farm.—No changes have occurred in the occupation of the twelve sections contained in this farm settlement, with the exception of one settler, who died in May last, leaving his widow in occupation. The sections are of the uniform size of 83 acres 1 rood 13 perches, one of which is completely cleared; the energetic selector of this having 60 acres down in grass, and stocked with twelve head of cattle and 250 sheep. The only Government expenditure during the year has been incurred in providing grass-seed and sowing 8 acres of land in the occupation of the widow mentioned above. Of the 1,000 acres contained in the settlement, 640 acres 2 roods 13 perches is cleared, and 610 acres 1 rood grassed and capable of bearing stock. Of these areas, 69 acres 1 rood 13 perches has been cleared and 132 acres 1 rood grassed at the settlers' own charge, at an estimated cost of £104 and £70 2s. 6d. respectively. Besides this, there has been 12 miles 35 chains of fencing erected, value £695 10s.; eleven residences, £197; gardens and orchards, £76 10s.; and outbuildings and water-wells, £32: making a total of £1,175 2s. 6d. as the value of improvements effected by the settlers themselves. To assist them in these improvements £230 has been advanced at different times by the Government, of which amount one advance of £10 has recently been repaid. There are twelve selectors, who, with seventy persons dependent upon them, make a total resident population of eighty-two. The live-stock amounts to 106 head of cattle, eleven horses, fifty-three pigs, and 748 sheep. The farm has a frontage of 5 miles 51 chains to the Kawatau Valley, Totara, and Titirangi Roads, the first two being open for vehicular traffic, and the latter a horse-road 6 ft. wide. The general condition of the settlers is very satisfactory. At the same time this prosperity depends to some extent on the employment the settlers receive upon Government works, which, it is to be hoped, will continue until the establishment of a creamery and butter-factory, when there is every reason to think the settlement will be entirely self-supporting.

Mangatiti Improved Farm.—Last year I had to report eighteen unoccupied sections, but now, with an additional area of 166 acres, there are only two sections, comprising 196 acres, remaining in the hands of the Crown. There are thirty-one settlers, holding 4,086 acres 3 roods 38 perches, being an average of 131 acres 3 roods 14 perches each. Nineteen settlers reside on their holdings, who, with twenty-two dependents, make a total residential population of forty-one. During the year the Government has paid £697 for felling 474 acres of bush, and £220 1s. 7d. for laying down 495 acres 2 roods in grass. Besides this, the settlers at their own cost have cleared 84 acres, valued at £129 16s., and grassed 110 acres 2 roods, at an estimated value of £58 3s. The other private improvements may be tabulated as follows: Residences, £184; fencing 106 chains, £76 2s. 3d.; gardens and orchards, £18 15s.; sheep-yards, cowsheds, and pig-yards, £6 8s.; other outhouses, £3; and a bridge erected by a settler to provide himself with better access, £8: making the total value of improvements effected by the selectors at their own cost £483 14s. 3d. This with the sums paid by Government amount to an aggregate of £2,224 19s. 10d. as representing the value of all improvements on the settlement. Of the area in grass, 564 acres 2 roods is reported as being capable of bearing stock, which is represented by eighty-nine head of cattle, thirty-four horses, and a few pigs. Orders have also been given to the local sawmill for timber to erect several cottages, ranging from two to five rooms each, thus indicating the probability of an increased residential population. Another item which cannot very well appear in a tabulated report is the large number of posts and other fencing material already on the ground awaiting erection. The general prospects of this farm are encouraging.

Pemberton Improved-farm Settlement.—Since my last report another section of 100 acres has been added to this farm, making the total area 1,347 acres. With the exception of the late addition, the whole of the settlement may be said to have passed its juvenile stage, inasmuch as it is now under full cultivation, only as much bush being left standing as will suffice for building and fencing material and shelter. 1,180 acres are cleared, of which 1,163 are in grass, carrying eighteen horses, 219 head of cattle, thirty pigs, and 474 sheep. There are 16 miles 25 chains of fencing erected, worth £779; residences valued at £545; while other private improvements carry the total value to the substantial sum of £1,571. The Government has expended £2,374 17s. 6d. in payment for clearing and grassing, making the total value of all improvements on the farm £3,945 17s. 6d. During the year a road has been formed to connect Cross Road with the main Mangawhararíki Road, which will also provide a convenient access for several of the settlers to the Ruahine Township. This farm settlement is in a prosperous condition.

Akitio Improved-farm Settlement.—There are forty-four sections in this settlement, comprising an area of 4,851 acres 1 rood, of which seven, of a total acreage of 712 acres, are at present unoccupied. During the year 427 acres have been cleared, at a cost to the Government of £591 12s. 6d., and a further expenditure of £245 4s. 6d. has been incurred for grassing 477 acres 1 rood. Besides this, ten selectors have received £124 under clause 16 of the regulations in aid of house-building and other improvements, making a total expenditure by Government of £961 17s. The total operations undertaken at the expense of the Government since the inception of the settlement are represented by 1,752 acres of clearing and 1,189 acres of grassing, costing £2,643 3s. 2d. Besides this, the selectors have effected the following improvements at their own cost, to which I have attached the appraised values: Clearing 248 acres 1 rood, £337 7s. 6d.; grassing 178 acres, £92; fencing 245 chains, £220 10s.; residences, £366 10s.; gardens, &c., £35 10s.; outbuildings, £20; and the cost of burning off, packing, and sowing grass-seed is estimated at £118 8s.: making the total value of private improvements £1,190 5s. 6d. The area capable of bearing stock is 1,153 acres, and on this area the settlers run sixty-eight head of cattle, twenty-eight horses, twenty-two pigs, and 1,438 sheep, showing in this item of stock an approximate increase of 100 per cent. since last return. Last year there were only ten settlers domiciled on their holdings, but now there are nine single men and fourteen married couples with their families settled on their holdings. As compared with last year, it will be seen that very material and satisfactory progress has been made. Many also who started without means, depending on road-making and Government assistance in clearing and other improvements, are now comfortably housed, have part of their sections cleared, grassed, and stocked, and in a few years' time, when the roadwork is completed, will have their holdings in such a forward state as will enable them to get a comfortable living without having to depend upon outside work.

J. W. A. Marchant, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

The position of the six improved-farm settlements in this district is, with one or two exceptions, much the same as at this time last year. The exceptions are the improved condition of roads, and the establishment of the dairy factory at Heathfield for the benefit of that and the Waipati settlements. As compared with last year's returns, the present tables show the number of selectors to be reduced by three, but with a slightly increased area of 130 acres 1 rood 6 perches, some of the abandoned sections having been reallotted to the remaining settlers, the total area now held by seventy-three selectors being 9,879 acres 1 rood 4 perches. The total number of persons resident is 260, as against 200 last year. Further advances to the extent of £94 for houses, and expenditure of £2,706 16s. 9d. for bushfelling and other works, have been made during the year, making the total advances to 31st March last: For houses, £678 10s. 6d.; and for bushfelling, &c., £14,022 0s. 1d.: grand total, £14,700 10s. 7d. There has been an increase in area felled of 452 acres, of felled and grassed of 539 acres, 343 cattle and horses, and 8 miles 13 chains of roads felled and formed or partially formed. The approximate value of improvements now on the land, including those paid for by Government, is estimated at £16,010. As the whole of these settlements are still in a state of non-completion, so far as expenditure of Government money is concerned, no rents have been definitely fixed, nor any leases issued, and accordingly they are entered in the returns as "Lands allotted but not finally registered, pending Completion of Improvements." The Chief Surveyor, Mr. Hay, who has the chief control of these settlements in the meantime, reports on them severally as follows:—

Heathfield and Waipati.—The roading in connection with these settlements is now nearly completed, and the expenditure in this direction will in future be small. A little is yet required to be done on what is known as "Harris's Road," and the spanning of Waipati River by a small bridge. There will, however, still be the usual yearly expenditure in bushfelling and grass-sowing, but these may be considered work tending to self-support. One great boon to the settlers has been the timely assistance of Mr. McNab, M.H.R., in the erection of a dairy factory at these settlements. The daily milk-supply during the best months of the season amounted to a little over 700 gallons; and when such a supply is converted into ready money it must be appreciated by the settlers, tending as it does in the direction of making the settlements self-supporting. The settlers will probably require a little further assistance yet, but this should be given in the way of work in metalling the main Catlin–Waikawa Road. During the year an area of 304·5 acres was felled, burned, and sowed down in grass on these two settlements.

Rimu (Block XV.).—This settlement is not so far advanced as Heathfield and Waipati in the way of roading, &c., not having been in existence so long. Some miles of roading and culverting still require to be done before access is given to all the sections in the block. The settlers are a very hardworking class of men, who will, with the usual assistance accorded to them, eventually

make their holdings self-supporting. They are now hopefully looking forward to the time when they too will be running a small dairy factory. During the year 122·5 acres were felled, burnt, and sown down in grass of a permanent nature.

Purakauiti and Puaho (Block IX., Woodland).—Only 27 acres of bushfelling, burning, and grass-seeding have been effected on these settlements during the year. A good many of the occupants were single men, who, as a rule, are not the most desirable class of settlers for this kind of settlement, as when work becomes intermittent they usually leave, and the result is that the improvements which ought to be effected are neglected. A number of the rights of these occupants will have shortly to be cancelled, after which I anticipate their places can be filled by married men.

Woodland (Block II.).—A number of applicants were allotted sections in this block, but none now reside there, nor have any improvements been effected during the year; in fact, progress must and will stand in abeyance until such time as the Ratanui–Whitehead Road is formed and reaches the boundary of the settlement, thereby making the settlement accessible to intending settlers.

J. P. Maitland, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

Haldane Improved-farm Settlement.—This settlement comprises portions of Blocks IX. and X., Waikawa district, and is situated on the Waikawa–Otara Road. Access from Fortrose is good during the summer, but from Waikawa there is as yet no formed road. 227 acres of bush was felled during the year, 209¾ acres was burned and grassed, and 10 acres of old felling was also burned and grassed. There are 62½ acres of unburned bush on the settlement at present. 32¾ chains of road were completed, and 45 chains of road felled and logged up. Fencing-wire was supplied to all the settlers who applied for it, and the holdings are being fenced by degrees. Five road contracts, totalling 73½ chains, are in hand and progressing favourably. The amount of money advanced for buildings was £115, and for fencing-wire £88 10s. It is expected that a dairy factory will be started next season; if such be the case, the settlement should be self-supporting for the future. The grass does very well on most of the sections, and the cattle are in good condition. It will take about £600 to complete the unformed settlement-roads.

Waikawa Improved-farm Settlement.—This settlement is portion of Block XVII., Waikawa district, and is about five miles from Waikawa Township. During the year 97½ acres of bush was felled, and of this 78 acres was burned and grassed. There is 17 acres of unburned bush on the settlement. One road contract, 26 chains long, is in hand, which, when completed, will leave only about 20 chains of unformed road in the settlement, which it will be necessary to form to give access to all the sections. £29 4s. has been advanced for buildings, and £45 11s. for fencing-wire. This settlement should be able to support itself now, as there is a dairy factory in the district, with a good summer road from the settlement to the Waikawa–Fortrose Road.

Moturimu Improved-farm Settlement.—This settlement forms part of Block VIII., Campbelltown Hundred, close to Woodend, on the Invercargill–Bluff Railway. During the year 30 acres of bush was felled, 15½ acres was burned and sown, and £80 was advanced for buildings. No roadwork was carried out during the year. Some of the settlers are felling and selling their timber to the sawmill, and are making good wages by doing so; and, as some have substantial houses on their holdings, I do not think they should be interfered with, but care will have to be taken with those who have not got good houses. There is not much demand for work on this settlement, as the settlers find employment at the sawmills and elsewhere.

Papatotara Improved-farm Settlement.—During the year 28¼ acres of bush was felled and burned. This settlement is very much out of the way. The settlers have been mostly employed on the Preservation Inlet Track and Orawia–Clifden Road.

It will be seen from the remarks on the several settlements that the time has now come when the settlers should be required to pay rent. Hitherto the difficulties they had to contend with and the absence of an outlet for their produce prevented them from making a living, consequently a rental demand would have had disastrous effects. In the case of Waikawa, and shortly also at Haldane, the establishment of dairy factories will be the means of success. The other two settlements should also soon be in a position to carry on without much outside assistance.

D. Barron, Chief Surveyor.

APPENDIX No. 6.—FORESTRY.

REPORT BY HENRY J. MATTHEWS, FORESTER.

In submitting for your consideration the third annual report on the various operations carried on under my supervision, I have to express my satisfaction on the excellent work accomplished by the staff at each nursery, especially by the nurserymen in charge, who have carried out their duties with skill and energy.

The past season has been a very favourable one throughout the colony for the growth of trees, and a fair measure of success has attended the various works in hand. The tree-seeds (sown during autumn and spring) have without exception germinated satisfactorily, and the resultant crops are looking healthy and vigorous.

With the exception of some twenty-one thousand trees for Dusky Hill plantation and a few thousand Eucalypti for the Whakarewarewa plantation, general transferring of trees from nurseries to plantation areas will not be proceeded with until next autumn, after which the work will become an annual one. Generally speaking, it is the practice to transfer trees at three years of age, and as the first nursery established (Eweburn) is only some two years and seven months old (during which time we have experienced two of the driest years known in the district), sufficient time has not elapsed for the growth of sturdy well-developed stock to withstand this rigorous climate. Tapanui Nursery was started during May, 1897, twenty-three months since, and Rotorua Nursery during March of last year, thirteen months ago.

Preparations are now being made to grow shelter and ornamental trees and shrubs at the nurseries for transferring to sanatoria throughout the colony. This work will, of course, entail additional labour, as none but trees likely to be of commercial value as timber were cultivated until last year.

An outbuilding, to embrace stable and implement- and feed-house, is urgently required at Rotorua, as is also a cottage for the nurseryman at Eweburn.

Full details concerning the various crops at each nursery are appended in Schedules A to H herewith, and in estimating the value of trees in stock I have taken an average of ruling trade prices with 20 per cent. reduction, so that the values represented are below market rates.

Rotorua Nursery.

A very good season with excellent results has been experienced at this nursery. There are 888,450 one-year-old forest trees and 230,810 ornamental trees, shrubs, and hedge-plants at present growing in the nursery, all in a very healthy condition.

The rainfall has been 48·50in., spread over 143 days. This may seem rather excessive, but the open, porous nature of the soil absorbs moisture very quickly, and should rain continue for even twenty-four hours it is quite possible to at once work the ground without it being the least cloggy.

The nursery (including roads and shelter plantation areas) contains some 30 acres. This was cleared of fern and scrub during the autumn of 1898, after which the rough levelling of same was proceeded with. This work entailed considerable labour, as the surface was of a very broken nature, the result of excavations made by old Maoris in search of fern-root. Care was taken to conserve the good soil found in the bottom of these excavations, and this was spread on portions where ridges had been reduced to give an even grade to the whole surface. Deep ploughing was then resorted to for the purpose of getting rid of the fern-roots, which were carted into heaps and burnt. Half an acre was prepared by spade for the reception of cuttings of various trees and shrubs, most of which were obtained from the Sanatorium grounds and park.

Some ten thousand Oriental plane cuttings were also obtained from the street-trees in Rotorua and elsewhere. These have made remarkable growth during the season, some of them making shoots over 4 ft. in length.

Several thousand Conifer cuttings, as well as native plants, were planted under hip-roofed frames, shaded with scrim. These have "struck" exceedingly well, the open, free soil and partial shade evidently supplying the necessary requirements in this direction. About half an acre was prepared and graded to an even slope for the sowing of tree-seeds, which was completed during October. With the exception of *Pinus strobus* (some of which often lie dormant for one season), the whole germinated well, and have subsequently made very good growth.

A water-supply has been obtained from the local service by connecting therewith 1 in. galvanised piping, and continuing same in two branches through centre of seed-bed ground, with stand-pipes for hose-connection every 100 ft. This provision will enable the work of seed-raising to be carried on without risk of failure during a dry season.

The area intended for lining-out purposes, exclusive of roads and shelter breaks, is 10¾ acres in extent, of a fairly even nature, and with a slight fall to the north. This land has been divided into breaks by 20 ft. roads at 3 chains apart, in order to facilitate its working by plough and other implements. It was twice ploughed preparatory to being sown down with oats for horse-feed. Some 60 tons of manure was obtained from the Rotorua Town Board's depot and applied to this ground during the spring, and arrangements have now been made to have the depot removed to within the plantation enclosure.

Six acres were enclosed by a light fence for horse-paddock, and this area will be surface-sown shortly.

A tool-shed, 12 ft. by 7 ft., and a nurserymen's hut, 20 ft. by 12 ft., have been erected during the year.

Stable-accommodation, feed-house, and implement-shed are urgently required, as at present we are indebted to Mr. Nelson, of Whakarewarewa, for this convenience.

Owing to non-delivery by contractors of small-mesh wire netting to cover the seed-frames, two Maori women were employed for about six weeks (from daylight till dark) to scare small birds, yellow-hammers and native larks being the worst offenders in this respect. Arrangements have now been made for the importation of the necessary netting, so that the birds will be restrained.

In addition to nursery work, Mr. Barrett, the nurseryman-in-charge, superintended operations at the Sanatorium grounds and park up to the 21st November, when Mr. J. E. Pearson was appointed to this work. The growing of bedding-out plants for Sanatorium grounds and part of the vegetables for Sanatorium use was also undertaken.

Whakarewarewa Plantation Reserve (Area, 817 acres).

This land has been enclosed by a substantial post-and-wire fence erected in the centre of a cleared line half a chain in width. The total length of clearing is 319 chains, much of it through very deep gullies and once steep hillsides, thus entailing considerable labour in sledging the fencing material to position, for which purpose tracks through the scrub had to be cut for a distance of a mile and a half. About 30 acres have been cleared of scrub and burnt preparatory to ploughing. Eight acres of this land has been ploughed at date of writing, and the remainder will be gone on with shortly. It is proposed to plant out permanently here several thousand Eucalypti during the coming spring.

Fifty chains of old road-line were reopened for the purpose of giving easy access to the adjoining lands, and also to act as fire-breaks later on.

Record of Rainfall and Temperature at State Forest Nursery, Rotorua.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Highest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.	Lowest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.
1898.			Degrees.		Degrees.	
April	3·93 in.	18	60	13th	22	19th
May	6·32 in.	13	62	21st	18	18th
June	3·01 in.	7	62	5th and 7th	23	1st and 11th
July	6·52 in.	14	60	6th, 13th, and 14th	30	21st
August	3·54 in.	10	64	13th	26	1st
September	1·69 in.	11	69	28th	27	7th
October	4·56 in.	12	73	23rd	35	2nd
November	2·37 in.	14	86	24th	41	25th
December	5·85 in.	13	83	31st	41	21st
1899.						
January	4·27 in.	13	88	1st	38	11th
February	3·70 in.	8	84	16th	34	10th
March	2·74 in.	10	77	5th	34	13th
Total for the year ...	48·50 in.	143 days.				

PLANTATIONS, ETC., IN ROTORUA DISTRICT.

Wai-o-tapu Plantation (Area, 18 acres, in three allotments).—The quality of the trees planted here (as in all the other plantations) have been very poor—drawn-up specimens with poor roots, owing to want of frequent transplantation when in nursery rows. This seems to be the chief cause of what failures have occurred. *Pinus laricio* has suffered most in this respect, and what few have grown are thriving well and making excellent growth. *Pinus austriaca* has so far outstripped other species in regard to growth and healthy appearance. Larch is also doing well, its growth generally having been very rapid. *Abies excelsa*, *A. menziesii* and *A. douglasii* promise to be a decided success, having made fair growth, and are extremely healthy and vigorous. As the deciduous trees planted (ash, oak, sycamore, and chestnuts) were long spindly specimens, I had them all cut down to ground-level last spring, to induce them to break afresh so as to form a clean stem. This they have done very satisfactorily, and the growth they have made since this operation is beyond all expectations.

Galatea Road Plantations and Grass Paddock (Area, 25 acres, in four allotments).—*Pinus austriaca* is thriving splendidly even in these very exposed positions, while *A. excelsa*, *A. menziesii*, and larch appear to be doing well, especially along the western boundary of one plantation where the manuka scrub is sufficiently high to break the strong winds experienced from that quarter. The deciduous trees present rather a sickly appearance here, being mere whip-like rods with a tuft of foliage at the top. These were not cut down last season similar to the trees in other plantations, as it was thought desirable to see whether they would eventually become healthy and vigorous with topping. However, the excellent growth made by trees when cut down to ground-level suggests the propriety of treating these plantations in a similar manner during the ensuing spring. It would be desirable to clear the scrub and plough, say, half a chain wide around the fence-lines on these plan-

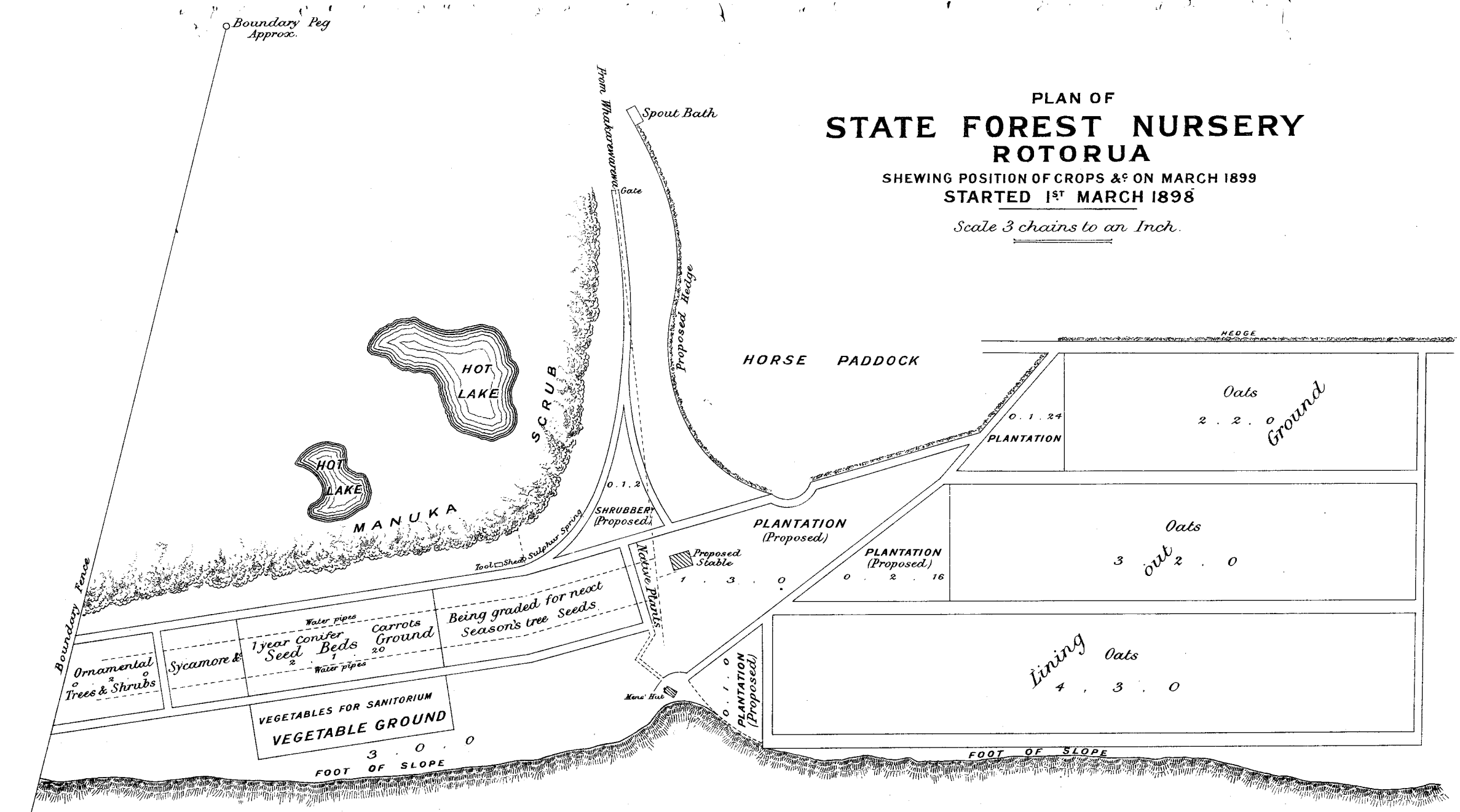
PLAN OF

STATE FOREST NURSERY
ROTORUA

SHEWING POSITION OF CROPS &c ON MARCH 1899

STARTED 1st MARCH 1898

Scale 3 chains to an Inch.



tations, to prevent damage should fires occur during the dry summer weather. In the grass paddock Chewing's fescue is establishing itself fairly well, and the same may be said of cocksfoot, although this grass seems to suffer through drought.

Turakenga Plantation (Area, 15 acres).—All deciduous trees with the exception of larch were cut down during spring, and they have now made excellent fresh growths. *Abies douglasii* and larch seem to have thriven best in this locality. Pines are making good headway, especially *P. austriaca*.

Mamuka Plantation (Area, 6 acres).—This enclosure was made in the dense bush, and with the exception of a few larches and birch that were exposed to sunlight the remainder are either dead or dying.

Whakarewarewa Plantations (Area, 21 acres, in three allotments).—All deciduous trees except larch were cut down to ground-level during spring, with good results. Conifers without exception have done well here, considering the poor quality of trees planted. The whole of these areas were prepared and sown with native tree and shrub seeds during last spring, which have germinated satisfactorily. It is intended to remove all exotic trees from these plantations shortly, and allow the native kinds to form a dense cover in keeping with the natural surroundings. Pathways will afterwards be formed through the plantations to enable visitors to view the many wonders in this valley with comfort and safety.

Rangitaiki Experimental Paddock (Area, 50 acres).—The following grasses have done fairly well on this reserve: Prairie grass, Chewing's fescue, *Poa pratensis*, crested dogstail, white-clover, and tall fescue, the latter making by far the most headway. A mixture of the above grasses was sown during November last, and, in addition, *Poa brownii*, rat-tail grass, tree-lucerne, Hungarian brome grass, and two varieties of Australian salt-bush plants. Hares are becoming very plentiful in this district, and no doubt it is through their presence that many of the seedling Eucalypti and pines are eaten off as they appear through the ground. Most of the finer-leaved grasses are also eaten down close to the ground, and by this means they are prevented from seeding. The so-called Cape weed has almost taken possession of the once bare patches between the various fodder-plants, growing with great luxuriance even in pure pumice. Although this is a bad weed in cultivated ground, one is tempted to welcome it in this arid region where scarcely a morsel of green herbages is visible.

An experiment was made by sowing a mixture of grasses on a portion of the plain where the scanty undergowth had recently been burnt off, but as I have not visited the district since the result is not known.

Sanatorium Grounds and Park, Rotorua.

Since these grounds were placed under the control of the Forest Branch of the Department several necessary improvements have been effected. In the early part of the year 1898 the works were carried out under the supervision of Mr. J. E. Barrett, nurseryman in charge at Whakarewarewa.

The dense growth of manuka scrub and fern on either side of the main drives and walks in the park was grubbed up and burnt to a width of half a chain. Many of the trees planted along these walks were being choked by this growth, and, in the event of fire, would have been considerably endangered thereby. The total length of clearing is 274 chains. A number of unsightly trees were removed from conspicuous places in the park grounds, and all walks were kept free of weeds.

Immediately inside the Hinemoa Street entrance to the Sanatorium grounds a number of *Thuja gigantea*, Acacias, and Callitris were removed, and a neat design of grass-plot substituted. The trees on either side of the walk leading from the entrance were trimmed where necessary, and some blue-gum stumps rooted out. The pruning of roses and other flowering-shrubs received attention, and many herbaceous plants were introduced on to the various flower-borders on the grounds.

Thirty yards of good soil were used in top-dressing the tennis-lawn, besides a quantity of grass-manure. The oval grass-plot in front of the Sanatorium building was also top-dressed, and a bed in the centre planted with annuals. Other grass-plots surrounding the building received a liberal supply of fresh soil.

Owing to heavy gales threatening to uproot some of the gums alongside the Hinemoa Street fence, it was thought desirable to remove two of these trees, as serious damage would result from their falling into the grounds.

In the kitchen-garden a trench 3 ft. deep was cut around most of the enclosure. This was done to sever the surface roots of the *Pinus insignis*, as they have a very exhausting effect upon the gardens. The whole area was filled with vegetables of various kinds, after having received a dressing of bone-dust. The fruit-trees were pruned and attended to. The fruit-trees and roses in the doctor's garden were also subjected to a vigorous pruning. The trees (*Cryptomeria elegans*) which form the avenue from Brent's to Rachel Bath were pruned where required, and the round grass-plot in front of bath-building top-dressed and edged off.

All grass verges that required edging received attention. Walks were kept free of weeds and decaying leaves, and all unsightly objects removed from flower-borders where possible. The season was favourable to the growth of grass amongst the larger trees in the grounds, so that a deal of scythe-work was necessary to keep it down.

A small area behind Blue Bath that contained a number of useless young trees, and which was also overrun with sorrel, was dug over and planted with dahlias, chrysanthemums, cosmos, &c. These have made a nice show for some time past. Native plants from Whakarewarewa Nursery were arranged on newly sown grass-plots with good effect.

The kitchen-garden was kept stocked with vegetables, and a little time was spent in tidying up the garden about the doctor's house.

In the park some four miles and a half of drives and walks were kept tidy. The horse-hoe was used on the Queen's Drive and other wide roads, and proved a great saving of labour, as formerly this work was done with dutch hoes and spades. The scrub that had been pulled up for half a chain wide along roadways was burnt during favourable weather, and the aftergrowth of fern kept down in the most conspicuous places.

The cutting of additional tracks at Picnic Point was taken in hand, and good progress made with the work. This is a much-frequented spot by visitors and residents here, and what has been done so far seems to be greatly appreciated. Some distance to the east of this point, and close to the lake-edge, winding pathways 8 ft. wide were cut, and several fine views of the lake made accessible. Up to the present time 18 chains of these paths have been completed. Another pathway was commenced from the termination of present road to Picnic Point, and which is intended to skirt the lake for a distance of 22½ chains, running eastward.

Proposed Improvements.

In the Sanatorium grounds there is ample scope for improvement. The manner in which many of the large flowering-shrubs, particularly rhododendrons are encroaching upon the walks renders their removal to more suitable places a very necessary work. To keep the walks clear a deal of the growth of these plants has to be cut back annually, thus spoiling to a very great extent their natural symmetry and beauty. Although the trees are large, it is not anticipated that any difficulty will occur in their safe removal to more appropriate positions where they might be utilised to the best advantage.

The various flower-beds require rearranging. The bed to the east of the Malfroy geysers, containing roses, bulbs, and herbaceous plants, requires to be made presentable. In the centre of the bed three large rhododendrons could be planted, and thus form a background for roses, dahlias, bulbs, and other herbaceous plants of a suitable character, a number of which are growing in obscure positions about the grounds. Several laurel-bushes growing alongside the plot would be better removed, as they are too large, and spoil the view from the side they occupy. In the large flower-bed to the east of fountain rhododendrons, azaleas, roses, dahlias, herbaceous plants, and bulbs should be removed. This might be done by removing the rhododendrons to the centre. The azaleas could be shifted to where required, and roses, &c., properly arranged, as in the former plot.

Other large flower-beds should be treated in a similar manner to the above. A small plot near the Malfroy geysers, with several Acubas growing along the edge, requires a little alteration. Several designs cut in the grass should be sown over, and the Acubas removed to better positions, and a few dwarf-growing ornamental plants properly arranged in other places.

The lawn opposite the Blue Bath contains a sulphurous patch which is always devoid of vegetation. This is a suitable place for the introduction of a little rockwork. The triangular grass-plot on the eastern side of Hospital building should be properly levelled up and sown with grass.

Behind the Blue Bath, an area 90 ft. by 90 ft., is an excellent site for the formation of a rosarium. About 60 yards of good soil would be sufficient to renew the grounds, and if the whole area was sown in grass appropriate designs could be prepared for the reception of tea and hybrid perpetual roses. A trellis could be erected along the back of bath-building for the support of climbing varieties, and thus afford a screen to the most unsightly portion of the building.

The cost of forming rosarium is estimated at £14 10s., made up as under: 60 yards of soil, £3; labour, £6; grass-seed, 10s.; rose-trees, £5.

The formation of a bowling-green is another work which it would be advisable to put in hand at an early date. The proposed site for this has an area of 180 ft. by 180 ft., and lies in a hollow to the north-east of tennis-court. The area taken up by the bowling-green proper would be 150 ft. by 150 ft., 30 ft. being devoted to terraces, paths, and border. About 1,000 yards of soil would be required for surface-dressing and raising of border. All large shrubs not required—viz., rhododendrons, &c.—for other borders in grounds could be transferred to bowling-green enclosure. The cost of this work would be £94 10s., made up as under: 1,000 yards of soil, £50; labour, £36; grass-seed, £4; pumice for paths, £4 10s.

On the border leading from main entrance to Hospital towards the gardener's cottage a row of blue-gums have grown to a size that makes them positively dangerous during a gale, especially if accompanied with rain. In addition to this, they cause a great nuisance by covering the path and tennis-lawn with dropping leaves, and the impoverishing effect of these trees is well known. The whole of these should be removed.

The present paling fence might be removed and a neat wire fence substituted, and Pittosporum or other suitable hedge-plants planted the whole distance, after the border had received a good supply of fresh soil. The pathway running parallel with the border referred to should be dispensed with, and the space filled with suitable trees and shrubs. One of the greatest eyesores within the grounds is the large triangular area to the left of walk leading from Hinemoa Street entrance and alongside the doctor's residence. Some good specimens of a rare Cordyline are growing here, having been planted without the ground being levelled in any way; the grass is growing in scattered clumps, and the whole area is unsightly. It would be advisable to have this place properly top-dressed with good soil. It could then be sown in grass, and would make a nice lawn. The border at southern end of the above could be greatly improved by the removal of four *Pinus insignis*. It would then be possible with a little top-dressing to get grass to cover the bare surface. The old paling fence at this spot should be removed and a live one substituted. On either side of the avenue leading from Brent's to Rachel Bath the ground is hot, and it would be well to sow on it Indian doub grass for a width of 5 yards. This grass adapts itself well to positions such as these.

Surrounding the Rachel Bath cooling-tanks is a very unsightly patch of ground which might be considerably improved if planted with wattles and any native shrubs that would withstand the sulphur-fumes; so far, wattles seem to be the best suited for this purpose.

Another unsightly piece of ground lies on the west of pathway leading from the bath caretaker's (Hall's) cottage to Rachel Spring. This might also be hidden from view (if a quantity of good soil was obtained) and planted with native shrubs. A small triangular plot near Rachel Pool, at present planted with gums, would be much better if entirely devoted to rhododendrons. These shrubs are thoroughly at home in this soil, and make a grand display in early spring.

With regard to the park, it is proposed to plant either side of all principal drives and walks with native shrubs and trees. The almost entire absence from the grounds of our indigenous plants is a subject often commented upon by visitors from other countries, to whom the presence of sombre exotic pines and cypressus are of little interest.

It would add much to the attractiveness of that part of the park through which tracks have been recently cut if clumps of tree and other ferns were planted. The manukau is sufficiently high to allow of their doing well when once established.

The local cricket club propose taking up 5 acres in the triangular block to the north side of Queen's Drive, and converting same into a playing-ground, in which case it will be necessary to form walks leading to the ground.

Pukeroa Hill Reserve.

Towards the end of November last a start was made with this work. The cutting of the heavy growth of grass throughout the reserve was first taken in hand. Several tons of hay were saved, and this was carted to the Whakarewarewa Nursery. Along the course of walks intended for formation it was necessary to grub up a deal of manuka scrub; this was done, and the making of paths and improvement of those already formed commenced. With some of the original walks a slight regrading was necessary in places, the total length of paths formed and improved being 25 chains.

The main drive, 20 ft. wide, running from southern entrance in a straight line through playing enclosure and taking a turn outside northern end of same, and continuing along top to opposite Lake Hotel, then branching southwards, has a length of 53 chains.

The whole width of drive was ploughed for the removal of soil to where required, and the use of nursery horses and drays were obtained for this purpose. The whole length of the drive will be completed shortly. An average of seven men were kept employed, the total expenditure in labour being £150.

Further Improvements on Pukeroa Reserve (proposed).

On either side of the main drive it is proposed to plant plane- and birch-trees alternately, at 31 ft. apart, the trees to be high enough in the stem to allow of a clear view being obtained of the surrounding country. The effect of such an avenue as this in a few years would be very fine. The cost of trees for this purpose should not exceed £5. It is also proposed to plant two rows of fast-growing trees on the south and west terraces for shelter purposes. This would necessitate the removal of those already growing there, as they are unsuitable for the position.

On the edge of terrace it is proposed to erect a 3 ft. fence of netting so that sheep might be grazed within the enclosure, and thus save the expense of keeping the ground in playing condition. The Conifers and deciduous trees growing round the playing-ground have been planted much too close, and thinning must be resorted to, and all dwarf-growing Retinosporas, &c., growing in the back row should be removed to the front.

The slopes of the terraces require regrading in several places, and a pathway 6 ft. wide formed on top of terrace at south-western side. The erection of W.C.'s should be seen to, in order to abate the present nuisance caused by their absence. The ground around the trig. station is in a very rough state, and here it is proposed to plant clumps of shade trees with high stems, to preserve the present fine view. On the steep face to the east of trig. station is a plantation of Conifers, which present rather a dull appearance. This is an excellent place for planting native shrubs. The trees already on the ground would act as nurses for these until they would be large enough to allow of the removal of most of the Conifers.

During the coming winter the playing-ground should receive a thorough top-dressing of good soil and bone-dust. The fence around the reserve should be put in order, and a number of strong garden-seats procured for placing in various parts of the ground. The cost of carrying out the above improvements would be £100.

When once the reserve is in thorough order a man might be profitably employed in maintaining same—at least, his time might be employed between this work and the Kiurau Reserve.

The Kiurau Reserve.

A contract was let to clear off all dead manuka scrub, the result of a fire the season previous. The progress made with this work has been rather slow.

A track 31 chains long was cut along Tarewa East Block boundary-line for the convenience of surveyors. An agreement was entered into with the Native owners of Tarewa East Block for the supply of posts for fencing between the two boundaries, the cost of other material and erection being supplied by this department. Tenders will be called for the fencing of the whole block, 114 chains being the total length of fence required.

The improvements which it is proposed to carry out in the reserve consist in cutting tracks at an average width of 8 ft. to the numerous places of interest within the enclosure. Owing to the very swampy nature of the whole block it would be advisable to plant clumps of the various varieties of gums, flax, Cordylines, &c., and as many other of our native trees that are likely to establish themselves in ground of this kind.

The cost of fencing, track-cutting, and planting would be £138 15s.

Whakarewarewa Geyser Reserve.

This area was placed under Mr. Pearson's charge in December last. A man has been employed for a few days occasionally in tidying up the various walks and roads. It is proposed during the coming season to prepare various spots throughout the ground for planting native shrubs. The exotic trees (principally Conifers) that are already growing in straight rows will be removed to make room for these. The manuka and other native vegetation growing about the grounds will be conserved as far as is possible, and all walks that require re-forming will be attended to. The three plantations of English trees will be gradually removed, and, with this object in view, contracts were let to Maori women in November last to clear off all fern growth. A quantity of native tree-seeds were sown broadcast over the ground, and have germinated fairly well. The improvements that are contemplated throughout the geyser area might easily be performed by one man possessing a fair knowledge of plants and garden work. His duties could also comprise the looking after the geysers, springs, &c., and thus save the expense of employing one man for this work alone.

A large and varied assortment of native trees, shrubs, and plants have been raised from seed, as well as some hundreds of collected specimens, and they are now in the nursery, preparatory to planting in this valley of natural wonders. In my last report I suggested that this reserve should be kept as far as possible in its natural state, and accordingly preparations have been made to improve it by the addition of the trees, &c., above mentioned. Undoubtedly, this is a place for our native trees and shrubs, which are much neglected in ordinary planting. I feel sure the result would help to teach the lesson that our native trees are as beautiful as those of any other country. Whatever is planted will be grouped or massed in as natural a manner as possible.

The erection of unsightly bathing-houses as at present exist should be discontinued, and their place taken by more picturesque structures, in keeping with the natural surroundings.

The Street Trees of Rotorua.

On examination I found them generally in a thriving condition, but in very many cases the class of trees chosen for this purpose was not of a suitable character, and insufficient attention has been paid to arrangement at the time of planting. The Oriental plane is undoubtedly the finest of all trees that have been used in street-planting here, and it would be well to confine further planting principally to this tree. The avenue in Arawa Street contains some fine specimens of the plane, and these were greatly improved by the vigorous pruning they received during winter by Mr. Barrett. If anything, they have been planted too close, and the individual trees do not show to the best advantage. Several poplars are mixed with the planes in this street, and they would be better removed, as the two do not harmonize well.

In the streets more recently planted I found much to complain of. In the first place, various species have been mixed up indiscriminately, and in many instances the trees ruined by having their leading shoots cut out. The practice of arranging avenues with trees of dissimilar habits of growth, as has been done here, results in a very uneven growth of the whole. Much of the labour expended on staking the young trees might have been saved were the trees not so large when planted. It is apparent that when trees 8 ft. or 10 ft. high, with a poorly developed stem, are removed from nursery rows to exposed positions on the streets their chance of obtaining sufficient root-hold without the assistance of stakes to enable them to withstand the strong winds experienced here during summer is very slight, but in planting smaller and better-rooted specimens the results would be entirely different. The height of stem should be determined after the trees are permanently planted, and not before their removal from the nursery. Gums are not suitable for avenue purposes, being of too lofty growth, and their large surface roots are very objectionable on footpaths. Almost the same remarks apply to *Pinus insignis*. These are also very liable to be blown over in a strong gale. It would be well to dispense with a large number of the more recently planted trees and substitute others of a more suitable character.

I have pleasure in expressing my appreciation of the excellent services rendered by Mr. T. E. Pearson, gardener-in-charge, whose skill and ability as a landscape gardener is of a very high order.

Central Nursery, Eweburn.

This year has been an improvement on preceding ones with regard to rainfall and high drying winds. Last year the rainfall only amounted to 9·23 in., and this year it has reached 13·42 in., rain falling during ninety-three days; and, although not nearly sufficient for the light open nature of the land in this district, much less watering by irrigation has been necessary. The driest month was August, with 0·44 in., and the wettest February, with 1·98 in. Fuller particulars as to rainfall are given below.

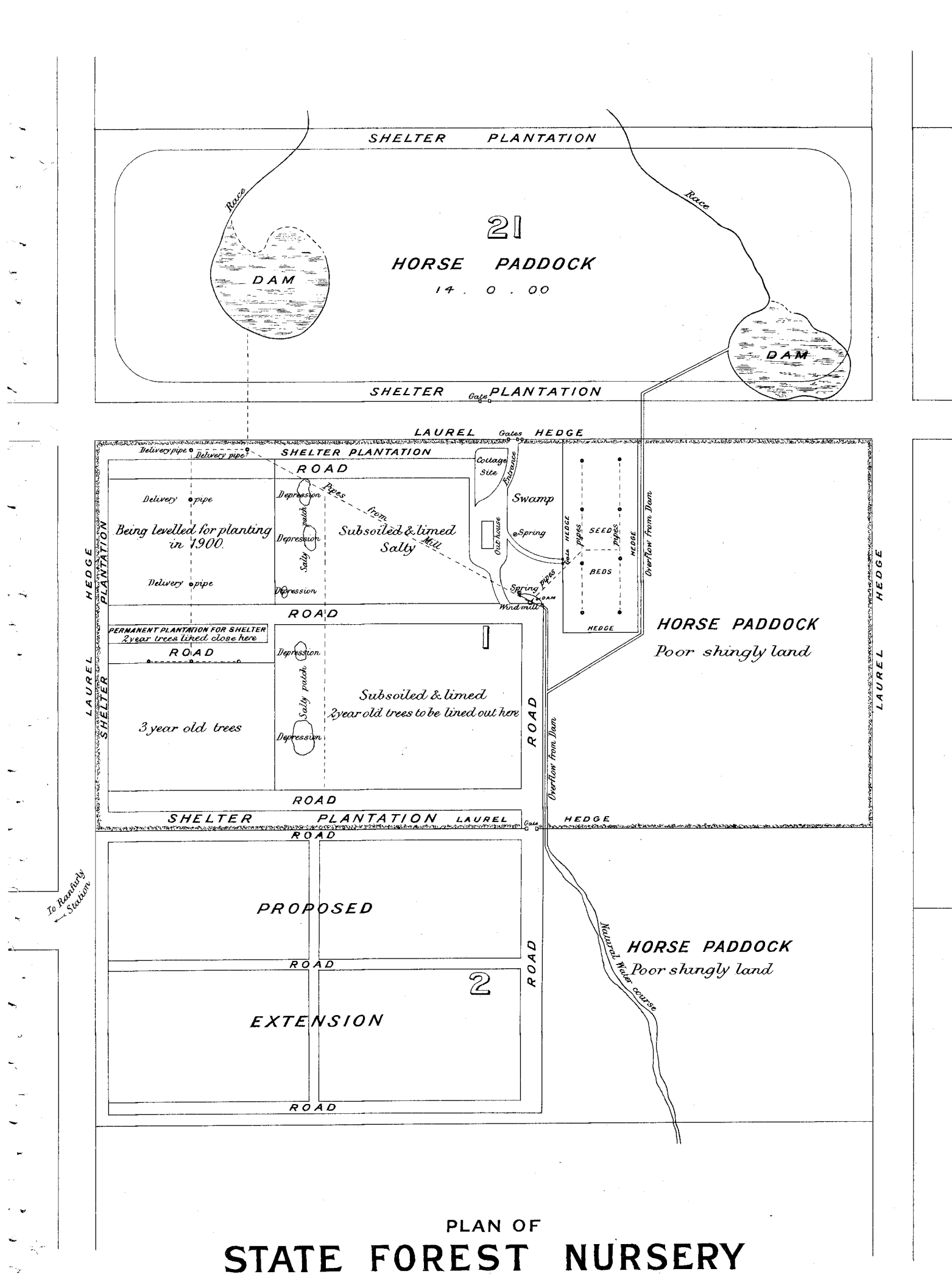
Transplanting of one-year-old trees was commenced and completed in August, and retransplanting of two-year-old trees commenced in September, and was completed during the latter part of October.

The sowing of seeds was done a month earlier than has hitherto been the custom, with excellent results, and this practice will be continued should the weather prove suitable. It has been found that if the seedlings are above ground early, before the sun has attained its full power, a much less percentage of loss is made by scorching; but, on the other hand, late spring frosts have to be provided against.

Two- and three-year-old transplanted trees have made very fair growth, with the exception of those growing in salty patches here and there throughout the nursery. Most of these patches have now been removed and filled up with good soil from the adjoining road-lines.

On the portion intended for lining out trees this season a dressing of lime has been applied, at the rate of 2 tons per acre. This land has also been subsoiled by plough to a depth of 16 in.

The boundary-hedge of laurel is now making good progress, and will in time prove of great advantage in breaking the high winds so frequent in this district.

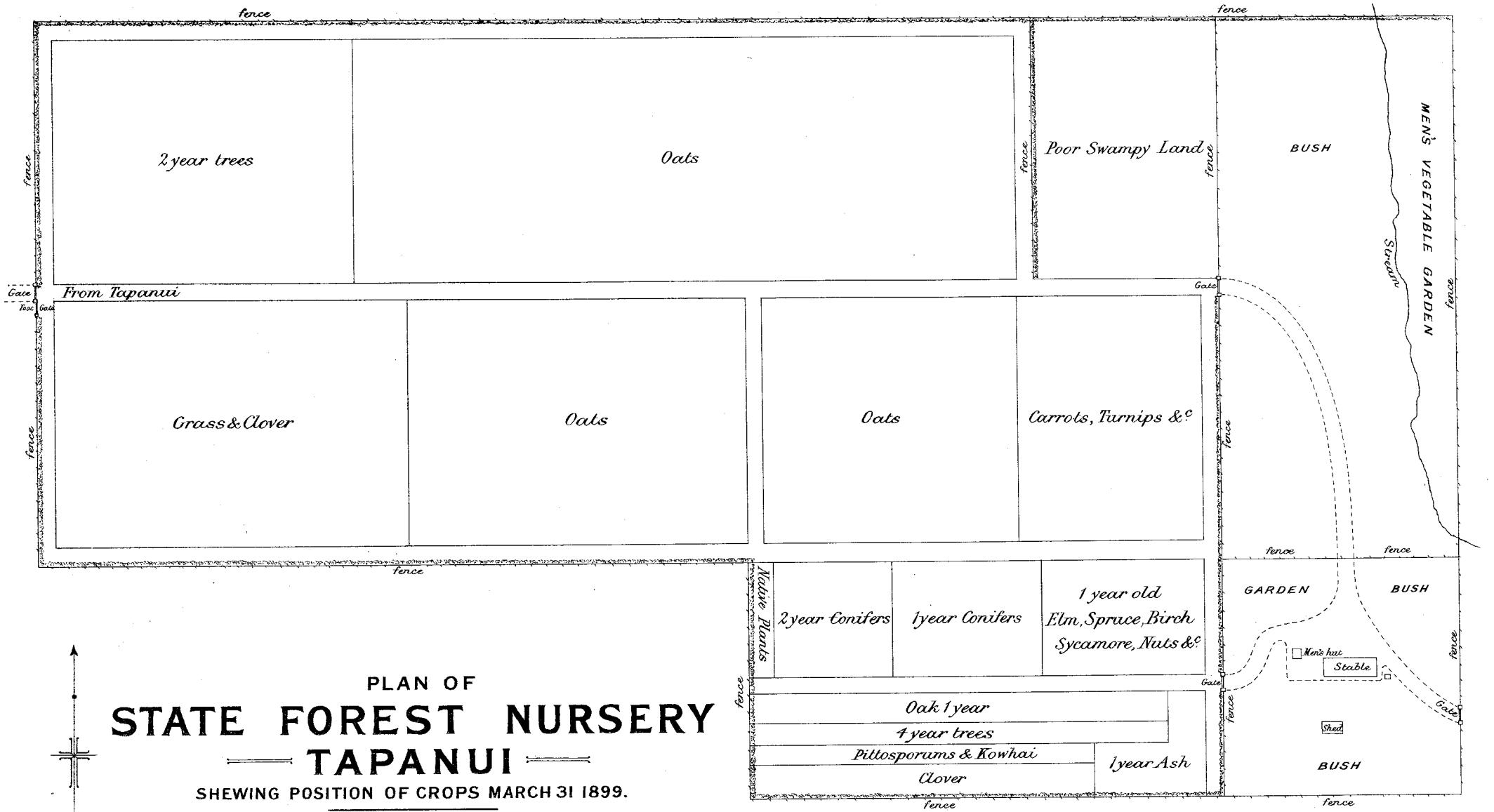


PLAN OF

STATE FOREST NURSERY

EWEBURN

Scale 3 chains to an Inch



PLAN OF

STATE FOREST NURSERY

TAPANUI

SHEWING POSITION OF CROPS MARCH 31 1899.

Scale 2 chains to an Inch.

Full details regarding the variety, number, age, height, cost, and value of trees grown are given in the schedules herewith. *Pinus austriaca* has so far proved the most suitable tree for this climate, although *Pinus ponderosa* and *Pinus benthamiana* have also excellent growth, and withstood transplanting well. Larch is very slow for the first two years, but when this species gets above frost-level it starts away vigorously.

The nursery has been laid out in breaks 3 chains in width, with half-chain roads and half-chain belts left for planting as shelter. The whole of the land can thus be wrought by plough and other implements; even in the lining-out of young trees the plough is brought into requisition for turning up a couple of furrows against the trees, which are inserted in lines with ordinary bricklayers' trowels. This system of planting has been found to work admirably, both with regard to cost and the small percentage of loss occasioned by transplanting, as will be seen from the accompanying schedules.

There will be 108,000 four-year-old trees ready for permanent planting in 1900, requiring an area of 40 acres. It is usual to transplant trees at three years of age to their permanent quarters, but in this district, with its scanty rainfall and extremely rigorous climate, it has been found more economical to nurse the trees for an extra season, and allow of them becoming sturdy and well rooted, before transferring them to the plantation.

Record of Rainfall and Temperature at Eweburn Nursery.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Highest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.	Lowest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.
1898.			Degrees.		Degrees.	
April	0·89 in.	6	64	13th	21	3rd
May	0·96 in.	8	66	1st	24	23rd
June	0·54 in.	5	60	16th	16	11th
July	0·89 in.	9	52	5th	14	25th
August	0·44 in.	3	58	28th	19	24th
September	1·64 in.	8	71	28th	24	7th
October	1·15 in.	8	70	28th	23	5th
November	0·84 in.	10	81	30th	24	15th
December	1·36 in.	13	82	29th	30	24th
1899.						
January	1·34 in.	8	88	5th	27	20th
February	1·98 in.	7	84	19th	30	28th
March	1·39 in.	8	78	10th	18	13th
Total for the year ...	13·42 in.	93 days.				

Tapanui Nursery.

The past year has been an excellent one for tree-growth at this nursery. The stock consists of 1,822,600 trees, in excellent health, and has made good average growth. The rainfall has amounted to 36·32 in., as against 34·59 for the previous year.

The nursery has been laid out in breaks, with a road running through the centre and one at each side parallel to the boundary-fence, in order to facilitate working and planting the land with the aid of the plough and other implements. All uneven portions have been made up to an even grade with soil removed from road-lines. A hedge of *Pittosporum tenuifolium* has been planted around the entire boundary at 2 ft. apart.

The whole of the nursery enclosure has been subsoiled by plough to a depth of 16 in. Seed-sowing was completed early in September, every variety sown having germinated satisfactorily. The application of 2 tons of lime per acre during spring has had a beneficial effect in the appearance and health of the young trees. In order to cultivate the land intended for sowing next season's tree-seeds, about an acre has been cropped with carrots, turnips, and potatoes. Some 7 acres of land intended for lining out trees this season have also been cropped with oats for "chaffing," from which about 24 tons has been safely harvested. Portion of this will be sent to Eweburn and Rotorua Nurseries.

Two hundred and fourteen thousand trees were transplanted from the seed-beds into nursery lines during August and September, with a very small percentage of loss. This year it is intended to transplant about a million trees, one- and two-year old. Twenty-one thousand four-year-old trees (purchased in 1897) will be transferred to Dusky Plantation Reserve during the coming spring. Considerable expense has been necessary in covering the whole of the seed-frames with small-mesh wire netting to prevent the ravages of small birds. A substantial outbuilding was completed towards the end of December in a very satisfactory manner. The outside measurement of the building is 54 ft. by 20 ft., and included under one roof are six apartments. The main building contains men's quarters, 18 ft. by 18 ft., fitted with bunks, cupboards, and presses; also brick chimney and colonial oven. The cart-, van-, and implement-shed is 18 ft. by 11 ft., with concrete floor instead of timber, as in the other apartments. One side is fitted with chaff-, bran-, and oat-bins, and seed-press, with spout from loft to bins. The last division is for the stable, the measurement being 18 ft. by 15 ft.

Record of Rainfall and Temperature at Tapanui Nursery.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Highest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.	Lowest Reading of Thermometer.	Date.
1898.			Degrees.		Degrees.	
April	2·22 in.	12	80	4th	29	18th
May	2·65 in.	20	68	1st	26	19th
June	1·61 in.	13	60	16th	22	11th
July	5·25 in.	21	52	7th	22	31st
August	1·50 in.	10	62	28th	24	8th
September	2·64 in.	12	70	29th	26	17th
October	4·20 in.	18	72	25th	28	5th
November	3·89 in.	18	86	29th	28	15th
December	3·41 in.	16	90	7th	34	6th
1899.						
January	3·08 in.	14	86	12th	34	9th
February	3·49 in.	7	84	19th	34	25th
March	2·38 in.	9	86	17th	34	13th
Total for the year ...	36·32 in.	170 days.				

Dusky Plantation Reserve.

This reserve is situated near Tapanui, and contains 845 acres. One man has been partially employed on the reserve during the year in draining, clearing scrub and fern, rabbiting, and preparing holes for tree-planting. During the coming spring 21,600 four-year-old trees will be transferred to this plantation. Unfortunately, a surveyed road-line runs through this property, and, although it does not give access to any lands, the public make use of the road, and the gate is continually left open and allows rabbits and stock to enter the enclosure. The entrance-gate was kept locked for some time, but the chain and padlock have been repeatedly torn off.

Survey Paddock Plantation Reserve, Naseby.

This reserve, of 75 acres, has been leased for turnip-cropping for two seasons. No planting will be undertaken here until next year, for reasons given in Eweburn Nursery report.

Seaward Bush Plantation Reserve.

In July, 1896, 7,400 trees were planted, consisting of ash, oak, chestnut, larch, Austrian pine, Oregon pine, Menzies spruce, larch, and totara. They were put out at 6 ft. apart, equal to 1,200 trees per acre, and occupying a little over 6 acres.

The trees, especially oak, ash, and chestnuts, were too large and stunted in growth to make good specimens. Those mentioned have made rather poor growth, but the remainder have done fairly well. Rabbits were severe on the ash, larch, and chestnuts for the first year, but these pests have now been exterminated. Sixty-one acres have this season been felled ready for burning, at a cost of £71 12s. 9d.

There is about 10 acres or more at the southern end, which was felled in 1896, that might be planted during the coming spring with sycamore, at 8 ft. apart, and during the following year filled up with ash to 4 ft. Sycamore would be the permanent crop, and as the ash began to interfere with the sycamore they could be thinned out and sold for wheelwright's work.

The ash, oak, and chestnuts should be cut down to ground-level after the heaviest frosts are over, and allow one good clean shoot to start from the base. Excellent results have followed by adopting this system in Rotorua district, where similar gnarled and crooked trees have been renovated into fresh healthy saplings during the first season's growth.

A small hut for keeping tools and accommodating a couple of workmen would be a great acquisition on the reserve.

Statement of Expenses incurred in respect of Tapanui and Eweburn Nurseries, also Dusky Hill and Naseby Survey Paddock Plantations, since inception in May, 1897, to March, 1899.*

	£	s.	d.
Tapanui	2,199	18	11
Eweburn	2,268	7	2
Dusky Hill	1,022	13	4
Naseby Survey Paddock	150	15	11
Total	£5,641	15	4

Statement of Values of Trees, Shrubs, Nursery-buildings, Improvements, Implements, &c. (exclusive of Value of Land).†

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rotorua Nursery—							
Trees: Schedule A ...	£684 7 0						
" B ...	361 12 4						
		1,045	19	4			
Buildings		81	17	0			
Drainage, &c.		56	0	0			
Fencing		73	15	0			
Seed-frames		93	0	6			
Water-supply		107	9	0			
Tools, drays, horses, &c.		214	15	2			
Horse-feed		50	5	0			
					1,723	1	0

* Eweburn Nursery and Survey Paddock were started in September, 1896, and Tapanui Nursery and Dusky Hill in May, 1897.

† For details, see Schedules A to H, attached.

STATEMENT of VALUES of TREES, SHRUBS, &c.—*continued.*

Whakarewarewa Reserve—				
Value of fencing, roading, clearing, &c. ...		...		297 17 10
Eweburn Nursery—				
Trees: Schedule C ...	£425 18 9			
" D ...	433 16 3			
" E ...	212 0 9			
		1,071 15 9		
Building		218 3 11		
Water-supply		201 8 7		
Fencing		211 19 0		
Seed-frames		207 16 8		
Tools, &c.		227 18 3		
				2,139 2 2
Tapanui Nursery—				
Trees: Schedule F ...	£1,017 0 9			
" G ...	537 9 9			
" H ...	56 0 0			
		1,610 10 6		
Building		312 17 5		
Drainage		116 7 9		
Fencing		204 13 4		
Seed-frames		217 1 7		
Tools, &c.		137 11 6		
Stock-trees		6 2 6		
Horse-feed, &c....		99 8 6		
				2,704 13 1
Dusky Hill Plantation—				
Building		25 0 0		
Fencing		269 10 10		
Roading, drainage, clearing and rabbiting...		652 10 6		
Tools, &c.		25 18 2		
				972 19 6
Naseby Survey Paddock Plantation—				
Fencing		...		145 1 9
Total		...		£7,982 15 4

SUMMARY.

Total value of trees at 31st March, 1899—			
Rotorua Nursery		...	1,045 19 4
Eweburn "		...	1,071 15 9
Tapanui "		...	1,610 10 6
			£3,728 5 7
Total number of trees, &c., at 31st March, 1899—			
Rotorua Nursery	...	...	1,119,260
Eweburn "	...	...	793,200
Tapanui "	...	...	1,822,600
Total	...	...	£3,735,060

TIMBER INDUSTRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The following figures show approximately the extent of the timber industry:—

District.	Number of Sawmills.	Approximate Output.
		Sup. ft.
Auckland	32	108,700,000
Hawke's Bay	12	10,000,000
Taranaki	23	13,200,000
Wellington	64	34,600,000
Nelson	42	12,000,000
Marlborough	7	3,700,000
Westland*	25	2,900,000
Canterbury	22	3,700,000
Otago	19	6,100,000
Southland†	42	35,000,000
Totals	288	229,900,000

* See further particulars on page 19. † See further particulars on page 32.

SCHEDULE A.—ONE-YEAR-OLD TREES.—Details of Forest-trees grown at Rotorua Nursery, 1898–99. (First Crop.)

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Estimated Number in Seed-beds.	Average Height in Inches.	Amount of Seed sown.	Date of Sowing.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	When fit for Transplanting	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Remarks.
					Lb. oz.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Abies excelsa ..	Spruce fir ..	Europe ..	40,000	1½	4 0	Oct., 1898	0 15 0	30 0 0	April, 1900	April, 1902	Growth very slow during first season.
Abies menziesii ..	Menzies's spruce ..	America ..	50,000	1	4 0	"	1 0 0	50 0 0	"	"	
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	88,000	2	5 0	"	1 0 0	88 0 0	"	"	Very fair growth.
Larix europa ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	250,000	1½	30 0	Nov., 1898	0 15 0	187 10 0	"	April, 1901–02	
Pinus insignis ..	Remarkable pine..	America ..	500	3	2 0	"	0 15 0	0 7 6	April, 1899	April, 1900	Badly attacked by mice.
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	86,000	3	10 0	Oct., 1898	0 15 0	64 10 0	"	April, 1901	
Pinus benthamiana ..	Bentham's pine ..	America ..	4,000	3	2 0	"	1 0 0	4 0 0	"	"	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	" ..	20,000	2	4 0	"	1 0 0	20 0 0	"	"	Germination and growth first class.
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	32,000	2	7 0	"	0 15 0	24 0 0	"	"	
Pinus strobus ..	Weymouth pine ..	America ..	6,750	1½	2 8	"	1 0 0	6 15 0	April, 1900	April, 1902	Large proportion still to germinate.
Pinus abies ..	Silver-fir ..	Europe ..	1,000	1½	7 0	"	1 0 0	1 0 0	"	"	
Sequoia sempervirens	Redwood ..	America ..	15,000	4	5 0	"	2 0 0	30 0 0	April, 1899	"	
Eucalypti (7 species)..	Gums	Australia ..	170,000	3	7 0	Dec., 1898	0 10 0	85 0 0	..	Sept., 1899	Germinated well.
Bétula alba ..	Birch	Europe ..	95,000	2	10 0	Sept., 1898	0 15 0	71 5 0	April, 1900	April, 1901–02	
Ulmus campestris ..	Elm	" ..	400	12	Cuttings	"	1 5 0	0 10 0	April, 1899	April, 1901	
Acer pseudo-platanus	Sycamore ..	" ..	26,000	12	40 0	"	0 10 0	13 0 0	"	"	Good growth.
Grevillea robusta ..	Silky oak ..	Australia ..	500	2	0 4	Nov., 1898	5 0 0	2 10 0	Sept., 1899	April, 1902	Germinated well.
Quercus pedunculata	English oak ..	Europe ..	500	12	20 0	Sept., 1898	0 15 0	0 7 6	April, 1899	April, 1900	Good growth.
Juglans regia ..	Walnut	Persia ..	2,800	12	56 0	"	2 0 0	5 12 0	"	April, 1901	Poor germination.
			888,450	..	215 12		1 3 8¼ (average)	684 7 0			

SCHEDULE B.—ORNAMENTAL TREES and SHRUBS grown at Rotorua Nursery, 1898–99. (First Crop.)

Name.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Number raised from Seed.	Number raised from Cuttings or Collected.	Number obtained Gratis.	Number Purchased.	Total Number.	Value.	Total Value.	Remarks.
								s. d.	£ s. d.	
Arbutus unedo	Strawberry-tree	Europe	200	..	..	..	200	20 0 per 100	2 0 0	
Bambusa gracilis	Bamboo	India	..	..	130	..	130	0 6 each	3 5 0	
Bambusa variegata	Bamboo	"	..	..	90	..	90	0 6 "	2 5 0	
Bignonia radicaus	Trumpet-flower	America	..	..	130	..	130	0 6 "	3 5 0	
Platanus orientalis	Plane-tree	Levant	..	10,000	..	..	10,000	15 0 per 100	75 0 0	Principally for street-planting.
Retinospera plunosa	Feathery cypress	Japan	..	600	..	..	600	30 0 "	9 0 0	
Retinospera squarrosa	Squarrose cypress	"	..	350	..	..	350	30 0 "	5 5 0	
Retinospera ericoides	Heath-like cypress	"	..	900	..	..	900	20 0 "	9 0 0	
Cryptomeria elegans	Elegant cedar	"	..	425	..	..	425	30 0 "	6 7 6	
Gynerium argentium	Pampas grass	South America	..	..	125	..	125	0 6 each	3 2 6	
Castenea vesca	Spanish chestnut	Europe	..	82	..	..	82	0 3 "	1 0 6	
Cerasus lauris-cerasus	Laurel	Levant	1,900	..	..	..	1,900	7 6 per 100	7 2 6	
Cerasus lucitanica	Portugal laurel	Portugal	1,200	..	..	..	1,200	10 0 "	6 0 0	
Cytisus laburnum	Laburnum	Europe	..	..	350	..	350	5 0 "	0 17 6	
Cupressus lawsoniana	Lawson's cypress	America	3,600	..	..	..	3,600	3 0 "	5 8 0	
Elœgnus japonica	Oleaster	Japan	..	275	..	..	275	20 0 "	2 15 0	
Phormium variegata	New Zealand flax	New Zealand	..	..	175	25	200	0 6 each	5 0 0	
Flaximus excelsior	Ash	Europe	..	..	..	100	100	40 0 per 100	2 0 0	Tall stems for grafting with weeping variety.
Juglans cinerea	Butternut	America	175	..	..	..	175	20 0 "	1 15 0	
Rosa hybrida	Hybrid roses	Garden origin	..	100	..	..	100	50 0 "	2 10 0	
Yucca glorissa	Adam's needle	America	..	..	8	..	8	1 0 each	0 8 0	
Hydrangea hortensis	Hydrangea	Japan	..	84	..	..	84	0 6 "	2 2 0	
Dentizia scabra	Rough dentizia	"	..	56	..	..	56	0 6 "	1 8 0	
Viiburnium opulus	Guelder rose	Europe	..	220	..	..	220	0 3 "	2 15 0	
Philadelphus coronarius	Mock orange	"	..	25	..	..	25	0 6 "	0 12 6	
Euonymus japonicus	Spindle-tree	Japan	..	250	..	..	250	0 3 "	3 2 6	
Eugema ugni	Chilian guava	Chili	..	80	..	..	80	0 6 "	2 0 0	
Cotomaster microphylla	Rose-box	Nepaul	..	25	..	..	25	0 9 "	0 18 9	
Chamacropo excelsa	Tall fan-palm	China	612	..	..	..	612	0 3 "	7 13 0	
Berluris vulgaris	Barberry	Europe	125,000	..	..	..	125,000	5 0 per 1,000	31 5 0	For hedge purposes.
Cordyline australis	Cabbage-tree	..	45,000	..	..	..	45,000	10 0 "	22 10 0	
Cordyline hookerii	Toi	..	20,000	..	..	..	20,000	30 0 "	30 0 0	
Clianthus puniceus	Kaka-beak	New Zealand	300	..	..	..	300	0 6 each	7 10 0	
Sophora titraptera	Kowhai	"	120	..	..	..	120	20 0 per 100	1 4 0	
Phyllocladus trichomanoides	Celery pine	"	..	..	6	..	6	1 0 each	0 6 0	
Senecio (in variety)	Tree-groundsel	"	..	..	12	35	47	0 8 "	1 11 4	
Olearia (in variety)	Daisy-tree	"	2,625	..	..	75	2,700	5 0 per 100	6 15 0	
Veronica (in variety)	Speedwell	"	..	180	..	170	350	0 6 each	8 15 0	
Dacrydium cupressinum	Rimu	"	..	..	18	..	18	0 6 "	0 9 0	
Hoheria populuea	Ribbon-wood	"	..	100	..	15	115	0 3 "	1 8 9	
Alectryon excelsium	Titoki	"	30	..	..	..	30	0 6 "	0 15 0	
Dianella intermedia	Flax-lily	"	..	..	..	10	10	0 9 "	0 7 6	
Corynocarpus lœvigata	Karaka	"	8,130	..	..	120	8,250	5 0 per 100	20 12 6	
Coprosma robusta	Karaum	"	..	375	..	..	375	0 3 each	4 13 9	
Grisclina littoralio	Broadleaf	"	..	140	..	..	140	0 4 "	2 6 8	
Knightia excelsa	Rewarewa	"	60	230	..	..	290	0 4 "	4 16 8	
Clematis (in variety)	Virgin's bower	"	..	400	..	..	400	0 6 "	10 0 0	
Gaultheria (in variety)	Snow-berry	"	..	50	..	..	50	1 0 "	2 10 0	
Podocarpus dacrydioides	Kahikatea	"	..	238	..	..	238	0 4 "	3 19 4	
Various native plants	..	..	..	..	..	204	204	0 9 "	7 13 0	
Herbaceous plants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Bulbs, tubers, &c...	..	..	..	..	4,875	..	4,875	7 6 per 100	18 5 7	
			208,952	15,185	5,919	754	230,810	..	361 12 4	

SCHEDULE C.—ONE-YEAR-OLD TREES.—Details of Forest-trees grown at Eweburn, Naseby, 1896–97, 1897–98, and 1898–99.

Name of Tree.	Common Names.	Habitat.	Estimated Number in Seed-beds.	Size in Inches.	Amount of Seed sown.	Date of Sowing.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	When fit for Transplanting	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Remarks.
FIRST CROP—1896–97.											
					Lb.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	50,000	2	14	Nov., 1896	1 0 0	50 0 0	Aug., 1897	Aug., 1900	As these seeds were sown within one month after commencing operations at Eweburn, and before the land had time to sweeten by exposure to weather, the crop is not so strong or as healthy as might otherwise be expected.
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	40,000	1	18	"	1 0 0	40 0 0	"	"	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	America ..	100	1	1	"	1 5 0	0 2 6	"	"	
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	1,000	1	4	"	1 5 0	1 5 0	Aug., 1898	"	
Abies excelsa ..	Spruce fir ..	Europe ..	7,000	1	7	"	1 0 0	7 0 0	"	"	
Larix europa ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	5,000	1	21	"	1 0 0	5 0 0	"	"	
Cytisus laburnum ..	Laburnum ..	Europe ..	7,000	6	5	"	0 15 0	5 5 0	"	"	
			110,100	..	70	..	1 0 8½ (average)	108 12 6			
SECOND CROP—1897–98.											
					Lb.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	100,000	2	14	Nov., 1897	1 0 0	100 0 0	Aug., 1898	Aug., 1901	Notwithstanding the excessively dry season, these have made good steady growth.
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	70,000	1	14	"	1 0 0	70 0 0	"	"	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	America ..	20,000	3	5	"	1 5 0	25 0 0	"	"	
Pinus benthamiana ..	Bentham's pine ..	" ..	3,500	2	5	"	1 5 0	4 7 6	"	"	
Pinus strobus ..	Weymouth pine ..	" ..	Nil	..	5	"	..	..	"	"	Did not germinate until following spring.
Pinus insignis ..	Remarkable pine..	" ..	7,500	4	4	"	1 0 0	7 10 0	"	"	Grown for shelter purposes.
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	2,500	1	7	"	1 5 0	3 2 6	"	"	
Larix europa * ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	100,000	1	32	"	1 0 0	100 0 0	Aug., 1899	"	Fair growth only.
			303,500	..	86	..	1 2 1½ (average)	310 0 0			
THIRD CROP—1898–99.											
					Lb.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	72,500	2	10	Sept., 1898	1 0 0	72 10 0	Aug., 1899	Aug., 1902	This crop is by far the best raised here, the two previous seasons having been extremely dry.
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	45,500	1	7	"	1 0 0	45 10 0	"	"	
Pinus strobus ..	Weymouth pine ..	America ..	68,000	1	5	"	1 5 0	85 0 0	"	"	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	" ..	51,000	1	5	"	1 5 0	63 15 0	"	"	
Pinus benthamiana ..	Bentham's pine ..	" ..	4,750	3	2½	"	1 5 0	5 18 9	"	"	
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	50,000	1	5	"	1 5 0	62 10 0	"	"	
Larix europa * ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	82,000	1	32	"	1 0 0	82 0 0	Aug., 1900	"	
Sorbus aucuparia ..	Mountain ash ..	Europe ..	7,000	4	28	"	1 5 0	8 15 0	Aug., 1899	"	
			380,750	..	94½	..	1 3 1½ (average)	425 18 9			

* This species, being of slow growth in early stages, is not fit for transplanting from seed-beds until the second year.

NOTE.—The climate in Maniototo district, being excessively arid and subject to high drying winds, necessitates double transplantation (the first time close in beds, and the second time into nursery rows), so as to insure the production of fibrous roots.

Schedule D.—Two-year-old Trees.—Details of Trees grown at Eweburn Nursery, 1897–98 and 1898–99

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Estimated Number in previous Year's Seed-beds.	Actual Number Transplanted.	Number in Nursery Lines.	Percentage of Loss in Transplanting	Height in Inches.	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Estimated Number still in Seed-beds.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	Remarks.
First Crop—1897–98.										£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	50,000	52,000	51,500	0·009	3	Aug., 1900	..	1 10 0	77 5 0	
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	40,000	37,000	36,750	0·007	2	"	..	1 10 0	55 2 6	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	America ..	100	105	100	0·05	2	"	..	1 15 0	0 3 6	
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	1,000	750	700	0·066	1½	"	..	1 15 0	1 4 6	
Abies excelsa* ..	Spruce fir ..	Europe ..	7,000	..	..	..	2	"	8,000	1 5 0	10 0 0	
Larix europa* ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	5,000	..	..	..	2	"	5,000	1 5 0	6 5 0	
Cytisus laburnum ..	Laburnum ..	Europe ..	7,000	7,000	6,900	0·014	9	"	..	1 5 0	8 12 6	
			110,100	96,855	95,950	..	..	..	13,000	1 9 3⅞ (average)	158 13 0	
Second Crop—1898–99.										£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	100,000	105,750	105,250	0·046	3	Aug., 1901	..	1 10 0	157 17 6	Very healthy, and well rooted.
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	70,000	74,000	73,250	0·01	2	"	..	1 10 0	109 17 6	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	America ..	20,000	19,500	18,750	0·04	4	"	..	1 15 0	32 16 3	
Pinus benthamiana	Bentham's pine..	" ..	3,500	3,500	3,400	0·03	3	"	..	1 15 0	5 19 0	
Pinus insignis ..	Remarkable pine	" ..	7,500	8,000	7,250	0·093	6	"	..	1 10 0	10 17 6	Grown for shelter purposes.
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	2,500	2,550	2,250	0·014	2	"	..	1 15 0	3 18 9	
Larix europa* ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	100,000	..	..	..	1½	"	90,000	1 5 0	112 10 0	Rather poor growth.
			303,500	213,300	210,150	..	..	..	90,000	1 11 5⅞ (average)	433 16 6	

* This species, being of slow growth in early stages, is not fit for transplanting from seed-beds until the second year.

Area expected to be planted in 1901 with above at 4 ft. apart, 101 acres.

Schedule E.—Three-year-old Trees.—Details of Trees grown at Eweburn Nursery, 1898–99. (First Crop.)

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Number in Nursery since last Year.	Number Once Transplanted.	Number Twice Transplanted.	Number in Nursery Rows.	Percentage of Loss in Transplanting	Height in Inches.	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	Remarks.
										£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Pinus austriac a ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	51,500	..	51,500	51,500	..	4	Aug., 1900	2 0 0	103 0 0	
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	36,750	..	36,700	36,600	0·27	3	"	2 0 0	73 4 0	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	America ..	100	..	100	100	..	3	"	2 5 0	0 4 6	
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	" ..	700	..	700	700	..	3	"	2 5 0	1 11 6	
Abies excelsa ..	Spruce fir ..	Europe ..	8,000	8,000	..	7,800	0·25	4	"	1 15 0	13 13 0	
Larix europa ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	5,000	5,000	..	4,850	0·03	4	"	1 15 0	8 9 9	
Cytisus laburnum ..	Laburnum ..	Europe ..	6,900	..	6,850	6,800	0.21	18	"	1 15 0	11 18 0	
			108,950	13,000	95,850	108,350	..	..	..	1 19 3⅓ (average)	212 0 9	

Area expected to be planted in 1900 with above at 4 ft. apart, 40 acres.

Note.—The climate of Maniototo district, being excessively arid and subject to high drying winds, necessitates double transplantation (the first time close in beds, and the second time into nursery rows), so as to insure the production of fibrous roots.

SCHEDULE F.—ONE-YEAR-OLD TREES.—Details of Forest-trees grown at Tapanui Nursery, 1897–98 and 1898–99.

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Estimated Number in Seed-beds.	Average Height in Inches.	Amount of Seed sown.	Date of Sowing.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	When fit for Trans-planting.	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Remarks.
FIRST CROP—1897–98.											
					Lb. oz.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Quercus pedunculata..	English oak ..	Europe ..	80,000	6	1,238 0	Sept., 1897	0 15 0	60 0 0	April, 1898	April, 1900	
Fraxinus excelsior ..	English ash ..	" ..	3,000	6	40 0	"	0 15 0	2 5 0	"	"	
Acer pseudo-platanus	Sycamore ..	" ..	15,000	6	92 0	"	0 10 0	7 10 0	"	"	
Juglans regia ..	Walnut	Persia ..	1,000	6	112 0	"	2 0 0	2 0 0	"	"	
Populus monilifera ..	Black Italian poplar	Europe ..	2,000	12	Cuttings	"	0 15 0	1 10 0	"	"	
Sophora tetraptera ..	Kowhai	New Zealand	2,000	3	96 0	"	2 0 0	4 0 0	April, 1899	"	
Larix europa ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	20,000	1	60 0	Nov., 1897	0 15 0	15 0 0	"	April, 1900, 1901, 1902	Usually of uneven growth, probably only one-half each year.
Abies excelsa ..	Spruce fir ..	Europe ..	230,000	1	28 0	"	0 15 0	172 10 0	Sept., 1899	Ditto ..	Will be ready for 1900 and 1901 planting.
Abies menzeisii ..	Menzies's spruce ..	America ..	1,500	1	5 0	"	1 0 0	1 10 0	"	" ..	
Larix leptolepis ..	Japanese larch ..	Japan ..	2,000	1	0½ 0	"	1 10 0	3 0 0	"	April, 1900	
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	Europe ..	80,000	2	14 0	"	0 15 0	60 0 0	Sept., 1898	..	
Pinus laricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	10,000	1½	14 0	"	0 15 0	7 10 0	"	..	Transplants badly.
Pinus maritima ..	Cluster pine ..	Europe ..	10,000	2	7 0	"	0 15 0	7 10 0	"	..	For Seaward Bush Plantation.
Cordyline australis ..	Cabbage-tree ..	New Zealand	200	9	0 1	"	1 0 0	0 4 0	"	..	Grown for ornamental planting.
			456,700	..	..	..	1 0 0 (average)	344 9 0			
SECOND CROP—1898–99.											
					Lb. oz.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Quercus pedunculata..	English oak ..	Europe ..	68,500	8	1,000 0	June, 1898	0 15 0	51 7 6	April, 1899	April, 1901	
Fraxinus excelsior ..	English ash ..	" ..	537,000	5	588 0	"	0 15 0	402 15 0	"	April, 1901–2	Probably half in each year.
Acer pseudo-platanus	Sycamore ..	" ..	142,500	9	300 0	"	0 10 0	71 5 0	"	"	
Juglans regia ..	Walnut	Persia ..	2,000	9	105 0	July, 1898	2 0 0	4 0 0	"	April, 1901	
Ulmus campestrio ..	English elm ..	Europe ..	1,400	6	20 0	Sept., 1898	1 5 0	1 15 0	"	"	
Betula alba	English birch ..	" ..	10,000	2	10 0	"	0 15 0	7 10 0	April, 1900	"	Grown for planting on boundaries of plantations.
Corylus (species) ..	Cob. hazel and filberts	" ..	1,000	6	78 0	"	1 10 0	1 10 0	"	"	Probably half in each year.
Larix europa ..	Larch	Tyrol ..	72,000	1	40 0	"	0 15 0	54 0 0	Sept., 1900	Sept., 1901–2	
Abies excelsa ..	Spruce	Europe ..	150,000	1	14 0	"	0 15 0	112 10 0	"	"	"
Abies douglassi ..	Oregon pine ..	America ..	61,500	2	5 0	"	1 0 0	61 10 0	Sept., 1899	Sept., 1901	
Abies menzeisii ..	Menzies's spruce ..	" ..	25,250	1	4 0	"	1 0 0	25 5 0	Sept., 1900	Sept., 1901–2	Very slow growth in early stages.
Pinus abies ..	Silver fir ..	Europe ..	1,000	1½	7 0	"	1 0 0	1 0 0	"	Sept., 1902	
Pinus austriaca ..	Austrian pine ..	" ..	128,000	2	14 0	"	0 15 0	96 0 0	Sept., 1899	Sept., 1901	
Pinus caricio ..	Corsican pine ..	Corsica ..	19,750	1½	8 0	"	0 15 0	14 16 3	"	"	
Pinus maritima ..	Cluster pine ..	Europe ..	49,000	3	14 0	"	0 15 0	36 15 0	"	"	
Pinus strobus ..	Weymouth pine ..	America ..	8,250	1	5 0	"	1 0 0	8 5 0	Sept., 1900	Sept., 1901–2	
Pinus ponderosa ..	Yellow pine ..	" ..	47,000	2	4¾ 0	"	1 0 0	47 0 0	Sept., 1899	Sept., 1901	
Pinus benthamiana ..	Bentham's pine ..	" ..	3,250	3	2½ 0	"	1 0 0	3 5 0	"	"	
Cordyline australis ..	Cabbage-tree ..	New Zealand	5,000	6	10 0	"	1 0 0	5 0 0	Sept., 1900	Sept., 1901–2	These are grown for hedges and ornamental planting.
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Black mapau ..	"	6,000	3	12 0	"	1 0 0	6 0 0	Sept., 1899	"	
Pittosporum eugeniodes	White mapau ..	"	5,000	3	9 0	"	1 0 0	5 0 0	"	"	
Pittosporum ralphi ..	Ralph's pittosporum	"	200	2	1 0	"	1 10 0	0 6 0	"	"	
Greselinia littoralis ..	Broadleaf ..	"	200	2	1 0	"	1 10 0	0 6 0	Sept., 1900	"	
			1,343,800				1 0 2½ (average)	1,017 0 9			

Schedule G.—Two-year-old Trees.—Details of Trees growing at Tapanui Nursery, 1898–99. (First Crop.)

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Estimated Number in previous Year's Seed-beds.	Actual Number Transplanted.	Number in Nursery Lines.	Per Cent. of Loss in Transplanting.	Height in Inches.	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Estimated Number still in Seed-beds.	Value per Thousand.	Total Estimated Value.	Remarks.
										£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Quercus pedunculata	English oak	Europe	80,500	83,650	83,500	·0018	9	April, 1900	..	1 5 0	104 7 6	
Fraxinus excelsior	English ash	"	3,000	3,000	3,000	Nil	9	"	..	1 5 0	3 15 0	
Acer pseudo-platanus	Sycamore	"	15,000	14,200	14,100	·006	9	"	..	1 0 0	14 2 0	
Juglans regia	Walnut	Persia	1,000	1,050	1,050	Nil	9	"	..	2 10 0	2 12 6	
Popolus monilifera	Black Italian poplar	Europe	2,000	2,000	2,000	Nil	18	"	..	1 5 0	2 10 0	
Sophora tetraptera	Kowhai	New Zealand	2,000	2,175	2,100	·9	6	"	..	2 10 0	5 5 0	Being tried as an experiment for planting on river-flats.
Larix europa*	Larch	Tyrol	20,000	..	..	..	3	"	15,050	1 0 0	15 1 0	
Abies excelsa*	Spruce fir	Europe	230,000	..	..	..	3	April, 1901–02	252,100	1 0 0	252 2 0	
Abies menzeisii*	Menzies's spruce	America	1,500	..	..	..	2	Sept., 1901–02	1,300	1 5 0	1 12 6	
Larix leptolepis	Japanese larch	Japan	2,000	..	..	..	2	March, 1900	2,000	1 15 0	3 10 0	Made splendid growth so far.
Pinus austriaca	Austrian pine	Europe	80,000	84,700	83,700	·01	4	"	..	1 5 0	104 12 6	
Pinus laricio	Corsican pine	Corsica	10,000	11,500	10,250	·02	4	"	..	1 5 0	12 16 3	
Pinus maritima	Cluster pine	Europe	10,000	12,000	11,900	·08	5	"	..	1 5 0	14 17 6	For Seaward Bush plantations.
Cordyline australis	Cabbage-tree	New Zealand	200	200	200	Nil	18	"	..	1 10 0	0 6 0	Ornamental planting.
			457,200	214,475	211,800	..	..	..	270,450	1 8 5½ (average)	537 9 9	

* These species, being of slow growth in early stages, are not fit for transplanting from seed-beds until the second year.

Area expected to be planted in 1901–02 at 4 ft. apart, 84 acres.

Schedule H.—Four-year-old Trees.—Details of Forest-trees purchased in 1897 for Tapanui Nursery.

Name of Tree.	Common Name.	Habitat.	Number.	Cost per Thousand.	Total Cost.	Present Value per Thousand.	Present Value.	When fit for Permanent Planting.	Remarks.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Quercus pedunculata	English oak	Europe	2,800	1 10 0	4 4 0	2 0 0	5 12 0	April, 1899	All these trees have done well, and will be transferred to Dusky Plantation this season.
Flaxinus excelsior	English ash	Europe	6,600	2 0 0	13 4 0	2 10 0	16 10 0	"	
Flaxinus alba	American ash	America	1,200	2 0 0	2 8 0	2 10 0	3 0 0	"	
Acer pseudo-platanus	Sycamore	Europe	2,000	1 0 0	2 0 0	1 10 0	3 0 0	"	
Juglans regia	Walnut	Persia	1,500	5 0 0	7 10 0	5 10 0	8 5 0	"	
Larix europa	Larch	Tyrol	1,600	3 10 0	5 12 0	4 0 0	6 8 0	"	
Abies excelsa	Spruce fir	Europe	3,000	1 10 0	4 10 0	2 0 0	6 0 0	"	
Abies douglassi	Oregon pine	America	1,000	2 10 0	2 10 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	"	
Pinus austriaca	Austrian pine	Europe	1,000	1 10 0	1 10 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	"	
Abies alba	White spruce	Europe	900	2 0 0	1 16 0	2 10 0	2 5 0	"	
			21,600	2 5 0 (average)	45 4 0	2 15 0 average)	56 0 0	..	

APPENDIX No. 7.

REPORT ON THERMAL SPRINGS.

ROTORUA.

The works carried out in the Rotorua district during the year ending the 31st March last were as follow :—

The Baths.

Blue Bath.

In addition to general maintenance, new concrete floors have been laid to the closets, urinals, and approaches to the shower-baths. A length of 85 ft. of ½ in. piping has been laid on to the urinals for flushing. A rubble wall, with inlet- and outlet-pipes, has been built round the ejector used for emptying the bath. The present mode of emptying this bath is to get rid of about half its contents by gravitation and the remainder by means of an ejector. The practise is to empty the bath on Sunday afternoons, refilling it during the night for Monday morning; but, as a rule, on Monday morning it is not filled to within a foot of its usual level. There is sufficient fall from the bottom of the bath to the lake to empty the whole bath by gravitation in half an hour, and I think that provision should be made to enable this to be done.

The Rachel, Priest, and Pavilion Baths.

Including the Rachel, Priest, and Ladies' Swimming-bath; besides general maintenance of these baths, the showers attached to the public Rachel and Priest baths have all been repaired and lined with zinc.

The old private Rachel baths and rooms, eight in number, have been painted, and eight new private baths have been built of concrete, with the necessary drainage, overflow, and hot- and cold-water supply pipes. The number of baths was not sufficient, but the new ones now meet the increased demand.

An extra length of 220 ft. of 2 in. piping has been laid, completing the circulation of the hot Rachel water, and this has improved the supply of hot water for the douches, which before was very irregular and uncertain in temperature.

The Rachel Pool has been enclosed by a neat fence, which makes it safer, and adds to the appearance of the grounds. As the old 4 in. service-pipe from the spring to the coolers and baths was badly corroded and not low enough in the spring, a new line of 6 in. cast-iron socket-pipes, 400 ft. in length, was laid at a lower level, insuring a constant and greater supply of water.

275 ft. of timber outlet-drains, with valves, have been fixed to the ladies' and gentlemen's Priest baths. The level of these baths is always a few inches above that of the lake. I have therefore, by means of these drains, been able to keep a constant supply of fresh Priest water running into the baths, and much improved them in appearance, comfort, and curative power. In addition, the baths have been deepened 14 in., and much improved thereby, there now being 24 in. of water in them.

In addition to the above, the Pavilion Bath building has been generally maintained.

The Postmaster Bath.

This has been maintained, and 30 ft. of 4 in. earthenware pipes laid in concrete to augment the supply of hot water from the Matuatanga Springs for the douches.

Spout Bath and Geysers, Whakarewarewa.

The Spout Bath has been attended to by the caretaker. This bath is more used each year The present bath-house is quite inadequate to requirements; a new one should be built before next season. The caretaker has also watched the geysers, with a view to putting a stop to the practice of tourists and others placing soap in them, in order to render them more active.

113 chains of 16 ft. road and 74 chains of 8 ft. paths has been maintained. 12 ft. of retaining-wall has been built. Two rooms have been added to the caretaker's cottage, which has also been fenced in.

General.

The number of baths taken during the year at all baths is 48,868, and the fees received for same £711. This number includes baths taken by Sanatorium patients and other free baths, of which no accurate record has been kept. The number is therefore somewhat approximate.

Rotorua Gardens and Grounds.

The Sanatorium gardens and grounds have been kept in good order; the paths in the latter have been extended to the Motutara Point. Although much has been done during the last three years, much remains to be done to make these gardens and grounds more attractive. For instance, the area of the gardens might be extended in an easterly direction from the tennis-lawn, and a new lawn made for bowling and croquet, leaving the present one entirely for tennis. New paths and an

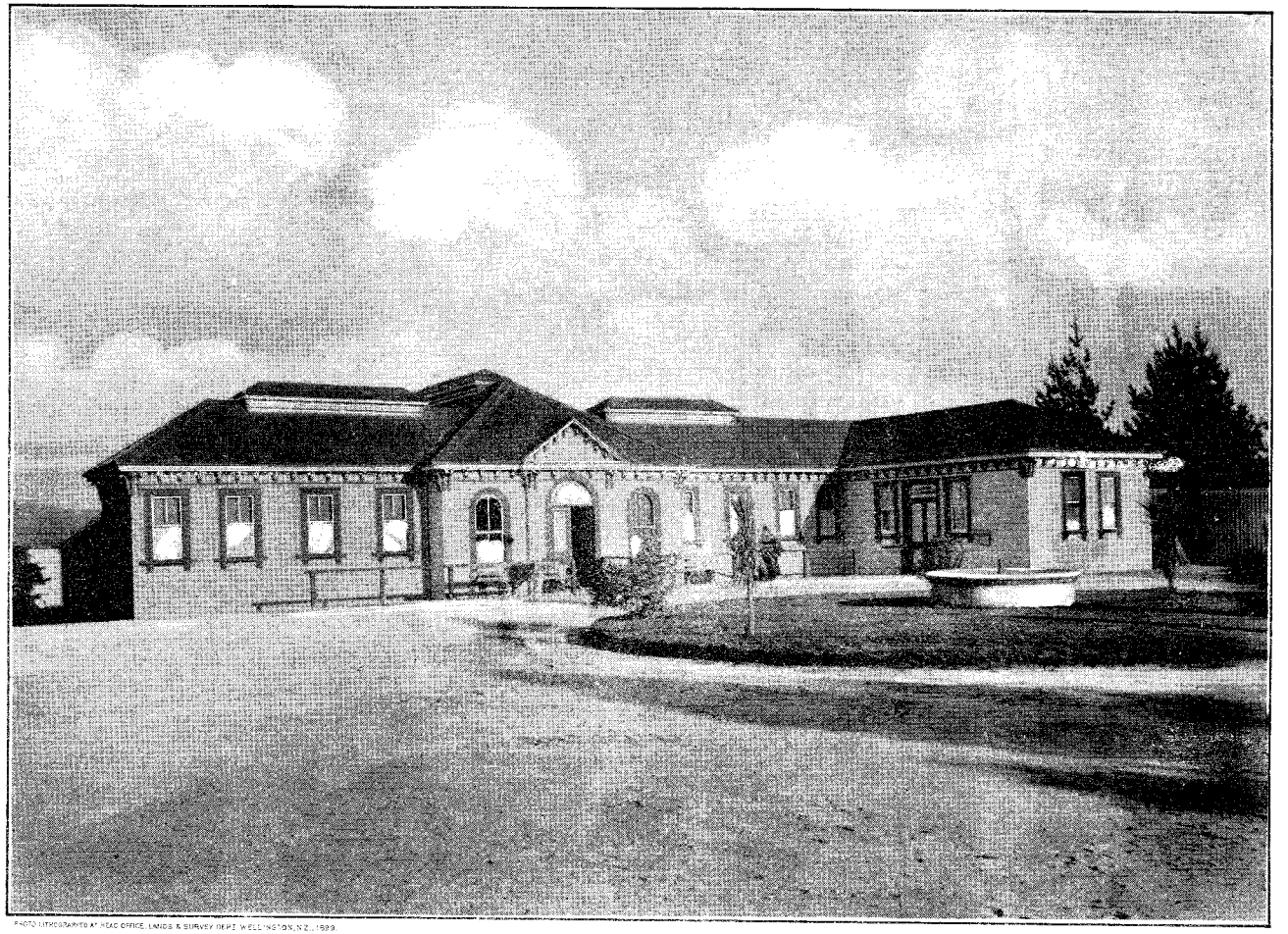


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1929.

Pavilion Bath, Rotorua.

ornamental sheet of water might be made at small cost within the extended area. The paths in the grounds might be extended still further, and some of them widened into carriage-drives. The gardens and grounds are now one of the principal attractions of Rotorua, and are worthy of further extension.

At least on one night in each week during the season the gardens were illuminated, and open-air concerts were held on the Sanatorium verandah. The Rotorua brass band performed on the lawn, and the geysers were in full activity.

Recreation Reserve.

The Pukeroa reserves have been taken out of the hands of the Town Board, and have been improved by the formation of paths and drives.

Nursery and Plantations.

Much good work has been done at the nursery, not only in the formation of roads and paths, water-supply, and house-building, but in the growth of young trees of all descriptions from seeds and cuttings.

The technical part of the work in connection with the gardens, grounds, recreation reserves, nursery, and plantations is under the direction of Mr. Matthews.

Rotorua Water-supply.

The supply is obtained by gravitation from the Waitarunga Stream, at a point just below the bridge on the Galatea Road. It is conveyed, by means of fluming and a tunnel under the spur, through the Hemo Gorge to the settling-tanks on the old Taupo Road, from where it is conveyed to the township by an 8 in. cast-iron main. During the year the fluming has been kept clean and free from vegetable growth inside and outside, and the settling-tanks have been maintained in an efficient state.

The number of services now supplied from the main is 103, being an increase of twelve during the last year. The revenue for the year is £104 16s. 8d. The cost of maintenance for the year is £240. All Government departments in Rotorua are supplied free of charge, there being forty-five free services out of the total of 103.

Rotorua Wharf.

This work is now completed as far as it is intended to construct it of stone. Its present length is 8 chains 16 links; width on the top, 6 ft.; and average depth, about 3 ft., with a batter of 1 in 1. It is built of large blocks on the outside, the centre 4 ft. being of broken stone. The stone used is the hardest procurable in the district, and the work stands the heavy wash that it occasionally gets very well.

A contract has been let for cutting and delivery of totara for constructing another 60 ft., but it will then be about 66 ft. short of the length originally intended.

There is now only a depth of 18 in. of water at the end of the wharf, so that the level of the lake should be raised. The Town Board has extended Tutanekai Street up to the wharf.

Rotorua Lake.

The question of raising the level of the lake by means of a weir or lock at the outlet has been carefully gone into and reported on. The outlet and adjacent shores have been protected by fascines and willows. The level of the lake is now lower than it has ever been known to be, which seriously affects navigation and the utility of the wharf recently built.

Residences and Public Buildings.

The Government agent's residence, its gardens and grounds, have been maintained. This house has lately been occupied by bath-attendants and gardeners, and before it is reoccupied it will require considerable repairs.

The medical officer's residence has been thoroughly renovated outside, and it has been otherwise repaired.

The Sanatorium building has been maintained and generally repaired. As soon as possible it should be repainted on the outside. The hot-water service should also be put in order.

Repairs have been executed from time to time at the Courthouse.

The road surveyor's office has been completed and occupied.

The cottage of the attendant at the Pavilion Bath has been repapered and generally repaired.

The gardener's cottage has been repainted and enlarged by the addition of two rooms and a porch.

The offices occupied by the Town Board and the Government overseer have been reshingled and improved, and the Government workshops enlarged and improved.

Rotorua Institute and Museum.

The sum of £200 has been granted to the committee of this Institute for the extension of the present building. A plan of the proposed extension has been prepared, and tenders called for the work. The old library building at Ohinemutu has been sold and removed, and the proceeds are to be used in connection with the new building.

Rotorua Drainage.

These works, designed by Mr. Robert Hay, C.E., of Dunedin, are being carried out under his directions. The scheme was explained by Mr. Hay in last year's report. The position of the drains, collecting-tank, rising-main, carrier-drains, and filter-beds are now complete. Levels have been taken for a proposed drain from the old Township of Ohinemutu to connect with the existing system at Whakane Street. The filter-beds have been fenced in.

Mr. Robert Hay reports as follows :—"The works at Rotorua for sewering the town are now, with the exception of the electric pumping installation, completed. All the principal streets where buildings have been erected have been sewered with 9 in. and 12 in. pipes, laid and bedded in concrete, and the sewage will be conveyed by gravitation to a receiving-tank, whence it will be pumped to a small tank in Hinemaru Street to the main-carrier, which will carry all drainage matter to the filter-beds, which are also completed, and have been constructed of pumice, affording an excellent medium for filtration. It is anticipated that the beds, as constructed, will effect the purpose for a number of years of retaining all the solids from the sewage, and allow a clear effluent to flow into the Puarenga Stream. When the population increases beyond that allowed for in the present scheme, provision has been made for an extension of the filter-beds. Considerable difficulty was experienced sinking for the foundations of the tank, and a number of hot springs were struck, and the water chiefly in evidence was similar to that of the 'Priest's Bath,' and although pumping was carried on at the rate of 2,000 gallons per minute for a number of days in succession, no diminution was apparent in any of the springs now in use at the baths. Tenders have now been invited for electric transmission of power, to pump the sewage and light the town. Power will be generated at the Okeri Falls, the outlet of the Rotorua and Rotoiti Lakes, and transmitted thirteen miles to Rotorua, and it is expected that the installation will be completed in seven or eight months."

Lands and Survey Paddock.

This has been subdivided into four paddocks. A well has been sunk and two tanks erected for the supply of water. Proposals will shortly be submitted to you for improvement by ploughing and sowing.

General.

With reference to the prospects and facilities of Rotorua as a tourist resort, doubtless in the not very distant future Rotorua will be a place of resort for thousands of tourists, invalids, and wealthy people living in Australia and New Zealand who find it imperative to visit this place for the purpose of bathing in its waters. At the same time what is known as "the season" here is at present not a very big thing. Taking the summer just over, there were comparatively few visitors in the place until Christmas, when for about a month there were a good many. From that up to Easter there were not many. At Easter there was again a fair number for a short time. The slackness doubtless was due to a slight extent to the Auckland Exhibition, but, making all allowance for that, I think that if the expenditure by the Government for the improvement of the place be continued at its present rate it will meet all requirements. I would suggest that a sum of £1,000 should be spent in renovating and extending the present baths and bath-houses, such improvements to be part of a general plan, which could be extended and completed as funds permit; and that the water-supply should be extended, and the level of the lake adjusted, as recommended in this report.

Great care should be exercised in any improvements that may be effected at the baths, as the strong nature of the waters tend to rapidly choke up and destroy pipes, cement, earthenware, and iron, so that it is necessary to arrange that all baths, pipes, valves, taps, &c., should be as simple as possible, and always accessible without pulling buildings to pieces.

The old Township of Ohinemutu is being rapidly deserted by storekeepers and others, who are removing their places of business to the new township. I understand the Native leases at Ohinemutu expire in about two years' time. I would strongly urge that the Government should buy up all these sections, except those occupied by the Lake House Hotel, and make a reserve of them, which should be planted with native shrubs, leaving only the Native village, geysers, &c., as a place of interest for tourists. I am sure this would contribute both to the attractiveness and to the health of Rotorua.

In order to make it more effective the Town Board should have a greater number of members, and its power increased by the granting of by-laws, unless it is intended to act merely as a Board of advice.

Steps should be taken by means of metalling the streets to minimise as much as possible the terrible dust storms that make Rotorua in the summer months an undesirable place to live in. Rotorua is a place where most people come to spend money at, and they expect to be comfortable and to enjoy themselves, instead of which on many days in the middle of summer, when the greatest number of people are here, many of them cannot go out owing to the clouds of dust. I know personally of people who came to stay for weeks leaving the place on this account after staying a few days.

Rotorua is well supplied with hotels, all of which are excellently managed. There are also numbers of boarding-houses, where visitors are made exceedingly comfortable at reasonable rates.

In conclusion, I think that the improvement of the place during the last five years has been steady and substantial, both in the number of visitors and in the arrangements made for their accommodation by public and private enterprise.

I have, &c.,

Robert H. Reaney, Road Surveyor.

TE AROHA HOT SPRINGS.

The administration of the Te Aroha Hot Springs Domain is intrusted to the members of the Te Aroha Borough Council, who are gazetted a Domain Board *ex officio*, with the Mayor as chairman.

The following report has been supplied by the secretary to the Board :—

"The past year has been a most successful one, both in the matter of revenue and in making the place attractive to visitors. The revenue is derived from baths, hire of towels, tennis, and library charges, and any special grants which may be obtained from the Government to enable the Board to undertake any special work. The following is a summary of revenue for the financial year ending the 31st December, 1898, with the figures for 1897 also given for purposes of comparison. The figures given are exclusive of any Government grants :—

	1897.				1898.		
Ordinary revenue—	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Baths	729	1	8	...	769	8	4
Library	12	15	0	...	10	0	6
Tennis	9	6	6	...	12	13	0
Towels	128	4	4	...	115	6	0
	£879	7	6		£907	7	10

"This shows an increase of £28 0s. 4d. for 1898 as compared with the previous year. Still, 1898 is, so far, a record year, and the current year already shows signs of being far in excess of even those figures. The apparent discrepancy in an increase of bath receipts and a shrinkage of towel-hire is accounted for by the fact that about the middle of the year the Board decided to waive the charge for towels where the most expensive baths were used, and, as these particular baths are the most popular, the shrinkage of revenue under this head was very marked.

"The principal event during the past year was the public opening of the new private bath-house, which was erected by the Government. The building was opened by the Hon. A. J. Cadman, Minister of Mines, to whose good offices and great interest in Te Aroha the Board were indebted for securing the necessary Government grant. A description of this building, giving costs, dimensions, and details, with photograph, is given in the report of the Lands and Survey Department for 1898. The work was carried out under the supervision of Mr. C. R. Vickerman, C.E. The building is the most handsome and complete of its kind south of the line, and is the subject of enthusiastic commendation from all who visit the place and use the baths. Its establishment has added considerably to the Board's revenue, as it is the most popular of the various classes of baths, of which there are six varieties.

"In compliance with the suggestion of several prominent doctors in Auckland, two of the bath-rooms in this building have been fitted up with stretchers, rugs, air-pillows, and head-rests, whereby rheumatic patients can practise the "pack" form of treatment. This has proved so popular that in all probability some additional rooms will be similarly fitted up. A new departure has also been made here in the way of attendants, two women having been appointed, whose duty it is to keep the whole building clean and tidy, and to attend to invalids when necessary. The buildings (and all other baths) are open continuously from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m., but the attendants so arrange the time that, although one is always there, neither of them work over eight hours per day. This addition to the staff has, of course, added considerably to the Board's expenditure; but the appointments were an absolute necessity, if only for the better preservation of the building. Early in the year the slopes of the terraces on which the private bath-house stands were all grassed, sods for the purpose being carted from a distance. They have now consolidated, and form a solid grass surface, which has had to be mowed frequently, and is now a distinct artistic addition to the lawn. The lawn itself has been top-dressed, and a handsome band-stand has been erected, at a cost of about £80, wherein the town band, under engagement to the Board, plays for two hours on two days in the week. The cold-water swimming-bath is fenced in from public view by a high corrugated-iron fence. This, though effective, was most unsightly, and, acting on the advice of Mr. Matthews, Forester, the Board has erected a trellis-work fence all round, at the foot of which flowering creepers have been planted, and the hope is that in time these creepers will grow up and obscure the iron fence, thus presenting a more pleasing prospect to the eye.

"Additional footpaths have been asphalted, and, in view of the great popularity of the tennis-court, an extra grass-court has been fitted up.

"Formerly the towels were washed outside the Domain, under contract with the Board. This system has, however, been abolished, and the towels are now washed by the female attendants. In order to facilitate this duty the Board built a large washhouse, in which there has been placed a 30-gallon copper, securely built in, and tubs, with all up-to-date appliances.

"Last season Te Aroha was the resort of many large picnics from the Thames district, no fewer than six schools having arranged their annual picnics to this place at various dates. Having the copper and fireplace available, the Board kept a constant supply of hot water on hand on these occasions. This was supplied free to the excursionists, who were thus enabled to make their own tea, a privilege which was much appreciated and largely taken advantage of.

"The office buildings have been repainted, and the windows have been fitted with venetian blinds, all of which has added greatly to their general appearance. Six new seats have been put on the lawn, and all the other seats have been painted. No. 2 bath has had the wooden work taken out and concrete walls placed in its stead, adding greatly to the efficiency of the bath and the cleanliness. The building over the bath has been renovated and private dressing-rooms added, the whole being repainted.

"The great influx of visitors last season caused a heavy drain on the supply of hot mineral water available for the baths, and, in order to obviate any possibility of a shortage, the Board decided to drive a prospecting-tunnel at a spot where they had reason to believe more hot water would be available. The cost of the proposed work was beyond the Board's means, and representations were made to the Government, and £150 was accordingly placed on the estimates for the work, which was then undertaken. The tunnel has now been driven 113 ft., and there is every indication of an ample supply of hot water being available, several good springs having been tapped in transit, some of which register 120°. When a sufficient distance has been driven the water will be confined in a concrete chamber and led to wherever it may be thought desirable. Judging from present appearances the supply, when tapped at the source, will be a copious one, and put at rest all fear as to a shortage in the future. The supply may, in fact, enable the Board to put into execution a long-contemplated project—namely, the construction of a hot-water swimming-bath.

"The popularity of Te Aroha and its Domain as a pleasure and health resort has brought out prominently the urgent need for an extension of the present lawn to the Wilson Street boundary, and also the construction of a bowling-green, requests for the construction of which have been both frequent and numerous. These requests have come from tourists and visitors, people in good circumstances, and precisely the class of people who ought to be attracted and encouraged to come. While recognising the necessity for making a tourist resort like Te Aroha up to date and attractive, the cost of the proposed work (£600 to £900) puts it out of the Board's power to undertake the improvements."

Mr. Charles R. Vickerman, District Engineer, Public Works Department, supplies the following additional particulars:—

"During the year 1897–98 the work of constructing an 18 in. sewer-pipe from the Waihou River to the boundary of the domain, two hot-water reservoirs near No. 2 bath-house, the levelling-off of the ground and erection of the new private bath-house, supplied with porcelain baths and hot mineral water, was well-nigh completed, with the exception of a few details. These were finished in April and May of last year, so that on the 24th of May, 1898, the baths were declared open for public use by Hon. Mr. Cadman. Besides completing these, an open swimming-bath has been excavated and concreted near the No. 2 hot-water reservoir, to be supplied with hot-water from the overflow from this reservoir and further water to be obtained from another adjacent spring. A concrete wall has been put round the old No. 2 bath, enlarging and improving it, and the adjacent banks have been trimmed off and left ready for grassing. Work was stopped in July, 1898; since then nothing further has been done by the Public Works Department."

HANMER PLAINS.

During the past year there have been 1,943 visitors to the springs, and 14,540 baths have been taken. The bathing-accommodation has been fully taxed, and more baths are now required to meet the demands for them. If these are not provided inconvenience will be caused during the coming season. If a new bath-house with twelve more baths can be erected it would meet all requirements for some years to come.

Accommodation near the Baths.

This has been greatly increased during the year. Hood's Hanmer Lodge, which has been lately erected, is a fine two-story building with first-class apartments and conveniences, and it is only a few chains from the baths. Miss Fawcett's boarding-house also is very comfortable, and is close to the baths.

The Government Sanatorium.

On the south side of the baths enclosure is the Sanatorium, which will comfortably accommodate eighteen persons. The building is situated about 5 chains from the baths, and is well furnished and ventilated. Owing to want of room many applications for admission received during the year could not be granted.

About nineteen hundred trees and shrubs have been planted during the year to replace some that have died. The trees in the older plantation are doing well.

Nine of the old wooden baths have been taken out and were replaced by new porcelain ones, which are a great improvement.

Water-service Extension.

Eighteen chains of 4 in. steel pipes has been laid from the old tank to the first fall in the water-race. This now gives a good supply of water to the Sanatorium and the bath-grounds. A drinking pavilion has also been erected for the use of those desirous of using the mineral waters.

Gas-service.

A gas-holder is at present in course of erection, and it will be finished shortly. When completed the gas will be used for lighting and heating the rooms in the Sanatorium. No. 1 spring is being covered in for the purpose of collecting the gas with which the gas-holder will be filled.

Hot-water Service.

Repairs have also been effected in connection with the hot-water-service pipes, several of which were replaced by new ones.

BATHS.

The total number of baths taken for each month under the different headings are as follows:—

1898–99.	1s.	8d.	6d.	Sanatorium Free Pools.	Free Baths.	Totals.
April	8	769	256	268	15	1,316
May	5	410	180	175	...	761
June	6	354	49	111	...	520
July	13	321	39	45	...	418
August	5	266	41	73	...	385
September	8	461	199	35	...	703
October	11	1,064	261	131	.	1,467
November	20	1,116	285	167	...	1,598
December	28	1,336	386	147	...	1,897
January	19	1,310	514	225	...	2,068
February	11	1,018	244	229	79	1,581
March	3	1,208	337	288	...	1,836
Total	137	9,624	2,791	1,894	94	14,540

The total amount of bath-fees was £413 1s. 2d. This shows an increase of £67 16s. 7d. over last year, and an increase of 3,104 in the number of baths taken for the year.

J. ROGERS, Caretaker.

APPENDIX No. 8.—WANGANUI RIVER WORKS.

IMPROVING THE NAVIGATION OF THE WANGANUI RIVER.

REPORT BY THE WANGANUI RIVER TRUST.

For the year from the 1st April, 1898, to the 31st March, 1899, the expenditure has been £1,119 9s. This makes the total expenditure by the Wanganui River Trust since its inauguration in 1891 to 31st March, 1899, amount to £6,243 9s. 3d.

An amount of £135 11s. 5d. has been received from river dues for the year.

The amount received this year from Government and lodged at bank at Wanganui to River Trust Fund Account was £1,040 up to 31st March, 1899.

The river service between Wanganui and Pipiriki has been kept up during the year without interruption by the steamers of Messrs. A. Hatrick and Co.

During the early part of the year work was continued on the rapids between Pipiriki and Manganuioteao—blasting and removing papa reefs, and rocks, and boulders, and snags. To indicate the large amount of blasting required in this part, there was used here dynamite, blasting powder, and fuse to the value of £66.

In the latter part of the season work was resumed where left off last year, about four miles below the Tangarakau Junction, about twenty-six miles above Pipiriki, and the clearing and snagging has been carried up to the Tangarakau Junction. There was a great quantity of very heavy timber to be removed out of the channels in this part, several of the snags requiring the two punts together to lift them off the bottom.

The portion of the river between Pipiriki and Tangarakau has now been all cleared and snagged, involving some very heavy work in many of the rapids. This part is now available for light steamer traffic when the water is slightly above the low summer level, or for about two-thirds of the year, and a moderate amount of work in several places, which it is intended to do first favourable opportunity, will enable it to be utilised in the same water-level as is done below Pipiriki, and when the river is somewhat higher, which it is at frequent intervals and for considerable periods, cargo traffic can be run thus far; so that now, whenever it is required, goods traffic can be taken during these periods as far as the Tangarakau Junction, the channels being clear of timber, rocks, and boulders.

A wharf has been constructed at the landing at Pipiriki, and is of much benefit in landing and shipping cargo. It is solidly built of stonework. The bottom of the river in front of the wharf and adjacent to it has been cleared of imbedded and sunken timber, so that steamers can lie at it in the low river.

A good deal of work, including 330 lineal yards in length of rough stone training-walls, has also been done between Pipiriki and Wanganui in improving the channels at several of the rapids, and in clearing timber lodged during the winter and spring freshets in a few localities, and in dredging several shingle-bars caused by these freshets. The freshets last winter and spring gave more occasion for this latter work than has hitherto been found to occur, and although the obstruction caused by them in the channels was not serious, still it involved some labour to clear off. It is intended to continue next season the improvement of some of the channels below Pipiriki, so as to further facilitate steamer traffic in this portion, to which, as yet, cargo traffic is confined.

It is also intended to further improve several of the rapids between Pipiriki and Tangarakau, as already referred to. The snagging and clearing of these has already been done, but training-walls are required in a few places to deepen the channels for the very low river periods.

It is also intended to extend the improvement of the river upwards from the Tangarakau Junction towards the junction of the River Ohura. This river joins the Wanganui about fifty-two miles above Pipiriki, or 110 miles above Wanganui by the river.

In connection with this further extension of river navigation, this distance of twenty-six miles between the Tangarakau and the Ohura was visited by the Chairman of the Trust and myself in a canoe. The river was low and clear, and favourable for observation. I append sketch-map showing the rapids in this length of river. Between these rapids are numerous reaches of favourable water of varying lengths, and the following is a general description from notes I took in going up this part of the Wanganui River.

Starting from the Tangarakau Junction, where the river-clearing has already reached, and going up river, the following are some of the notes taken (the distances are approximate) :—

Miles.

83½ from Wanganui by the river the Tangarakau River joins.
Short, good reach.
Kawakarewa Rapid: Sharp turn; runs on to papa face on right bank.
Short reach.
Kauaewhare Rapid: Short run; shallow on top.
Good reach.
Kaiaroa Rapid: Swift run; strikes from papa face on right bank to papa face on left bank; shingle-bed on right bank.

85 Reperepe Rapid: Swift run; channel on right bank, shingle-bed on left bank; a Native kainga called Puketapu on right bank, just above rapid, with stream, and a point with large stones at river margin. Amongst the snags to be cleared here is a large totara, long thought to be a "taniwha," which the Natives employed in the punts will not touch.
Good reach.
Hemotuke Rapid: A moderate run.

86 Kaiwaka Rapid: Channel on right bank, shingle-bed on left bank; a long run, rather swift and wide; at top of rapid a stream comes in on left bank.
Good reach, with slight easy runs in parts.
Nikotapu Rapid: Short, moderate run; a stream comes in on left bank, with large stones at a point on river margin.
Long, good reach. The long, comparatively straight length of river called Otaihanga begins here, and continues upwards for about four miles.

87 Opuraha Rapid: Channel on right bank, low shingle-bed in the middle, and a run also against the left bank. This is a swift run.
Good reach.

88 Pokorua: A moderate rapid.
Good reach.
Parikarangaranga: A moderate run in the reach.
Good reach continues.
Whakawatea Rapid: Channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank.

89 Otumape Rapid: Channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank.
Whatakiwi Rapid: Channel on right bank, shingle-bed on left bank.
Good reach.
Auroa Rapid: Swift run; channel on right bank, shingle-bed on left bank.

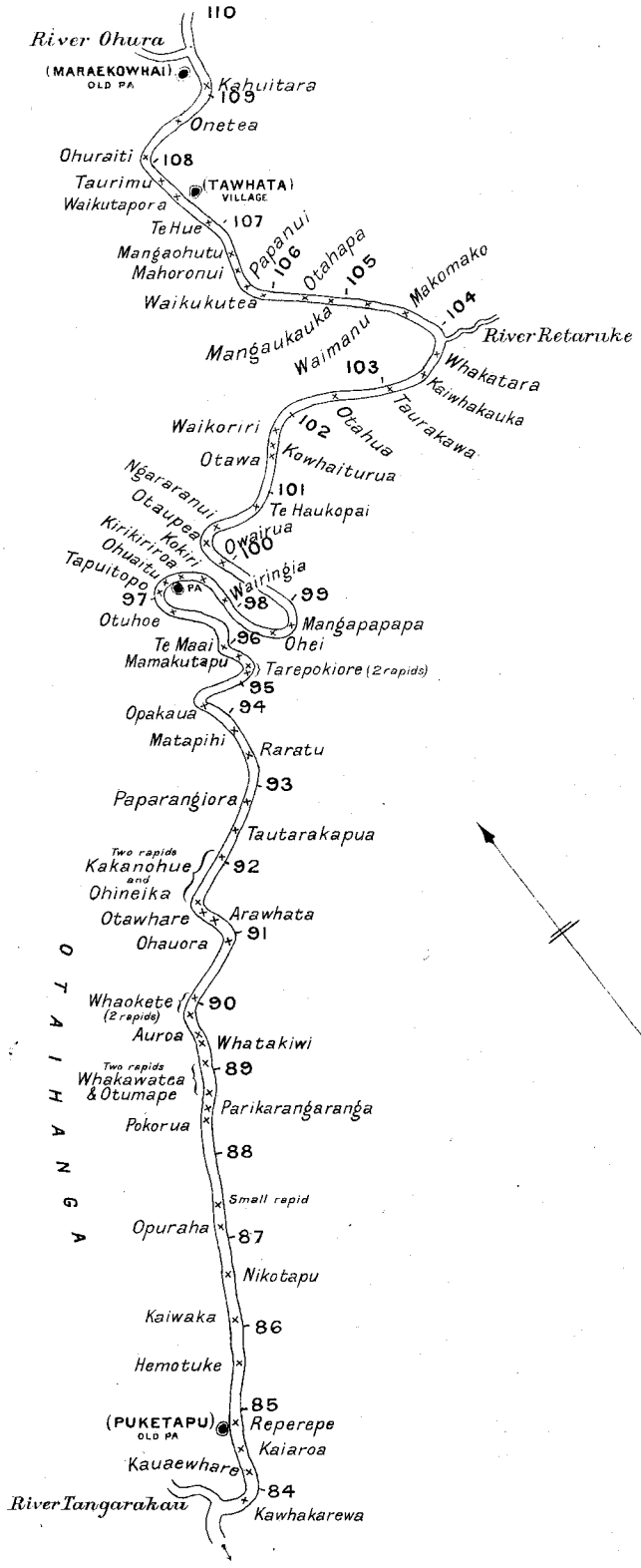
90 Whaokete No. 1 Rapid: Swift run; wide and rather shallow.
Short reach.
Whaokete No. 2 Rapid: Stiff run; large shingle-bed on left bank, channel on right bank.
Good reach.

91 The long, comparatively straight piece of river called Otaihanga ends here.
Ohauora Rapid: Quick run; channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank. A Native kainga called Ohauora on left bank, and a stream.
Arawhata Rapid: Short run; channel on right bank, large stones at river margin at a slip on left bank.
Good reach. This reach is called after Tamatea, said to be one of the original arrivals in the immigration of the Maori.
Otawhare Rapid: Long run; channel on right bank, and a slip on right bank, with a stream and large stones at river margin.

92 Kakanohue Rapid: Swift run; channel on right bank.
Good reach. The hills along river-banks are lower here than in the lower part of the river, and have been more or less so since leaving the Tangarakau Junction.
Ohineika Rapid: Broad run, rather shallow.
Tautarakapua Rapid: Channel in middle, shingle-beds on both banks; a swift run.
Good reach.

93 Paparangiora Rapid: Wide, easy run; channel on left bank.
Good reach; a fine long reach.
Raratu Rapid: Long, wide run, somewhat shallow; channel left bank.
Good reach.

94 Matapipi Rapid: Channel at top on left bank, and goes over to centre; a stream on left bank.
Short reach.



WANGANUI RIVER TRUST

SKETCH MAP OF PORTION OF WANGANUI RIVER BETWEEN THE JUNCTIONS WITH THE TANGARAKAU AND OHURA

APPROXIMATE SCALE

0 1 2 3 4

MILES

NOTE:

× Rapids in blue

- Mileage from Wanganui in red

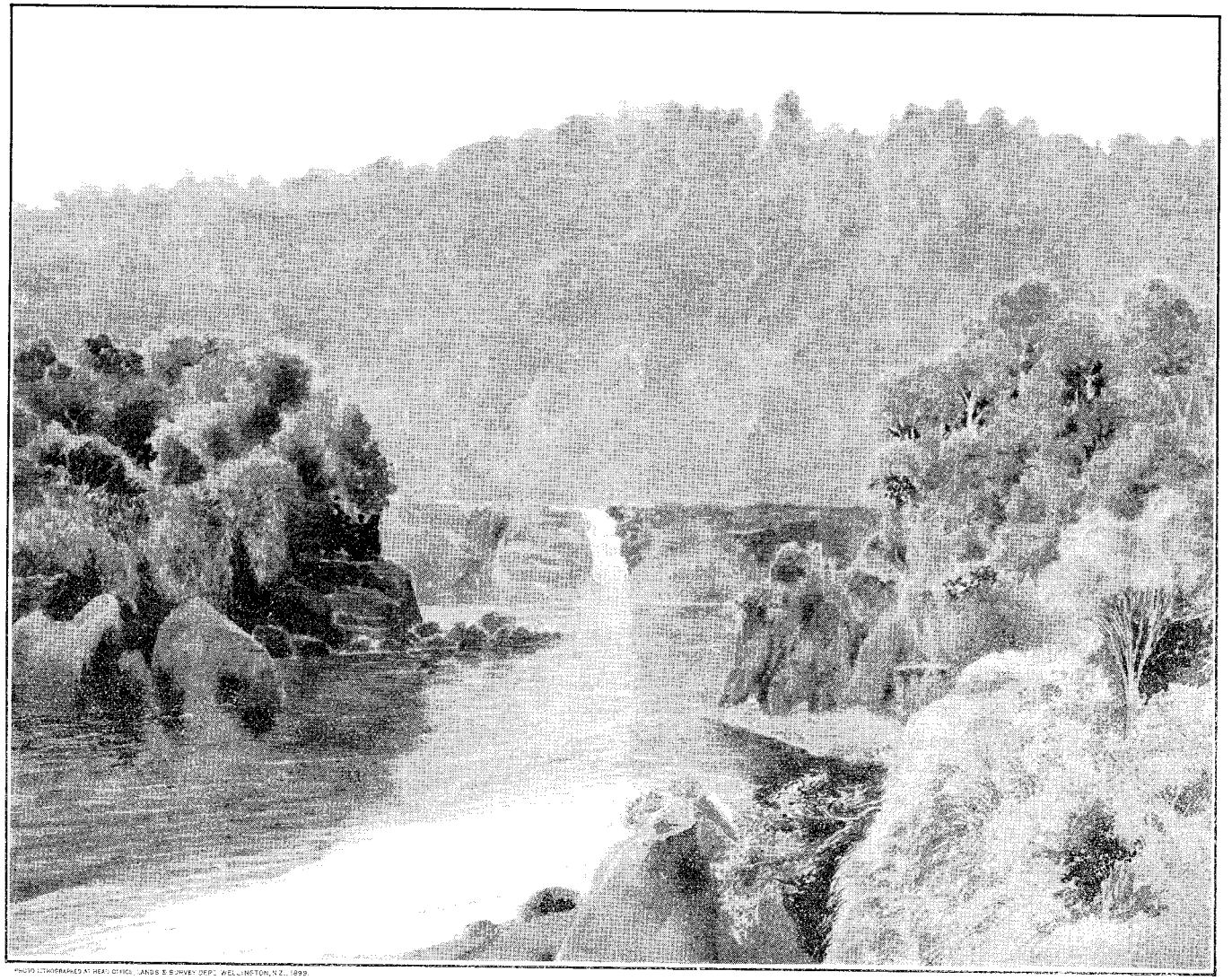


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT., WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Falls on the Ohura River, near its Confluence with the Wanganui River.

Opakaua Rapid: Short, swift run; channel on right bank.
Long, good reach. A Native kianga called Tahireaka on left bank.
—— Rapid: Boulder-bed on left bank, channel on right bank; shell-rock and conglomerate seams on left bank, with papa above and below them. A bluff projects out into river on the left bank, which will cause a heavy swirl in floods.
95½ Tarepokiore Rapid: This is opposite a large slip on left bank, which had come into river and left a narrow channel on right bank about half a chain wide, with swift run; a quantity of large stones at slip.
Mamakutapu Rapid: Channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank. This is a short, rapid run.
Good reach. This is a long reach; in it are two shell-rock ledges projecting out from each side opposite to each other and overhanging the water, with about a chain in width between them. This is called Whaitaiti.
Te Maai Rapid: A quick, wide run. Channel on left bank at top and crosses to right bank at foot of rapid.
Otuhoe Rapid: Stiff run; channel on left bank.
97 Tapuitopo Rapid: A wide run; channel on left bank.
Good reach.
Ohuaitu Rapid: Swift run; channel in middle. A little above this is a shallow, moderate run.
Short, good reach.
97½ A Native kainga called Kirikiriroa on left bank. This is situated at the point of a long bend of the river, with a very narrow neck behind.
Kirikiriroa Rapid: Short run; channel runs from left bank at top to right bank at foot of rapid. There is a long shingle-bed on left bank.
Short, good reach.
Kokiri Rapid: A small rapid, with shingle-bank on left bank; channel towards right bank.
Good reach. In this reach a bold papa bluff, bearing a striking resemblance to the bow of a huge ironclad, projects out into the river from the right bank; this is called Te Reringa-o-te-koinaki, and tradition gives it that Koinaki jumped off this cliff when running from his enemies and was drowned. This is a long reach.
98 Wairingia Rapid: A long run; channel towards left bank.
Ohei Rapid: Channel towards right bank. These last two rapids are close together.
Short, good reach. On the left bank in this reach there was a taniwha who, tradition says, killed Topine, an ancestor.
Mangapapapa Rapid: Short run; channel on left bank.
Good reach, called Tokakura.
99 There is here a fine long reach, with bold papa faces both sides.
Owairua Rapid: Channel on right bank, shingle-bed on left bank; a long, swift run; a Native kainga of same name on left bank.
Short, deep pool.
100 Otaupea Rapid: Short, quick run; channel on left bank.
Good reach.
Ngararanui Rapid: Channel to left bank, shingle-bed right bank; a short, quick run.
Good reach.
101 Haukopai Rapid: Channel on left bank, shingle-bed right bank. A sharp turn here against a papa face.
Long, good reach. The run in the upper part of this reach gets swifter and rather shallow.
Otawa Rapid: Channel on left bank, small shingle-bed on right bank.
Kowhaiturua Rapid: A wide run; stream of same name on right bank.
102 Waikoriri Rapid: Channel on left bank; an easy rapid. There are two large blocks of shell-rock in the channel just below this rapid.
Long, good reach, called Mangapapa.
103 Otahua Rapid: Broad run, rather shallow.
Good reach.
Taurakawa Rapid; A crooked rapid; channel on right bank in upper part, going over to left bank below; a point with large stones on left bank just below. These deposits of large stones are important, as they come in for use when training-walls are required.
Good reach.
Kaiwhakauka Rapid: Channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank; swift run; a Native kainga of same name on right bank, and stream just above on left bank.
Short reach.
Whakatara Rapid: A long, shallow run.
104 The River Retaruke joins on left bank. This is not navigable for canoes in this low river, but when river is up a little canoes go some distance up to first falls.
Makomako Rapid: A shallow run. The run extends with less current some way above the rapid.
Good reach.
105 Waimanu Rapid: A slight run in the good reach.
Good reach continues. The name of this long reach is Waipahihi. There is a salt spring in this reach, out of the papa face on right bank, a few feet above the summer level of river.
Mangaukauka Rapid: Channel on left bank, close to stone ledge.
Short, good reach.

Otahapa Rapid: Channel on left bank, a shingle-bed on right bank; swift run; and a shallow, broad run with less current above the rapid.
Short, good reach.

106 Waikukutea Rapid: Channel on right bank; a long run; rather shallow.
Short, good reach.

Papanui Rapid: Channel towards right bank, shingle-bed on left bank; a stream of same name on right bank, with large stones at river margin.
Short, good reach.

Mahoronui Rapid: Swift run; channel on left bank, near stones, shingle-bed on right bank.
Short reach.

Mangaohutu Rapid: Channel towards left bank, shingle-bed on right bank; a stream of same name on left bank.
Good reach.

107 Te Hue Rapid: A wide run; channel on left bank.
Good reach.

108 A Native kainga called Tawhata on left bank. A small rapid near this.

Taurimu Rapid: Short, swift run; channel on left bank, shingle-bed on right bank; some large stones on right bank just above rapid.

Ohuraiti Rapid: Very stiff run; channel in middle; a broad, shallow run with less current just above.
Long, good reach. A good many large stones along the banks. The name of this reach is Ngatukuwaru.

Onetea Rapid: A slight run in the reach.
Good reach continues. A fern patch on the left bank.

Kahuitara Rapid: A long, wide, swift run.
Good reach. A Native kainga called Maraekowhai on right bank.

109½ The River Ohura joins on the right bank. This river falls over a papa ledge about 6 ft. high close to its junction with the Wanganui River. The name of this fall is Ratakura. There is a second fall, 15 ft. or 20 ft. high, a short way up the Ohura, over a wide papa ledge; the name of this fall is Reinga Kokiri. The Natives haul their canoes over the low spur below the junction to above these falls, and say that then their canoes go a long way up the river. These two falls form picturesque scenes when the rivers are low.

The portion of the river from the Tangarakau Junction (eighty-four miles from Wanganui) to Kirikiriroa (ninety-eight miles) is very favourable for improvement. Above this to the Ohura Junction (110 miles) there will be more work, chiefly on account of there being several broad, shallow runs. These are in general clear, but will require training-walls in places to confine the water, and thus give more depth in channels. But for the whole distance, Tangarakau to Ohura, the clearing required of snags and timber, rocks and boulders, is not excessive, and, on the whole, this twenty-six miles of river is as capable of improvement as the twenty-six miles between Pipiriki and Tangarakau. The rapids are more numerous, but are not of more difficulty in their nature.

In the twenty-six miles between Pipiriki and Tangarakau there are thirty-seven rapids, and in the twenty-six miles from Tangarakau to Ohura there are sixty-four rapids of more or less difficulty. The numerous good reaches between the rapids are in general clear and favourable. There is slightly more current in some of these reaches than in similar reaches in the lower part of the river, as here the general fall of the river is greater, accounting for the greater number of rapids. The river-banks are well defined with papa faces, promising permanency to the channels. These papa banks get lower as we go up the river, but continue still well defined and protective. The country also appears to get generally lower and more favourable for settlement in these upper reaches.

The importance of having the river cleared and improved up to the Ohura, and beyond, is obvious in view of the survey of settlement blocks near Retaruke. It is also of importance that the roads leading to the river from these settlement blocks should be constructed, as for a long time yet the river will be the easiest means of getting cargo to and from this district. The driving of stock and horse traffic is all that will probably be able to be undertaken in the meantime over the inland roads and tracks leading to the main roads, but it is manifest that the upper part of the river will be a favourite route for tourist traffic.

During the year correspondence has taken place between the River Trust and the Survey Department regarding the reserve belt of a mile wide along the river-bank at the Waimarino Block, as to how it could be utilised in portions in connection with the settlement blocks lying inland of it, while at the same time preserving all the bush-covered portions and the scenery along the river-banks. Another matter referred to has been the desirability of laying out roads giving access to the river navigation from the adjacent settlement blocks wherever a favourable line of road could be got to the river-banks.

The opening up for settlement of the River Trust Endowment Block of 10,000 acres in the Waimarino Block has also been brought under the notice of the same department. This endowment block has been favourably reported upon as being good for grazing purposes.

It is understood that these matters are now under the consideration of the Survey Department.

The Chairman of the Wanganui River Trust (Mr. T. D. Cummins) visited the works in progress, and also the proposed extension of river improvement to the Ohura, and has given much attention to the prosecution of the works.

Mr. A. Marshall acted in an able manner as principal foreman on the works.

JOHN T. STEWART,
Secretary Wanganui River Trust, and in charge of Works.

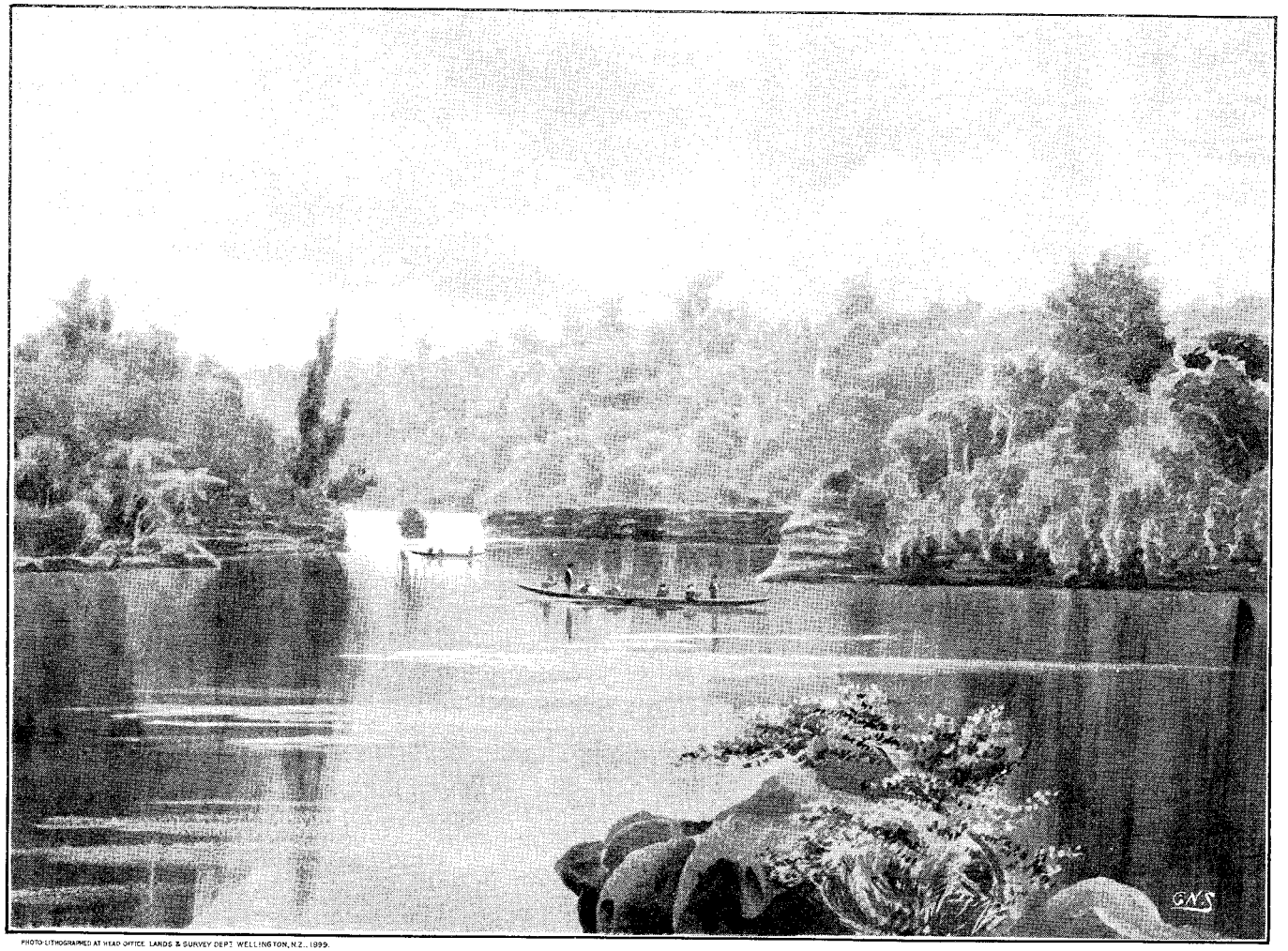
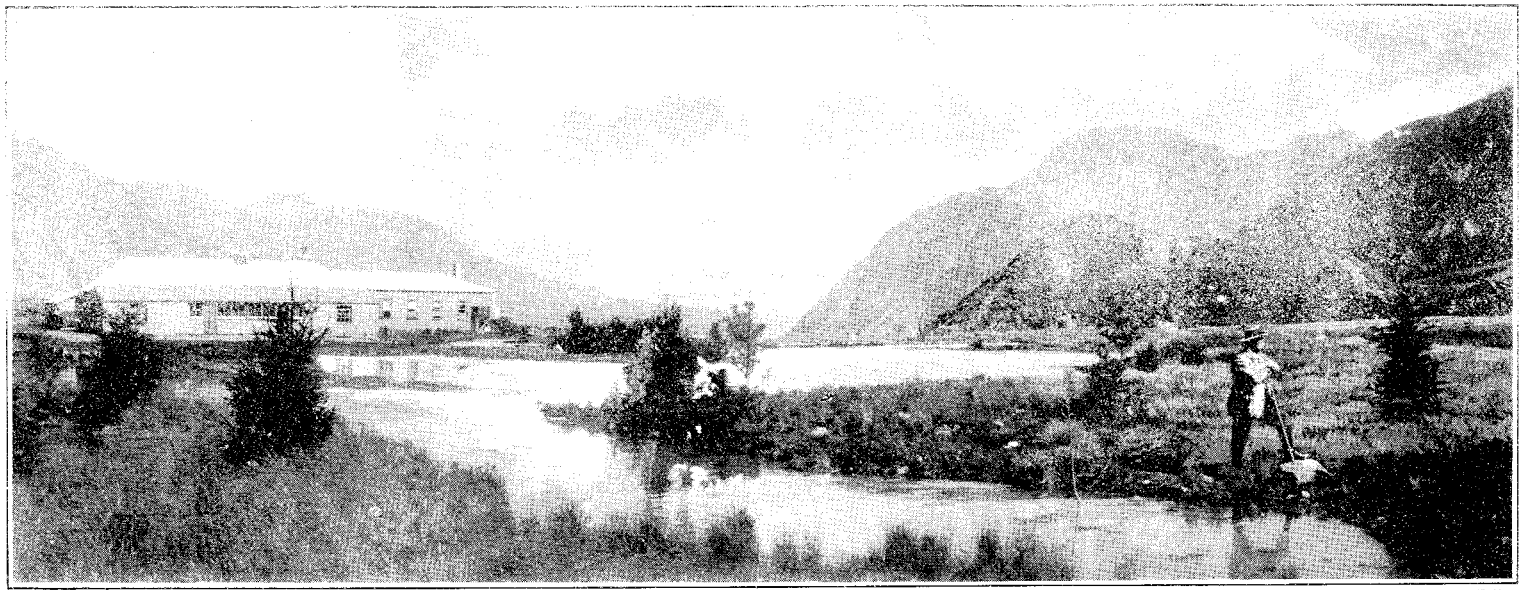


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE LANDS & SURVEY DEPT WELLINGTON, N.Z. 1899.

Confluence of the Ohura River with the Wanganui River.



J. J. Kinsey.

PHOTO LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

The Hermitage, Mt. Cook,
Looking down the Valley.

APPENDIX No. 9.—STEAMER FOR LAKE TE ANAU.

THE following extract from the *Southland Times* of 3rd March, 1899, gives a report of the trial trip of the s.s. 'Tawera,' subsidised by Government to run on Lake Te Anau. The subsidy promised is at the rate of £200 per annum for three years, on condition that efficient steam-communication is maintained on the lake. The steamer is to run on two days each week to the head of the lake. doing the return trip the same day, and extra trips to the various fiords will be undertaken as may be required.

"S.S. 'TAWERA.'

"The trial trip of the new steamer for Lake Te Anau, the s.s. 'Tawera,' was made on Wednesday, under fairly favourable circumstances. The wind had been blowing a gale all the previous day, and consequently a high choppy sea was running on the lake, which was not conducive to perfect pleasure or comfort. Nevertheless, to those who did not object to a little tossing about, and an occasional ducking with spray, the voyage was most enjoyable, and of course, for the purpose of thoroughly testing the powers of the boat, the rough weather was highly suitable. The 'Tawera' is a credit both to the builders, the Dunedin Foundry and Engineering Company, and to the enterprise of the proprietors, Messrs. Ross and Co. Her description is as follows: Length, 70 ft.; beam, 12 ft.; depth, 6 ft. moulded; horse-power, 25 nominal, 110 indicated; steam pressure, 110 lb. per square inch; Worthington pump for circulating water for condensing; compound engine of special design; steel boiler, tested in the presence of the Government inspector to 220 lb. hydraulic before leaving Dunedin; steel deck-houses, windows encased in brass frames. The steering gear is on deck in front of the funnel, thus facilitating the work of the man at the wheel. A speaking-tube connects with engine-room. A small dingy is hung on davits, aft, ready for immediate use should necessity arise. There are two cabins: one aft has accommodation for ten ladies, and one forward will seat, comfortably, twenty gentlemen. Both are fitted with lavatories, and are daintily picked out in lavender and white. Room is also found for a galley for cooking purposes.

"Shortly before noon, with forty-five passengers on board, the 'Tawera' steamed away from the pier, and was soon ploughing through the waves in the teeth of the wind. Many times the spray dashed on to the deck, treating those on the starboard to a shower-bath, much to the amusement of the more favoured ones on the lee side.

"The panorama spread out to view was one of spotless beauty. The lofty ranges, clad to the water's edge with luxuriant vegetation, on one hand, and the wild rolling downs, with snow-capped peaks in the background, on the other, formed a picture of exceeding richness. The tight little craft continued her way up the lake, battling bravely against waves of increasing violence, and it was deemed advisable to abandon the idea of going to the head of the lake, and to cruise up the South Arm instead. Just before reaching the mouth of the Arm a sharp squall sprang up, and swept across the lake, driving before it great sheets of spray, quite high enough to drench the decks of an Atlantic liner. Once inside the Arm, however, a comparative calm was reached, and the journey progressed more agreeably. At the entrance to the fiord a most magnificent and impressive sight opened to the view. Two little islands, Dome and White Pigeon, simply masses of foliage, guarded the mouth, while on each side the high mountains, clothed with trees and shrubs from base to summit, stretched away in the distance, drawing closer and closer together, and at the extreme end Mount Maury towered up, shooting into the clouds rugged pinnacles, on whose highest points the mantle of snow glistened in the sun like burnished glass. The stately grandeur of the rugged peaks was made more profound and yet mellowed by the softer and more picturesque beauty of the less lofty hills, draped with warm native herbage. By the time Mount Maury was reached a slight drizzle had set in and a dense mist was creeping slowly down the hills, enveloping everything in its close embrace, and leaving only a vision of spectral beauty away to the right where the Arm continued its course, becoming gradually narrower. Since there would have been nothing to gain by proceeding further it was decided to 'about ship' and make for home. The wind had fallen considerably, and when the wider portion of the Arm was reached the rain had been banished by genial sunshine, and the run home, with wind and wave in favour, was enjoyably accomplished at a twelve-knot speed."

APPENDIX No. 10.

MOUNT COOK HERMITAGE AND GLACIERS.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS, CHRISTCHURCH.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross have managed the Hermitage during the past year with the assistance of a boy and two servants, and Mr. Clark has acted as guide, his services having been utilised by most of the visitors, owing to the very moderate charge now made.

A substantial reduction was also made in the charge for horse-hire, which induced the visitors to avail themselves of the horses provided. Mr. Lloyd, a well-known economic writer from Chicago, on being interviewed by the *Lyttelton Times*' on his return from the Hermitage, spoke of the management as being excellent, and also said that the place is surrounded by a dozen attractions any of which would make the fortune of a whole Swiss village, adducing Mount Cook, Sefton, De la Beche, Hochstetter, the Sealey Range, and the Tasman Glacier as instances.

One hundred tourists stayed at the Hermitage, and a number of others visited it during the past season, and most of them stayed longer than the visitors of the previous season, the takings being considerably better than for the previous year.

Two huts were provisioned early in the season, and both huts were made use of by some of the visitors, the Ball Hut being the favourite, owing to its being within easy distance of the Hermitage.

Messrs. Kerr and Frayne ran the usual coach-service during the season from the beginning of November.

Mr. Brodrick reports on the works at Mount Cook as follows:—

Mount Cook Road.—I found the road and most of the tracks in good order. The two surfacemen, in addition to keeping the road in the usual manner, have done excellent permanent work by clearing out the old cuttings and widening the road in places where it had fallen in; they also re-erected the Hooker cage and put a foot-bridge over the Blue Lakes Stream.

Road-deviation.—If the new deviation round Lake Pukaki is to be formed this year it would be good policy to start it early and get it done in time for next season. The old road from the finger-post northwards to the lake is in bad order, and if the new one is not formed it should be attended to.

Hermitage.—Everything was in order at the Hermitage, and, so far as I could judge, the cooking was good and the provisions also. Ross has made some new garden-seats and put them in suitable places, and from other little improvements I saw I gathered that the place was being well taken care of.

Huts.—Both huts are in good order, and also the tracks to them, but more furniture, blankets, mattresses, and provisions should be carried to the upper one. I have heard that some tourists who would have liked to make the trip were unable to go up because of the short supply, and the guide told me that he was kept so busy he had been unable to take all the things provided. It is not safe for him to go up alone, and I think it should be arranged for the surfacemen to make a trip with him, either this season or early next, to carry up the remainder of the furniture and some provisions.

Hooker Bridge.—This bridge is in good order. About two thousand sheep were put over it last spring without doing it any harm.

Trees.—Most of the trees planted are looking well, especially the laburnums and larches, but Ross did not manage to get all put in; some three or four hundred are just trenched in in the garden, where they look well, and can be planted out next year. The rabbits have decreased in the most astonishing way, and I only saw two on the reserve.

The following extracts from Mr. Clark's report of his experience as guide may be of interest:—

"My first journey after arrival at the Hermitage, on the 24th November last, was to Brodrick's hut. The winter had been very severe, and a great quantity of snow had fallen, particularly in the higher altitudes. On this account Mr. Ross had to this date found it impossible to provision the huts. I therefore went to ascertain if it were possible to get the pack-horses through as far as the Ball Hut, and also to find out how Brodrick's hut had stood the winter. Having packed a swag of provisions for future use, I started. I found the track clear and but slightly damaged to within three miles of the hut, but from here to the small waterfall, a quarter of a mile from the hut, all the gullies were full of snow. At the waterfall there had been an enormous snow avalanche, completely filling the valley from the top of the fall to half-way up the moraine, and the snow not being less than 30 ft. deep over the track. It being well set, I knew there would be no great difficulty in getting the horses over it. In the hut enclosure several avalanches were down, some of them 2 chains long and from 5 ft. to 15 ft. deep, but these in no way affected the progress.

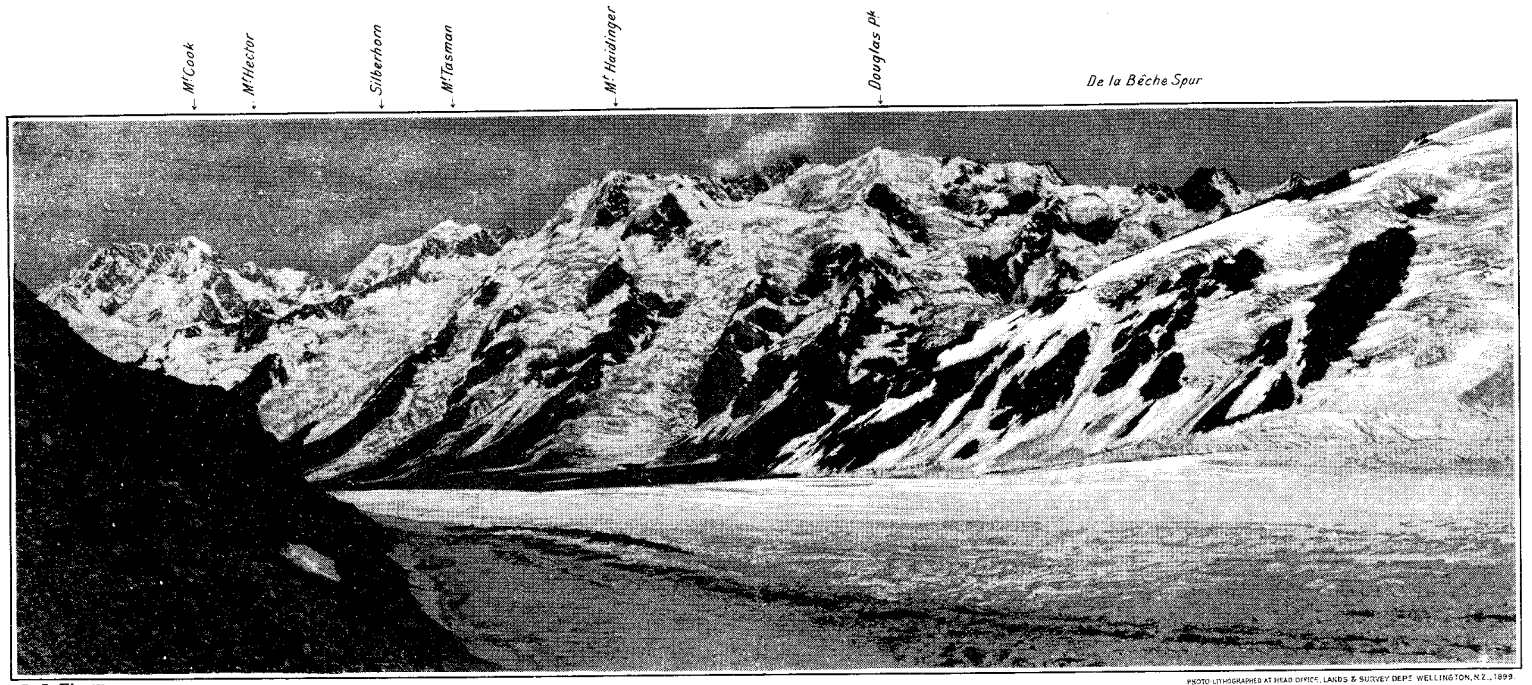
"Leaving the Ball Hut at daylight the following morning, I found the Tasman in the best possible order for travelling until I reached a spot opposite the Haast Glacier. From here to over the 'fall' at De la Beche the glacier was evenly graded, the snow having filled up all the hollows and crevasses; in fact, there was no broken ice about, but it was hard going. The warm winds of the night before had softened the snow, and I sank through the light crust up to my knees at every step. However, I persevered, and succeeded in making the hut in fairly good time.

"Only part of the roof and the lower end was visible, but I could at once see that it was sound, and had not been crushed nor even moved by the immense avalanche pressing down from above. The rock, which decided Mr. Brodrick to place the hut where he did, had done its work well, and, though it was now covered with snow, it proved beyond doubt that the spot had been wisely selected; in fact, I could not see another place where the hut could have safely stood. Judging from what I then saw, in my opinion there need be no fear for the safety of this hut either from storms, falling rocks, or snow avalanches.

"I dug down to the handle of the door, opened it, and crawled through a couple of feet space between the top of the door and the snow. Everything was right inside, and the hut itself quite intact, but I gathered from the amount of snow which choked up the fireside that the top part the chimney had been carried away. This can be easily replaced, and should be at the earliest possible moment.

"I commenced my return journey about 1 o'clock, and found the snow much softer, and therefore the "going" much harder than even in the morning. My tracks were a great help to me, and I arrived at the Ball Hut again at 4.30 p.m. Had the weather been colder I intended to stay the night and return to the Hermitage *viâ* the Ball Pass; but, the warm winds continuing, I decided after a short rest to resume my journey down the track, and I succeeded in reaching the Hermitage at 10 o'clock the same evening.

"It is to be regretted Brodrick's hut had not been provisioned when the hut was completed, and when the services of the men who had been swagging the material for building it were available, as, after this first visit of mine, my services were so fully engaged that I was quite unable to



J. J. Kinsey.

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Looking S. from Brodrick's Hut.

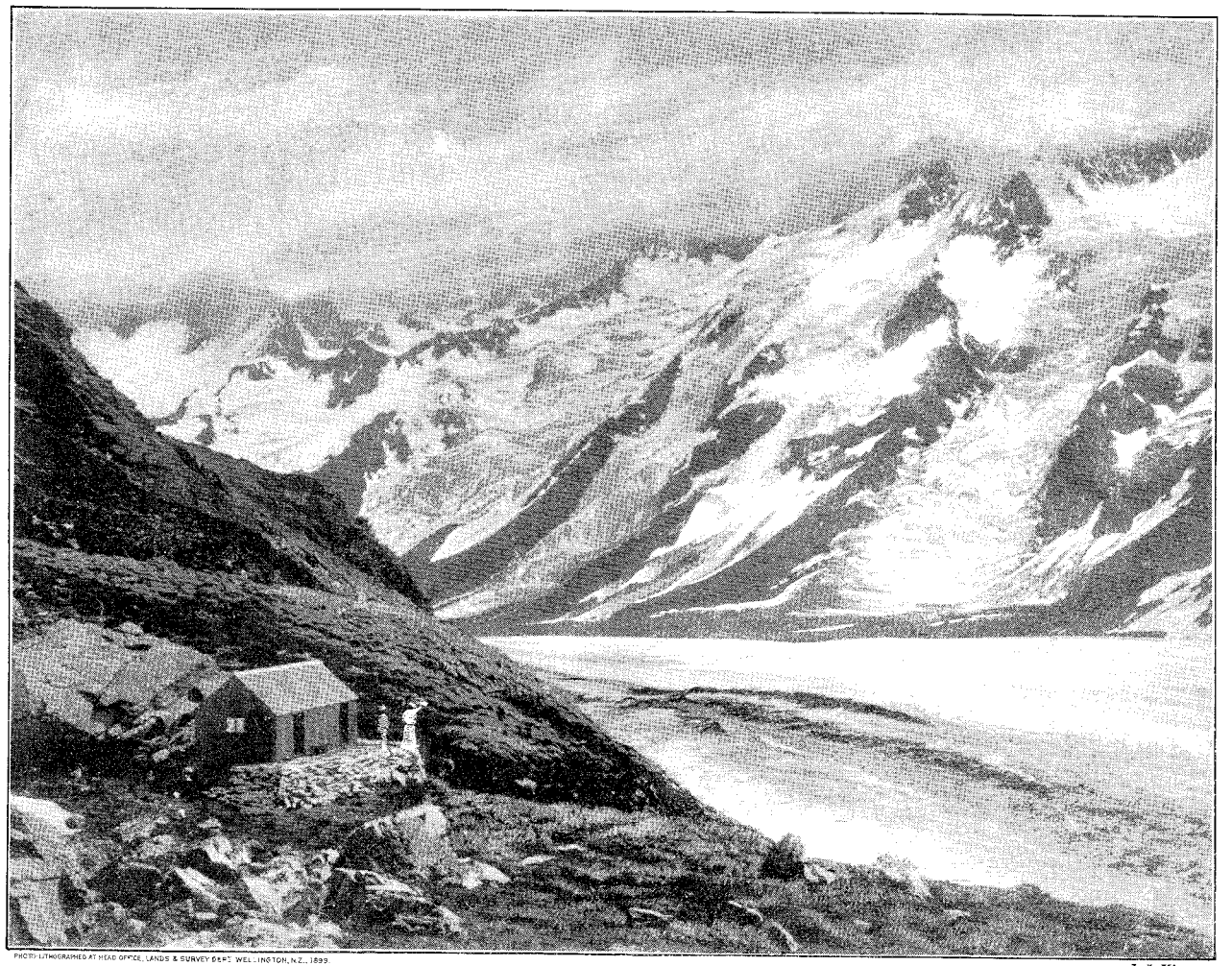
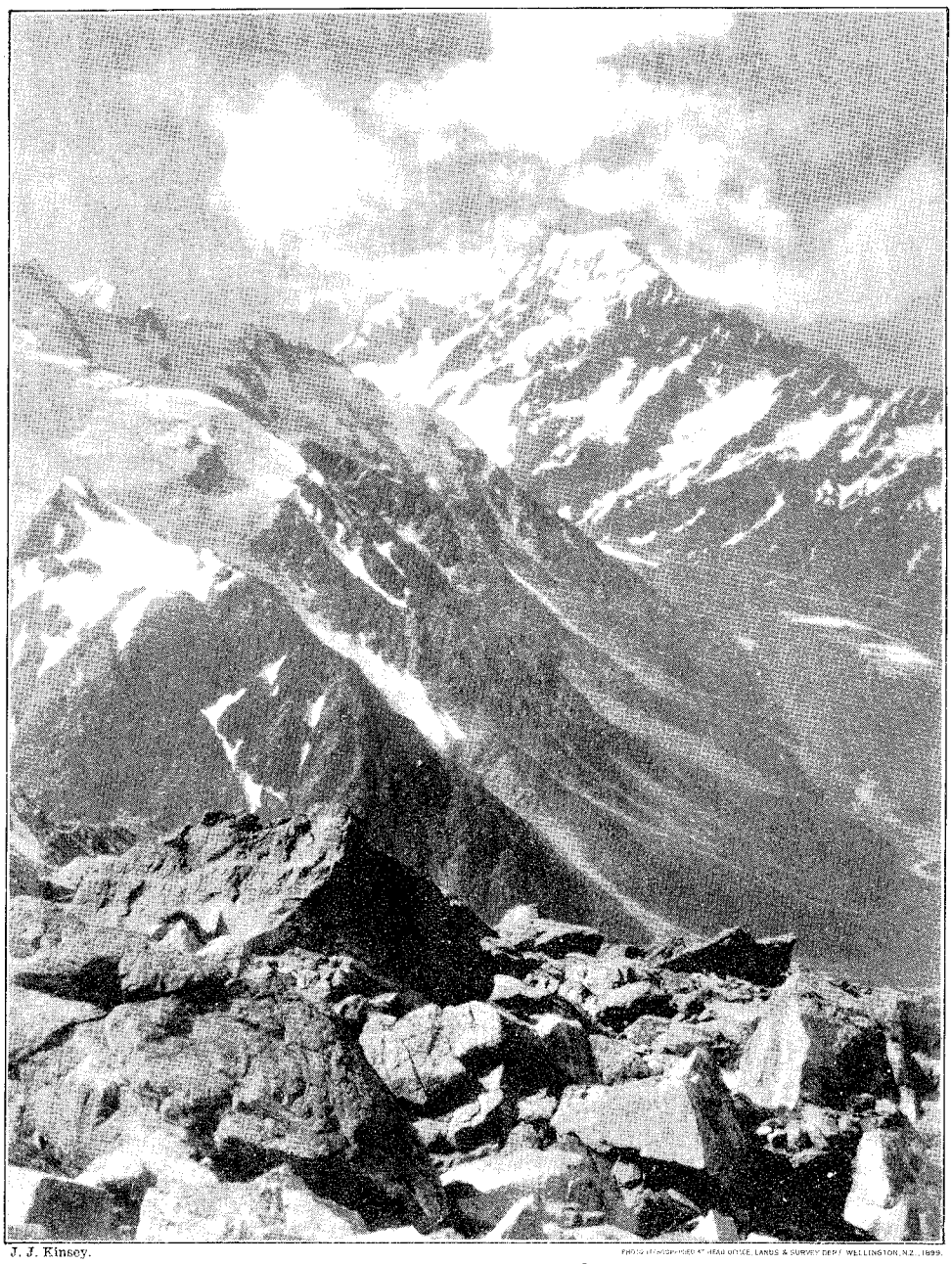


PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

J. J. Kinsey.

The Tasman Glacier, from near Brodrick's Hut.



J. J. Kinsey.

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEP'T, WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Mount Cook, from Sealey Range.

undertake this work. It is advisable before next season commences that the stores likely to be required, together with a few comforts in the shape of a table, seats, cooking utensils, and an oil-stove, should be taken there. These are not only necessary for the use of visitors, but, in the event of being snowed up, which is not at all improbable, as was proved on two occasions this season, we should then have no fear of running short of provisions. A barometer and a maximum and minimum thermometer would also be of service here. It is hardly necessary for me to point out the value of such instruments, if for no other reason than for the assistance they may be in determining whether it is safe to undertake excursions, or even to return to the Ball Hut. I almost fear what the consequences would be if a party, especially of ladies, should be overtaken by one of the severe storms or blizzards which occasionally sweep the Upper Tasman.

"Three times I guided tourists across the Ball Pass. On the first occasion snow reached from the ridge to the Hooker Glacier, and we were able to make the descent of over 3,000 ft. in less than twenty minutes, glissading the whole way down. Later on in the season, when there was considerably less snow, and what was left was covered with rocks, the journey took two hours. With a large party it would take longer.

"The ridge on the Sealey Range was frequently visited, and parties were also taken on Mount Ollivier.

"Trips were made to the Lendenfeld Saddle and Hochstetter Dom.

"On two occasions I went to the top of the Fitzgerald Pass for the purpose of being able to report to the department on the advisability of recommending it as a route for tourists and others to the West Coast. The result of these two visits confirms me in the opinion I formed last year when crossing to the Coast, and which is given in my last report.

"Perhaps the most interesting trip of the season was in company with Mr. J. J. Kinsey, Miss Kinsey, and Mr. W. C. Hill to Brodrick's hut and the head of the Tasman. This party arrived at the Hermitage prior to the commencement of the bad weather which resulted in a flood higher, so it is asserted by the old settlers, than has been experienced since the floods of 1868. In order to save time and to lessen the loads for the pack-horses, Mr. Kinsey took his stores and camera across the Hooker River and packed them high and dry under the shelter of some large rocks and shrubs, and returned to the Hermitage by means of the cage. Rain now set in and continued, making it impossible to start for the Ball Hut for six days. Even then the Hooker was crossed with considerable risk. The ford, which at no time is particularly good, had been washed away, and the river was still high. We found the banks of the river had been scoured out, leaving the post supporting the cable bare at its base, and the cage was suspended in the air, and quite useless for the purpose of crossing the river. A short time after the whole apparatus gave way, and the cage and rope dropped into the river. We also found the River Tasman, which has left the old course and now strikes the spurs off Wakefield, and the Blue Lake Stream very full of water. These rivers and the bad condition of the track about the Blue Lake made the journey to the Ball Hut a hard one. We started the following morning with heavy swags, carrying cameras and provisions. All went well till about noon, when, just before reaching the "fall" of the glacier, without much warning we suddenly found ourselves surrounded with a dense fog. Fortunately, we had a compass with us, and this proved of great value. The rope was brought into use, and we proceeded. The going was now positively dangerous; the crevasses being deep and numerous the progress was slow. It was impossible to see 5 yards ahead, and we were unable to pick our way. We got out of one difficulty often to find ourselves in a worse. Between 4 and 5 o'clock I thought we had gone sufficiently far to warrant cutting in towards Malte Brun, and I was confirmed in this opinion by the sound of falling water, which I took to be the waterfall north of Brodrick's hut. Upon reaching the side of the glacier I found we were still too much to the south, and we once more returned to the centre of the Tasman and continued our journey. Eventually we tried again, and found we had struck the hill about a quarter of a mile below the spot where the track is formed. All danger was now over, and we released ourselves from the rope with a great sense of relief, after having been roped together for five hours. The party remained at the hut about a week, making excursions to the head of the Tasman, and secured a complete and valuable set of photographs, some of which Mr. Kinsey has kindly offered for reproduction in the annual survey report. A heavy fall of snow took place while we were there, and delayed the return. This necessitated going on low rations; as it was, when we did leave the hut we had completely bared the larder. Miss Kinsey was thus the first lady to visit Brodrick's hut, and this should therefore be recorded.

"My next journey to Brodrick's hut was with Mr. and Mrs. Fell, of Dunedin, and another lady and gentleman. This time Mr. Ross allowed Guthrie to assist in carrying the provisions. The journey up and down was made in good weather, but we had a terribly cold time at the hut, amid a howling gale with snow.

"The cage across the Hooker, opposite the end of the Wakefield Spur, cannot be depended upon for any length of time. At any moment another flood may come down and scour away the banks, as it did this year. The question, therefore, of constructing a track round the Wakefield Spur will have to be considered sooner or later.

"The track on the flats between the Hooker and the Blue Lake Stream is also obliterated in places by the inroads of the Tasman River, compelling tourists not using horses to take to the face of the hillside, thus making the journey to the Ball Hut far more fatiguing than it used to be.

"The alpine appliances have been of service to tourists and myself, and there is sufficient to last, with care, for some years; but a small pocket-compass, a pocket aneroid registering up to 10,000 ft., and a pocket-thermometer for the use of the guide are almost indispensable.

"It would be a great attraction to tourists if the Hermitage were supplied with a barograph and a complete set of meteorological instruments. The observations could be taken regularly, and forwarded to the Meteorological Department at Wellington.

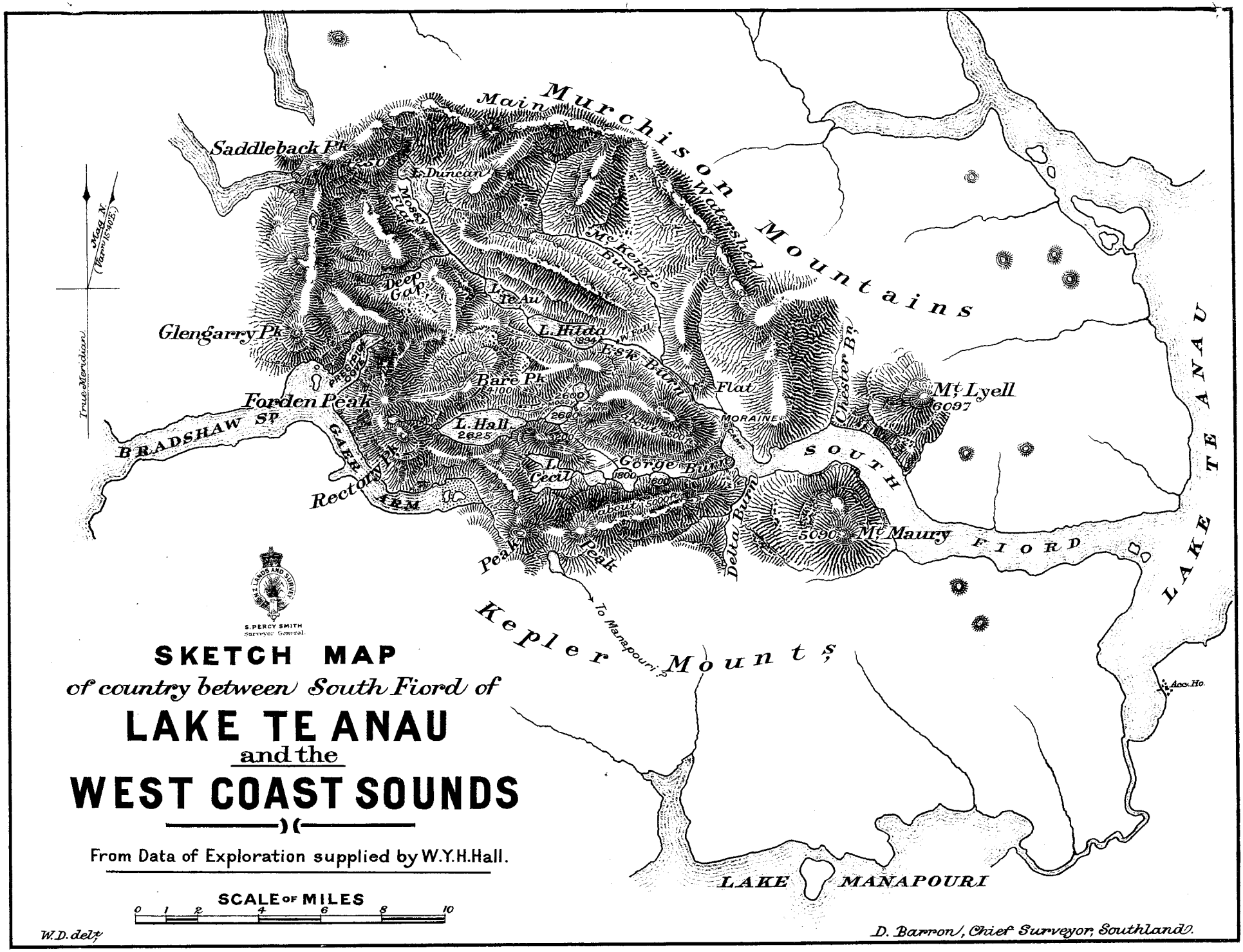


Photo-Lithographed at the Head Office, Department of Lands and Survey Wellington, N.Z. July 1899.

Esk Burn late at night, and on the following days rowed up to the north fiord of Te Anau. We found that while from McKinnon's northward native ground-game was plentiful, at the head of the south fiord neither kakapo, kiwi, roa, nor weka was to be seen or heard; no doubt the ferrets, following the rabbits, which have reached back as far as we went, have exterminated the native ground-birds.

Knowing the whole of Lake Te Anau well, I think no spot on it is so suitable for a mountain-hut for tourists and artists as where we camped among these lesser lakes. High, open, dry, surrounded by snow-covered mountains, it has every advantage so far as scenery is concerned, and a track could easily be cut from the lake up the Gorge Burn, which would enable a fairly active tourist—man or woman—to reach the spot in five or six hours, and it is a spot where sandflies cease from troubling and mosquitos are at rest: none of these pests visited us.

I have obtained the heights stated by means of an aneroid barometer in my possession, which both on my leaving and returning agreed with the reading of one in the possession of a friend on the lake-shore.

APPENDIX No. 12.—SANCTUARIES FOR WILD ANIMALS.

LITTLE BARRIER ISLAND.

The Secretary of the Auckland Institute, in whose charge this island has been placed, reports as follows:—

In a report forwarded in April, 1898, I briefly stated the progress made since the island was placed under the care of the Institute, and this it will be unnecessary to repeat here. The Curator, Mr. Shakespear, has resided on the island during the whole year. He reports that no attempt has been made to land for the purpose of molesting the birds, or any other portion of the fauna. From the hill at the back of his house a view can be obtained of the foreshore of the island, stretching from the south-east corner to the western side. When the weather is favourable he regularly examines the other portions of the island by boat. It is also satisfactory to state that there has been no further trouble with the Maoris, who seem to have abandoned their attempts to visit the island.

The chief danger to the native birds in the way of enemies appears to be wild-cats. These were introduced by the Maoris many years ago, and were found to be numerous by Mr. Reischek. The Curator has been instructed to use every attempt to thin their numbers. By using poison and by trapping he has succeeded to a considerable extent, and they are now seldom seen. It is a matter for congratulation that the Norway rat has not found its way to the island. This statement has always been made by the Maoris, and has been confirmed by Mr. Shakespear, who has failed to find one during the two years he has been on the island. A small black rat, probably the true native rat, is common, but does not appear to do any harm to the birds. Bees have also not been introduced, and consequently the number of the honey-eating birds cannot be affected by their presence.

The Curator has kept open a number of tracks on several portions of the island, in order to give facilities for its proper inspection and management. It is intended to cut a track to the northern side of the island as soon as a practicable route can be found.

With the view of obtaining information as to the present position of the avifauna, I personally made a visit of inspection in December, 1898, remaining a week on the island. During that time I visited a considerable portion of it, ascending to the tops of the highest peaks, about 2,400 ft. in height. I everywhere found the birds to be plentiful, particularly bell-birds and tuis. White-heads and robins, which are now nearly, if not altogether, extinct on the mainland, are also plentiful. I saw several stitch-birds, but these appeared to be confined to the central portions of the island. In fact, I saw every species of land-bird mentioned by Mr. Reischek in his list printed in the "Transactions of the New Zealand Institute," with the single exception of the blue-wattled crow. It is possible that this may occur on the north side of the island, on which it was impossible to land during my visit. A curious feature of the physical structure of the island, particularly on the eastern side, is the number of deep and excessively narrow gorges, which are often mere cracks 80 ft. or 100 ft. deep by only a few feet in width. These gorges make access to certain portions of the island altogether impossible except by boat.

The Curator has formed a neat garden round the house erected for him by the Government, and both it and the house have been well looked after and kept in good order and condition.

The institute had hoped to have done something towards introducing the huia and other native birds, but the cost of establishing the Curator on the island and supplying him with the necessary appliances for his work have so far absorbed the balance of the annual grant remaining after payment of his salary. In future years there will be a small amount available for this work.

The following is an audited statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Little Barrier Account:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Government grant for 1898	200	0	0	Balance due Bank of New Zealand, 22nd February, 1898	27	1	0
Balance due Bank of New Zealand, 22nd February, 1899	20	18	4	Salary of Curator	150	0	0
				Advance from Working Account repaid ..	34	0	0
				Miscellaneous payments	9	17	4
	£220	18	4		£220	18	4

PARAPARAUMU.

The Wellington Acclimatisation Society, in whose care this reserve is at present placed, has through its secretary, reported as under :—

"A sum of £455 has been expended by the society during the past two years in the erection of suitable buildings, fences, avairies, &c., on the reserve, and in felling, clearing, and grassing parts of the reserve for imported birds and red deer; and the society has already placed the game-farm in rough going order.

"To enable the society to keep deer on the reserve, and to protect the reserve properly, a fence is urgently required along the eastern and western boundaries of it, and a strip of bush inside the line of fence, 3 chains in width, should be felled this winter and grassed later on. This latter, when fenced, would lead the deer on to the lower spurs of the main range of hills, which run down to and form the back of the reserve. Owing to the heavy timber between their present place of confinement and the range of hills referred to, the deer have wandered on to the open country and made towards the township, and much of our caretaker's time is occupied in keeping them back. The society has now in confinement five of last year's deer and four of this season's capture, forming a herd of nine healthy young deer.

"In the avairies of the society are twenty-one pheasants, and two small coveys of Virginian quail have been liberated on cleared portions of the reserve.

"The society has already spent more on the land than its means allow, and still employs a caretaker at £100 a year. As this reserve is intended to be used not only as a mere local institution, but can be utilised to supply useful forms of game-birds to all the societies in the North Island; and as it has been granted as a central breeding-place for native and imported game, the society suggests that the expense of fencing this reserve might be borne by the colony, and a sum placed on the estimates for that purpose."

The following extract bearing on this matter is taken from the annual report of the Wellington Acclimatisation Society :—

"Following upon the plan of operations agreed on last year, the work of felling the bush and grassing a further portion of the land—containing 40 acres—has been carried on and completed, the total area now cleared and grassed being 70 acres. A cottage has been erected for the caretaker; wire pens or aviaries capable of holding 100 pheasants have been erected, in which there are now some twenty-one birds. A paddock of 5 acres has been securely fenced in, while a cow-shed has been built, as has also a shelter-shed for the four young deer. The latter were reared at the farm, and are still there, all of them doing exceedingly well.

"Closely connected with the farm, and worked as part of it, is an enclosure of some 5 or 6 acres, forming part of the forest reserve, and upon which last year's deer (five in number) are at present held. Several wire pens for the pheasants have also been erected upon this piece of ground, the caretaker being of opinion that the locality would be a better wintering place for the birds.

"With the exception of fencing the outer boundary, the heavy outlay at the game-farm has now been completed, and it is considered that for the future all that will be required will be an annual expenditure sufficient to pay the caretaker's salary and a comparatively small amount for the actual up-keep."

RESOLUTION ISLAND.

Mr. Henry, writing from Resolution Island, on the 3rd October, 1898, states as follows :—

"The steamer was here when I closed my last letter to you on the 9th August. I may have mentioned that Mr. Gordon heard shots fired towards Anchor Island an evening or two before, and as it had been dead calm since then a schooner could not have got away. I suggested to Captain Bollans that I would go with him in the morning to Sealers' Cove in expectation of finding poachers there, and showing that there was some interest in their doings. The captain readily agreed, and I went down, but there was no one there. However, it was very kind of him, and his action shows that his sympathies are in the right direction.

Next morning there was a nice west wind and I sailed for Cascade Cove, and had a look into Pickersgill, but found no sign of any one, nor of recent wood-cutting.

When I had finished the little boat to go aboard the sloop I packed supplies and cages, and went to Sealers' Cove on the 23rd August to wait for a fine time to go to Preservation, but it was the 4th September before I could trust it. I went with a light east wind and a quiet sea, but the wind soon died away and left me rolling about outside. I tried to pull in again in the evening, but a current prevented me, and I had to stop out all night. Next morning there was a big swell from the south-west, and when the wind came I sailed into Dusky again.

During my ten days wait at Luncheon Cove I went in the dinghy to the falls and to Wales Point, and caught four kakapos and four grey kiwis, and put them on Resolution, near Fixed Head; and after my sea-trip I caught six kakapos, and brought them home with me on the 11th September. I intended them for Five Fingers, but there was too much surf to land them, so I kept them two days, but they would not eat well, and I took them towards Goose Cove, where I let them all out in one place, and they went all right.

I took two native thrushes to Fixed Head on the 28th August, but the next morning one of them was back at my tent. I knew it by a broken feather in its tail. I think both came back, so I need not bother with them. They are friendly little things, and quite easily caught with a piece of wire-netting. They cannot understand it, and try to get through it time after time. I think they are wanderers, for I never saw them at that camp before, and it was very curious that they flew across the sound to get back to the camp as if it was their home. One has also come to the house on Pigeon Island, and seems inclined to remain, though for four years we never saw one on Pigeon Island. I feed it often, and it has half a mind to sit on my hand, it is so tame. It can shell damp oats like a sparrow, but where it learnt I do not know.

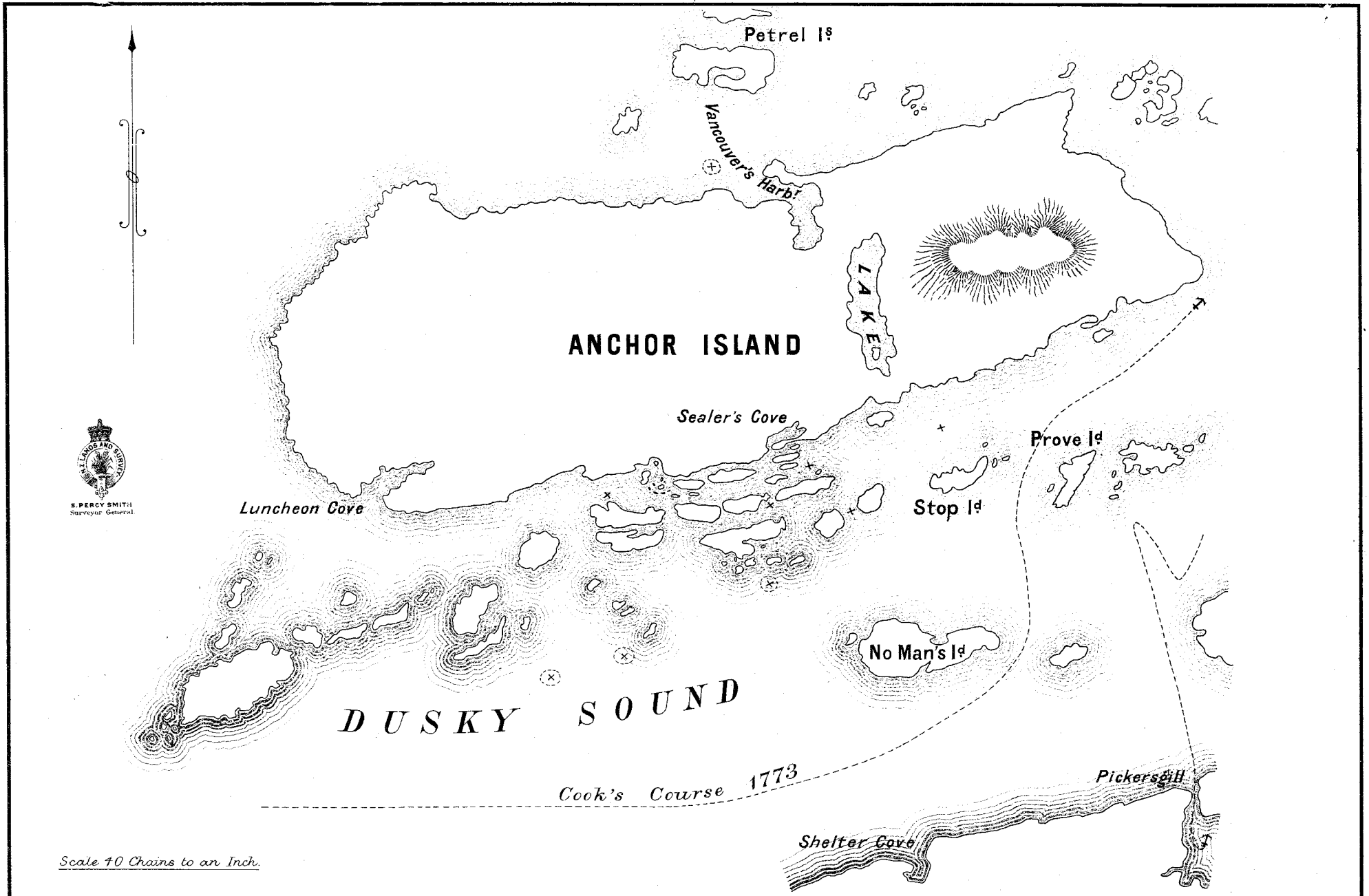
PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT HEAD OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT, WELLINGTON, N.Z., 1899.

Stag, three years old, in Paraparaumu Sanctuary.

Bred by Wellington Acclimatisation Society.

Red-deer Calves, four months old, in Paraparaumu Sanctuary.

Reared by Wellington Acclimatisation Society.



SKETCH
SHOWING ISLANDS AT SEALER'S COVE

R.J. Crawford del. May 1899.

Photo-Lithographed at the Head Office, Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, N.Z. July 1899.
F.W. Flanagan, Chief Draughtsman

Crows I cannot catch; they do not stay long enough, but hop away through the scrub, and I may not see them again for days. But I saw some on Resolution, and perhaps there are plenty in favourite places. They can fly nearly as well as a thrush, so it might not be of much use to bring them over.

I have my boat "Putangi" ready, and will go to Stevens Cove, on the north end of Resolution Island, on the first fair wind and fine day.

On the 28th September the Greymouth steamer "Pareora" came in out of the storm, and when she came under the lee of Pigeon Island I went off to her, thinking she might want a pilot, and to take some letters; but the captain said he knew the place and that he was not coming into Facile, so I bade him good-by and came ashore because my dinghy was getting knocked about and my letters and stamps all wet. They went to Goose Cove and anchored. It was a very stormy night. Next day when it was quiet they came into Facile and whistled for me, and I went out. There was a heavy sea outside, and they were not going till evening, so I had a fine time with the kindly captain and crew. They gave me late papers and some fresh meat; also a lot of oysters, which I put on a sandy bottom in 10 fathoms. They might live and grow a patch. I was thankful for the steamer's visit; it made me lively.

On the 5th November, 1898, Mr. Henry writes as follows:—

I think my last report was sent in November, 1897. From the 1st of that month I was at home tending roas for the Agricultural Department, expecting the steamer every day until the 11th December, when she came, and I sent them away.

On the 16th we sailed for Green Point, which we thought was our best place for kakapos, and hunted two days, but could find none. The ground, which was not too steep to climb, was all Schefflera scrub, and too early for the fruit. I did not know that the birds left a place so completely. Probably they were enticed away by other food that I do not understand; I think it is the seeds of moss, but they chew it so perfectly that I cannot identify it. They have special milling-grooves in their upper beak that I have not noticed in other parrots. Then we tried the north side of the sound under Mount Pender, but we only got one, which we put on Cooper Island, where there are a few native kakapos and grey kiwi living.

On the 26th December, 1897, we went to Cascade Harbour, where we heard the first of the male kakapos drumming for their breeding season, after a silence and an interval of two years. We caught a few, which were very fat, though there was no fruit of any sort, only blossoms. I killed one, but did not find out what they were eating. Its crop was full of green pulp. The country was all moss, which bears a tiny green seed, but where we failed to find them there was none of this moss.

We spent most of January in Wet Jacket trying to get better acquainted with the drummers. Met the s.s. "Waikare" there, and arranged with the captain to send birds to the Dunedin Society on his second trip. Promised him a kiwi and a kakapo for the entertainment of his passengers, and met him with the birds at the appointed place, but, to my astonishment, the steamer sailed past and would not take them, and it was long after that I heard the captain had been killed, and his officers may not have known of the appointment. However, we put the birds on Resolution, and it was all in our work. Twice afterwards I caught those birds to send by the "Hinemoa." In March she did not anchor, but sent a boat ashore, and was away again so soon that I had no time to get them aboard. On the 24th June she only looked in the Heads, and did not come up at all, and at that time I had them in cages and tended them for five weeks. In August, under Captain Bollans, she stayed all night, and I had a fine chance, but did not expect her then, and had none ready. I had spent some time sounding a track from Safe Passage to near Fixed Head in a straight line. It is all deep, but in two places on the west rocks come up steep from 30 to 16 fathoms, which made me sound it closely, using a 20-fathom line, mostly without bottom. It is a distance of four miles to save a round of ten miles when the steamer goes that way, which she did last time.

On the 13th February we climbed Mount Sparman, and had a hunt on the grass, but no sign of strange birds were found, though there were plenty of roa and kakapo tracks up there; and on the 29th March we went up again, and searched over what grass was accessible, which was not much, for the tops are very steep and rough.

The kakapos must get grass-seed somewhere—though we saw none up there—for they all know how to shell oats like a sparrow, or, at least, soon learn to do so.

In May I camped some time in Sealers' Cove, on Anchor Island, which is what Captain Cook called Luncheon Cove, but it is a mile eastward of the Luncheon Cove of the modern charts. It is a beautiful little land-locked harbour with 2 fathoms at the entrance and 3 fathoms inside at dead low water. There are several good passages into it among a maze of islands, but it would always need a pilot, for there are over forty islets within the radius of a mile. (See sketch.) The peninsula forming the harbour was the site of an old Maori village, and had since been occupied by whalers and sealers. It is by far the best site in Dusky Sound either for a seal-farm or a fishing-village, because it is sunny and sheltered, and close to the best fishing-ground, and the last haunts of the seals; it is also central, and very near to the sea, so that it will be an important place in the distant future, though the land is barren and the weather very bad. It has another great advantage over all else here—there are no sandflies there, or, at least, there were none in May last; and that alone is enough. That is why I ceased to put roas there, because from experience I think there is some relationship between roas and sandflies, and, fortunately, I had only liberated two males on Anchor Island.

On an island close by I found two little Maori huts still standing, one of them with a tree growing out of its ridge and the roots down along the roof like rafters. It is built and floored with fern-tree stems, and is probably eighty or a hundred years old, and dry enough now for a night's camping-place.

In March I took our big boat up on the slip, and was lucky to have a spell of fine dry weather to give her a very useful painting, so that she is now in good order.

In April I camped a week at Goose Cove, and crossed Five Finger Peninsula twice, but saw nothing of interest except that it appeared to me to be about twice as wide as it is shown on the map, and I was surprised at its height. I forgot my aneroid, but I am confident that one of its parallel ridges is at least 1,000 ft. high over Goose Cove. Due west there are great cliffs at the sea, and south-west the creek empties through a deep cañon, so that I could not follow it right out to the sea.

In August I built a little boat to go below in our sloop, for sometimes it may be too rough to tow a dinghy.

In September I went to Wales Point and to the falls for birds, and got a few. Camped a while at Pickersgill Harbour, and found that Captain Cook's clearing is quite easily distinguished—no doubt about it—up on the hill over Astronomer Point, where no woodcutter would go while there was plenty of fuel on the beach.

In October I went up Acheron Passage and out to Breaksea Island, but had the usual bad weather, and was most of my time weatherbound.

On the 28th September the s.s. "Pareora" called in out of the storm—my first visitor of that sort—so that I had a holiday afternoon with the kindly captain and crew.

On the 13th November I went to Anchor Island, and found that in some parts of it there are sandflies, but at the cove there was not enough to be any trouble. Spent until the 28th bringing over a few birds (six kakapos and three kiwis), but there were gales every other day, and I could not do much either in the bush or on the water. Came home on the 28th, bringing four kakapos and one roa.

During the year 1898 I put out twenty-four kiwis, six roas, and sixty-four kakapos on Resolution Island; two roas, three kiwis, and eleven kakapos on Anchor Island; and one kakapo on Cooper Island: making a grand total of 572 birds put out altogether. Of course, I might have put out more birds last year, but I had the idea that the islands were fairly stocked and that I might not be doing much good by putting out more. I hunted on Resolution one day to see how my immigrants were likely to thrive, and found two kakapos fat and heavy, two miles away from where I had liberated them; and one of the drummers that we liberated within hearing of our homestead kept singing away vigorously till the very last of the season, so that he must have been content with his new place.

Great shoals of anchovies came in here about the 26th February. At first I was glad to see them, but later on I thought them a nuisance, because all our "mendos" disappeared, and I blamed the anchovies for eating their food, the shrimp-like whale-food, for it almost disappeared some months earlier than usual. The last of the anchovies I saw on the 5th August, when we got a groper that had made a meal of them. While they were here cod were fairly plentiful and fat, but lately they are scarce and quite thin. Thus there are variations in the crops both on sea and land, and visitations of pests also. It was only for a short time that the shoals were dense enough for profitable netting; after that they seemed to scatter everywhere.

I saw no baracouta, nor mullet, nor mackerel this year.

By the newspapers I got from the steamer "Pareora" I saw that some one had caught another takahe, which I never expected, for I thought they were all dead. There may be a small family of them yet, and the man that caught this last one should know the value of a pair of live ones to save the race. A breeding pair would be worth a couple of thousand pounds.

Since 1889 I have used a muzzle on my dog when hunting for birds, eggs, or skins, and during that time a muzzled dog has never stopped or caught a weka, though they were always plentiful. At Te Anau my dogs would try to catch them, but here I have broken them of the habit altogether. My present dog will not take a bird in its mouth, because I have checked it severely for punching the birds with the muzzle. Again, the muzzle is a great hindrance to a dog in tracking a running bird, and the jangling bell would frighten away a good runner, and several times my dogs have run tracks that I did not understand; so therefore I have had no chance of catching a takahe. If it is a good runner and a shy bird I would have to train my dog to catch and carry wekas and all the other birds, which would mean wholesale murder here, and perhaps all for nothing. This suggests the idea of having two dogs—one for live birds and a retriever to hunt and carry dead ones; but I could not keep two dogs, because it is horrible cruelty to tie up a dog in the daylight to be eaten with sandflies; they can manage the sandflies when at liberty, but not on a chain. When I did tie up a dog, to have a fresh hunter for next day, I found him stupid and useless, with a swelled head from the swarms of flies that gathered round him after a long time in one place; whereas if he could move every now and then through the scrub he would hardly have any flies.

On the 8th October I went in "Putangi" for the north end of Resolution, intending to camp inside Gilbert Islands; but it was calm, and too far for me to pull in a day, for I wanted to be there in time to choose a camp and fix a tent, and I did not get up till the morning of the 11th, when there was too much swell for me to land out there, so I came back and camped in Occasional Cove, at the upper end of the passage. I went out to Breaksea Island on the 15th, but could not effect a landing; it would need a boat's crew, even on a fine day. It is a big and high island, apparently all bush except a little peninsula on the south-east corner, where I heard there were seals; but I saw no sign of them, though they might be there, for it is a wild and rough place. I heard that they only come there at dark, and go into the water at daylight, so it was only a forlorn hope for me to get a sight of one. However, I wanted to see the place. But it needs a man to be built and trained for this job, and to go with suitable company. It is curious that I never get sight of a seal here, except a dead one, though we got so near as to see the wave made by one swimming under water. It was near Sealers' Cove one calm evening, when we saw a track like that of a very big fish coming straight to us; but it had a jerky row-boat motion, made by the flippers

of the seal. When it came near enough to see our boat it went down, and we saw no more of it; but even that was important, to show that they still come in there, though only the very shy and wildest survive.

A sacred breeding-place is all that seals want to become plentiful again; but how to grant it is the difficulty, for the tame ones would be very easy victims. However, we took the migratory geese, that were the wildest creatures on earth, and taught them to be content on the town common with the boys and dogs. We do not want half that from seals, though they are more valuable and worth more care, and probably have never been fairly tried yet: and there was never a better time and place to try them than now and here. This is a long digression from my trip up the passage. However, we had the usual bad weather for five days, and came home on the 21st, bringing three kakapos for Dusky Cove and two roas for a little island at Whidby Point, to go to Dunedin. The roas do well on an island, but the kakapos do badly.

29th November: Returned yesterday, after a trip to Pickersgill and Sealers' Cove, where I put out six kakapos and three kiwis, because I found there are sandflies on some parts of Anchor Island, and even out on one of the seal islands. I give up the problem why they are about in some places. Brought home four kakapos and one roa. I could not get kiwis when I wanted them. Had a stormy time some days, and wet. Was out since the 12th.

TAKAHE.

Notornis Mantelli.

Amongst the fossil bones collected in the North Island in 1848 by Mr. Walter Mantell, were parts of a skeleton, which was recognised by Professor Owen as a distinct genus of Rallidae, and named *Notornis mantelli.*

There are two specimens in the British Museum, one captured alive in 1849 by a party of sealers in Duck Cove, Resolution Island, the other caught by Maoris on Secretary Island, and obtained by Mr. Mantell. The third specimen was found in 1881 on the Te Anau Downs, between the Mararoa and Upokororo Rivers, on the eastern side of Lake Te Anau, by a rabbiter, whose dogs caught it alive. It was sold in London, and is now in the Dresden Museum. The fourth specimen, which is shown in the photograph, was caught by Mr. Ross, also at Lake Te Anau, in September, 1898. It was purchased by the Hon. John Mackenzie, Minister of Lands, for the New Zealand Government, through the Chief Surveyor at Invercargill, and is in the meantime deposited in the Dunedin Museum.

The measurements of the bird are: Greatest height from the ground, 20 in.; the extreme length, tip to tail straight, 18 in.; girth, 20 in.; length of legs, 7 in.; length of back, 9 in.; and neck, 2½ in.; total length of bird measured along curves, 22 in.; length of wing from the flexure, 9½ in.; length of the tail, 4 in.; length from posterior edge of frontal plate to tip of upper mandible, 3 in.; length from gape of mouth along edge of lower mandible, 2 in.; length of the tarsus, 3½ in.; length of middle toe and claw, 3½ in.; and length of hind toe and claw, 1½ in. The bird is a young female. The eggs were quite small, none of them in the ovary being more than ⅛ in. in diameter. That pointed to the bird being immature, probably three or four years old. The bird lived in holes under trees.

Sir Walter Buller's description of the 1881 specimen, with which the bird captured last year agrees, is as follows:—

"The bill is somewhat shorter than the head, greatly compressed on the sides, and much arched above, the culmen having a convex or rounded aspect, with a uniform width of ⅜ in. from above the nostrils to within ½ in. of the tip, when it rapidly diminishes, terminating in a rounded point. Where it merges into the frontal shield the culmen is ⅝ in. in width. There is only the slightest indication of pectination. The cutting edges of both mandibles are sharp to the touch. The horny covering of the bill rises on the forehead to a line with the posterior angle of the eye, forming a depressed frontal shield. Nostrils oval, placed in a depression near the base of the bill, and forming an oblique opening. Wings short, rounded, and slightly concave; ample in appearance, useless for purposes of flight, but armed below the carpal joint with a sharp spur or claw.

"On examining the wing-feathers they are found to be feeble and pliant, the outer webs being almost as broad as the inner. The tail-feathers are likewise soft and pliant, with disunited filaments, much worn at the tips. The tarsi are long, strong, and well-proportioned to the bird; longer than the toes (exclusive of claws), rounded in form, and armed in front with fourteen more or less broad, regular, traverse scutellæ, forming an effective shield; on the middle toe there are twenty-three transverse scales, all very regular, but narrowed at the joints; on the inner toe fifteen, and on the outer toe twenty-one.

"On the hind toe there are five scales. The claws are strong, thick, not much arched, rather sharp on the edges, but with blunted points, especially on the hind toe. The palate is deeply grooved.

"Head and upper part of neck very dark blue, changing according to the light into brownish-black on the crown and nape, brighter on the cheeks and sides, and passing into dark purplish-blue on the lower part of the neck; the whole of the back, rump, and upper tail-coverts rich olive-green, varied more or less, and particularly on the shoulders, with dull verditer-green, the feathers shading off into that colour at the tips, the general olive hue, however, predominating towards the sides of the body; fore-neck, breasts, sides of the body, and inner portion of flanks beautiful purplish-blue; the lengthened pectoral plumes which overlap the sides and the outer portion of flanks vivid purplish-blue, mixed and varied, especially on the former, with verditer green; abdomen, thighs, and vent dull indigo, or bluish-black, more or less mixed with brown; under tail-coverts pure white. The general upper surface of the wings is a rich mixture of blue and verditer-green, very difficult to

express exactly in words, the combination having something of the effect, in certain lights, of *lapis lazuli*.

"On the frontal plate, and along the basil edges of both mandibles, light-red, fading outwards. The tarsi and toes brilliant red. Claws dull brown, lighter towards the tips.

"The texture and general appearance of the plumage on the head, neck, and underparts generally is very similar to that of the pukeko (*Porphyrio melanonotus*), although the latter bird lacks the produced bright-coloured pectoral plumes which overlap the sides of the body, under the wings, in *Notornis*. The plumage of the back is very long and thick, but at the same time soft and somewhat silky to the touch, being evidently adapted to haunts where the bird is constantly subject to drippings from wet herbage. On moving this plumage with the hand it is found that the basal portion, comprising more than two-thirds of the feathers, is of a uniform blackish-brown, whereas the basal plumage on the other parts of the body is dark grey. The plumage of the head and neck is short and close, as in *Porphyrio*, the feathers having a soft texture. The whole of the upper surface has a slight sheen upon it (amounting almost to a glint on the tips of the shoulder-plumage), and the bright hues of colour on the back and wings change slightly under different lights.

"The plumage covering the flanks and overlapping the thighs is dense and long, while its brilliant blue and green colours contrast strongly with the olive plumage of the back and rump. When looked at in front, with the wings closed in against the body, the purplish vivid blue already described is very conspicuous.

"The carpal spur is shaped like the claw of the hind toe, but is less arched; it is nearly one-eight of an inch thick at the base, and is dark-brown, fading into horn-colour at the tip.

"Like many other New Zealand forms of an earlier period, the *Notornis* is the prototype of a well-known genus of swamp-hens. It is, in fact, to all appearance a huge pukeko (*Porphyrio*) with feeble or aborted wings and abbreviated toes, the feet resembling those of *Tribonyx*—a bird incapable of flight, but admirably adapted for running. Similar, no doubt, was the relation borne by the powerful *Aptornis* to our present wood-hen (*Ocydromus*), but in that case the prototype has disappeared, leaving only its fossil bones for the study of the scientist, and its place in nature to be filled by its existing diminutive representatives."

PHOTO: D. NOBBS © N.Z. MAP OFFICE, LANDS & SURVEY DEPT. WELLINGTON N.Z. 1959

Takahe (*Notornis mantelli*).

SCALE

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 INCHES

Table 1.—Summary of Lands disposed of from Foundation of the Colony, with Total Cash received for the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Total Area sold.	Total Area granted or reserved under Acts.	Total Area sold or otherwise finally disposed of from the Foundation of the Colony.	Total Cash received.	Total Area open for Selection on 31st March, 1899.	Total Area remaining for future Disposal, exclusive of Area in preceding Column and of Native Lands.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Auckland	1,972,453 2 38	3,257,501 1 25	5,229,955 0 23	760,330 11 10	598,928 0 0	2,639,160 0 0
Hawke's Bay	1,358,454 0 20	241,843 0 39	1,600,297 1 19	670,777 4 9	27,774 1 0	367,051 0 0
Taranaki	370,673 1 22	598,539 2 19	969,213 0 1	785,751 8 4	112,850 3 32	588,700 0 0
Wellington	2,074,526 1 6	847,264 0 32	2,921,790 1 38	2,320,784 16 0	99,086 1 28	728,454 3 39
Nelson	1,312,262 2 4	197,378 0 4	1,509,640 2 8	509,602 4 11	290,402 0 0	5,129,919 0 0
Marlborough	833,329 0 14	205,291 3 37	1,038,621 0 11	302,443 5 1	8,270 0 0	522,435 0 0
Westland	61,196 3 0	102,411 2 39	163,608 1 39	70,332 2 1	77,461 0 0	330,567 0 12
Canterbury	3,117,980 1 38	1,189,382 2 3	4,307,363 0 1	6,252,400 6 4	12,025 0 0	955,035 2 23
Otago	2,098,807 0 10	593,197 1 31	2,692,004 2 1	2,179,356 12 4	136,247 0 3	5,328,859 1 2
Southland	1,561,619 1 22	590,403 3 16	2,152,023 0 38	1,868,552 17 9	1,504,861 0 0	535,000 0 0
Totals	14,761,302 3 14	7,823,214 0 5	22,584,516 3 19	15,720,331 9 5	2,867,905 2 23	17,125,181 3 36

Table 2.—Lands opened for Sale and Selection during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Optional System.	Cash by Auction.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Village Allotments.	Pastoral Runs.	Small Runs.	Lease in Perpetuity only.	Native Towns.	Totals.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	146,507	3,570	9,214	60	..	611	11,305	20	171,287
Hawke's Bay	18,552	2	336	45	..	29,802	..	..	48,737
Taranaki	55,531	380	..	24	..	12,871	..	..	68,806
Wellington	59,373	717	155	1,444	..	..	3,732	198	65,619
Nelson	2,285	5	309	5	..	1,088	..	..	3,692
Marlborough	13,566	4,117	335	..	139,632	17,138	21,077	..	195,865
Westland	760	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	760
Canterbury	2,609	19	539	163	153,060	21,774	32,149	..	210,313
Otago	44,158	265	..	242	190,755	25,150	1,362	..	261,932
Southland	23,083	127	6,524	954	119,773	3,802	4,044	..	158,307
Totals	366,424	9,202	17,412	2,937	603,220	112,236	73,669	218	1,185,318

Table 3.—Summary of Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899 (exclusive of Pastoral Runs and Miscellaneous Leases).

For Details see	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Total Area taken up during Year.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Table 5—Cash lands	11,642 0 6	930 1 15	416 1 11	2,115 3 22	12,656 1 23	5,141 2 27	..	144 0 27	2,152 2 33	989 1 19	36,188 3 23
" 6—Deferred payment	..	..	13 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 0 0
" 7—Perpetual lease and small areas ..	..	..	..	640 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	640 0 0
" 8—Occupation with right of purchase..	44,188 2 29	13,122 2 0	9,131 2 17	32,106 3 0	3,274 3 36	3,081 0 0	47 1 0	533 3 33	2,911 2 17	1,551 2 18	109,949 3 30
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	25,702 1 28	9,083 0 0	8,761 0 0	24,241 2 36	1,653 2 18	7,432 3 0	305 0 0	2,960 3 6	14,008 3 9	5,112 3 26	99,262 0 3
" 10—Agricultural leases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	114 1 11	..	114 1 11
" 11—Occupation lease under "Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894"	555 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	508 3 13	384 3 28	1,448 3 1
" 12—Village settlement, cash	..	0 2 27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29 0 19	29 3 6
" 12—Village settlement, deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 12—Village settlement, perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 12—Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	..	1 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0	..	..	2 0 0
" 12—Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	..	11 1 25	..	1,554 2 33	..	..	..	..	72 3 18	461 1 6	2,100 1 2
" 12—Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	1 3 36	..	..	..	131 3 0	..	..	133 2 36
" 14—Special-settlement associations ..	..	..	..	607 1 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	607 1 10
" 33—Improved-farm special settlement ..	134 0 38	..	544 3 24	2,404 0 36	..	..	..	..	513 3 36	1,225 2 10	4,822 3 24
" 15—Homestead	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 16—Small grazing-runs	..	11,619 0 0	..	..	1,088 0 0	5,166 0 0	..	5,641 0 0	18,644 0 24	6,651 2 33	48,809 3 17
Totals	82,222 1 21	34,767 3 27	18,866 3 12	63,672 2 13	18,672 3 37	20,821 1 27	352 1 0	9,412 2 26	38,927 1 1	16,406 1 39	304,122 3 3
Cheviot Estate.											
Table 5—Cash lands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,210 3 14	..	..	1,210 3 14
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 12—Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 16—Grazing-farms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements Acts.											
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	7,927 3 19 *10 0 0	1,429 1 4 *25 0 35	..	72 3 31	..	18,472 0 0 *148 0 0	..	25,138 1 38 *786 1 25	629 3 22 *1,026 1 9	4,250 2 6 *236 0 0	6,0152 3 29
" 12—Lease in perpetuity (village) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*15 0 2	..	15 0 2
" 14—Special-settlement associations ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 16—Small grazing-runs	..	..	..	..	..	12,531 0 0	..	16,290 3 19	..	..	28,821 3 19
Grand totals	90,160 1 0	36,222 1 26	18,866 3 12	63,745 2 4	18,672 3 37	51,972 1 27	352 1 0	52,839 1 2	40,598 1 34	20,893 0 5	394,323 1 27

* Reallotted.

Table 3.—Summary of Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Tenures.	Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.	Area taken up during Previous Years to 31st March, 1898.	Total Exchanges to 31st March, 1899.	Total Forfeitures to 31st March, 1899.	Total Surrenders to 31st March, 1899.	Total Expiries to 31st March, 1899.	Total Area held on 31st March, 1899: Past and Current Transactions.	Total Area made Freehold to Date.
Ordinary Crown Lands.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Table 5—Cash lands	..	13,094,974 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	13,131,163 1 23
" 6—Deferred payment	..	1,275,100 2 4	65,130 2 15	181,503 3 16	32,273 0 29	966 3 26	160,939 3 13	834,299 0 25
" 7—Perpetual lease	..	1,334,352 3 29	184,034 3 8	144,213 0 29	98,442 0 4	..	440,088 2 27	468,214 1 1
" 8—Occupation with right of purchase..	..	463,642 0 14	839 2 24	45,123 3 15	22,798 3 28	..	504,829 2 17	..
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	17,987 1 4	737,368 1 27	..	79,626 3 22	43,779 1 14	..	731,211 1 38	..
" 10—Agricultural lease	..	288,571 1 11	43,204 3 28	18,645 3 17	4,193 3 31	80,794 3 14	1,262 2 33	140,583 1 19
" 11—Occupation lease under "Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894"	..	7,033 1 6	..	408 0 5	116 0 5	..	7,957 3 37	..
" 12—Village settlement, cash	..	6,974 3 24	..	..	..	..	..	7,004 2 30
" 12—Village settlement, deferred payment	..	14,841 0 11	202 0 36	1,981 3 21	111 1 23	..	1,085 3 23	11,459 2 28
" 12—Village settlement, perpetual lease	..	6,822 1 3	719 2 17	1,261 0 6	30 0 0	..	3,762 3 8	1,048 3 12
" 12—Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	..	32 0 20	..	5 2 0	..	..	28 2 20	..
" 12—Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	90 2 4	13,531 1 36	..	3,149 3 20	527 2 39	..	12,044 2 23	..
" 12—Village-homestead special settlement	..	35,326 2 9	5,332 1 23	11,327 0 29	1,691 3 23	..	17,108 3 10	..
" 14—Special-settlement associations ..	..	445,925 2 21	617 1 8	145,387 0 9	75,364 0 12	..	140,552 0 26	84,612 1 16
" 33—Improved-farm special settlement..	..	65,313 2 9	..	12,931 2 6	6,978 1 36	..	50,226 1 31	..
" 15—Homestead	..	89,489 0 34	..	144 1 9	8,912 0 0	..	2,427 3 10	78,005 0 15
" 16—Small grazing-runs	..	1,458,572 0 0	14,011 1 1	163,710 0 2	309,472 1 26	..	1,020,188 0 28	..
Totals	18,077 3 8	19,337,871 3 18	314,092 3 0	809,420 0 6	604,691 1 30	81,761 3 0	3,093,715 2 24	14,756,390 3 9
Cheviot Estate.								
Table 5—Cash lands	..	5,466 1 21	..	0 2 0	..	..	..	6,676 2 35
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	..	25,223 1 33	..	1,320 1 0	..	..	23,903 0 33	..
" 12—Village-homestead special settlements	..	2,803 2 38	..	323 1 38	..	..	2,480 1 0	..
" 16—Grazing-farms	..	46,977 0 9	..	1,286 0 0	..	..	45,691 0 9	..
Land for Settlements Acts.								
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	..	123,186 1 2	..	7,995 2 18	1,886 2 1	..	173,457 0 12	..
" 12—Lease in perpetuity (village) ..	..	505 0 24	..	83 1 18	21 0 16	..	415 2 32	..
" 14—Special-settlement associations ..	..	2,799 0 9	..	684 3 0	..	..	2,114 1 9	..
" 16—Small grazing-runs	..	13,107 3 31	..	..	..	..	41,929 3 10	..
Grand totals	18,077 3 8	19,557,940 3 25	314,092 3 0	821,114 0 0	606,599 0 7	81,761 3	3,383,707 0 9	14,763,067 2 4

Table 4.—Analysis of Holdings taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

Tenure.	No. of Selectors.	Average Holdings of Selectors.					
		No. of Selectors under 1 Acre.	No. of Selectors 1 to 50 Acres.	No. of Selectors 51 to 250 Acres.	No. of Selectors 251 to 500 Acres.	No. of Selectors 501 to 1,000 Acres.	No. of Selectors 1,001 Acres and upwards.
Cash	528	252	190	55	17	9	5
Deferred payment	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Occupation with right of purchase	458	..	51	257	105	42	3
Lease in perpetuity	362	3	43	183	81	42	10
Agricultural lease	2	..	1	1	..	..	..
Occupation lease under "The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894"	31	..	21	10	..	..	..
Village settlement, cash	21	11	10	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	3	2	1	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	104	3	88	13	..	..	..
Village-homestead special settlement	12	7	5	..	..	..	..
Special-settlement associations	5	..	2	3	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlement	64	..	47	17	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	21	..	..	1	3	1	16
Pastoral runs	227	..	45	74	27	17	64
Thermal springs, Rotorua	29	9	20	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	304	47	161	60	8	6	22
Total	2,173	334	686	674	241	118	120
Cheviot Estate—							
Cash	6	..	1	3	2	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grazing-farms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	6	..	5	1	..	..	..
Land for Settlements Acts—							
Lease in perpetuity	313	15	108	90	69	29	2
Lease in perpetuity, village	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	19	..	..	..	..	4	15
Miscellaneous	23	1	15	6	1	..	..
Grand totals	2,542	350	817	774	313	151	137

Table 5.—Return of Crown Lands sold for Cash during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Area disposed of.								Average Price per Acre.			Consideration received.		
	Town.		Suburban.		Rural.		Total.							
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Town.	Suburban.	Rural.	Cash.	Scrip.	Total.
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	20	41 3 27	16	574 2 35	93	11,025 1 24	129	11,642 0 6	5 2 5·7	0 9 9·8	0 10 1	5,588 17 3	150 0 0	5,738 17 3
Hawke's Bay ..	3	1 1 8	1	0 3 29	1	928 0 18	5	930 1 15	23 16 11	10 0 0	0 5 11	309 10 0	..	309 10 0
Taranaki ..	69	37 3 4	10	156 0 3	6	222 2 4	85	416 1 11	81 17 6	3 11 4·5	9 10 5	3,487 15 10	..	3,487 15 10
Wellington ..	106	33 0 7	30	98 0 2	12	1,984 3 13	148	2,115 3 22	39 13 2	6 17 10	0 17 9	3,734 15 6	..	3,734 15 6
Nelson ..	4	2 0 0	..	..	28	12,654 1 23	32	12,656 1 23	20 0 0	..	0 5 9	3,633 1 4	..	3,633 1 4
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	4	5,141 2 27	4	5,141 2 27	..	..	0 13 9	3,424 18 0	..	3,424 18 0
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	4	1 3 0	..	..	6	142 1 27	10	144 0 27	26 17 1	..	2 19 0	472 7 2	..	472 7 2
Otago ..	36	14 1 19	36	115 3 16	24	2,022 1 38	96	2,152 2 33	36 12 3	2 17 1	0 9 8	1,834 1 8	..	1,834 1 8
Southland ..	7	3 1 0	4	17 1 33	8	968 2 26	19	989 1 19	33 7 8	2 1 8	0 13 2	782 11 7	..	782 11 7
Totals ..	249	135 1 25	97	962 3 38	182	35,090 2 0	528	36,188 3 23	..	..	..	23,267 18 4	150 0 0	23,417 18 4
Cheviot.														
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	6	1,210 3 14	6	1,210 3 14	..	..	2 13 5	3,234 2 0	..	3,234 2 0

Table 6.—Return of Deferred-payment Lands—Transactions during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Exchanges during the Year.			Capitalised during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899, including Capitalised Holdings.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments and Interest payable.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	3	352 2 32	25 17 0	1	3 2 0	0 12 6	..	..	..	168	19,109 2 5	844 11 2
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	4,658 2 31	209 0 8
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,253 1 35	41 16 8	152	15,546 3 35	1,231 11 7
Wellington ..	..	..	..	1	320 0 0	24 0 8	2	375 0 0	6 18 8	*29	10,256 2 17	3,645 2 2
Nelson ..	1	17 0 0	0 17 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	†498	51,554 3 25	2,936 16 5
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	579 3 38	39 10 4
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	979 3 28	61 9 0
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	12,957 3 12	1,022 19 6
Otago ..	..	..	..	3	669 1 26	19 12 10	4	1,115 3 0	24 9 6	87	21,617 1 11	828 0 2
Southland ..	1	290 0 32	9 15 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	122	23,678 0 11	742 11 8
Totals ..	5	659 3 24	36 9 2	5	992 3 26	44 6 0	17	3,744 0 35	73 4 10	1,119	160,939 3 13	11,561 12 8

District.	Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.	Freehold acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1899.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.		
		Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realised, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	2,096 17 8	48	5,749 0 13	182	22,822 1 4	18,018 10 8	41	4,118 1 25	272 7 5
Hawke's Bay	523 7 10	9	1,465 0 20	790	80,823 0 2	85,865 12 9	1	38 0 8	1 5 6
Taranaki	3,886 15 9	33	5,036 2 29	1,200	141,532 1 12	222,594 18 0	5	855 0 0	36 13 11
Wellington	1,685 11 8	24	3,548 1 28	671	126,943 3 36	139,720 11 4	..	..	..
Nelson	5,124 15 3	149	13,903 1 5	1,113	97,750 1 0	80,436 16 7	1	54 3 0	3 0 6
Marlborough	77 15 10	1	72 0 0	40	4,058 1 32	3,127 17 4	..	..	..
Westland	21 15 10	2	297 0 6	87	3,506 1 5	3,232 7 4	5	717 3 28	108 16 1
Canterbury	2,300 11 9	7	1,316 3 23	97	14,837 1 32	34,601 11 9	..	..	..
Otago	2,958 1 2	26	4,495 0 34	1,053	171,222 0 12	210,242 12 8	12	6,080 0 25	136 0 3
Southland	2,078 16 2	19	3,622 1 34	1,203	170,803 0 10	235,981 17 1	7	1,104 3 30	32 5 4
Totals ..	20,754 8 11	318	39,506 0 32	6,436	834,299 0 25	1,033,822 15 6	72	12,969 0 36	590 9 0

Note.—Taken up during year: Taranaki, one selector, 13 acres.

* Includes two selectors holding 251 acres 2 roods of endowment lands at a yearly rental of £48 0s. 8d.

† Includes eight selectors holding 270 acres 2 roods 36 perches of endowment lands at a yearly rental of £31 10s.

Table 7.—Return of Perpetual-lease and Small-area Lands.—Transactions during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental payable.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	..	..	..	5	494 3 12	14 6 8	3	383 3 0	9 13 9	2	207 3 0	7 4 0
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	5	1,666 3 0	61 1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	*1	640 0 0	25 17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	494 2 0	23 6 2	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	4	158 0 36	13 16 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	..	..	..	13	3,554 1 18	131 14 2	20	2,818 0 15	108 14 4	18	3,398 0 10	130 15 0
Southland	..	..	..	19	5,634 2 33	225 6 2	2	359 1 33	11 9 4	..	..	..
Totals	1	640 0 0	25 17 4	46	11,508 3 19	446 5 0	27	4,055 3 8	153 3 7	20	3,605 3 10	137 19 0

District.	Freeholds acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1899.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1899.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realised, exclusive of Interest.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	30	18,547 0 24	146	57,508 2 27	26,236 15 1	648	148,788 1 34	3,713 0 9	3,724 15 4	119	26,326 2 2	838 19 5
Hawke's Bay	30	12,341 3 2	215	91,827 0 2	72,357 18 9	91	45,506 0 5	1,792 4 8	1,797 7 8	2	970 0 0	29 12 9
Taranaki	52	13,748 0 25	262	64,052 2 35	57,985 7 1	158	40,324 1 33	1,974 7 1	2,480 13 1	26	8,667 2 37	257 9 8
Wellington	85	35,481 3 25	594	227,925 3 21	206,834 17 10	203	81,601 1 15	4,534 19 3	5,201 6 11	4	2,730 0 0	131 7 5
Nelson	3	1,163 3 3	5	2,071 3 3	622 11 0	38	10,087 3 36	263 10 3	282 15 8	2	417 1 0	6 13 9
Marlborough	..	..	1	300 0 0	82 10 0	11	1,796 2 7	52 2 3	51 16 10	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	6	482 3 20	482 17 2	7	580 1 8	28 0 4	22 8 10	2	270 1 8	26 15 10
Canterbury	6	1,284 2 6	34	3,875 2 15	6,138 1 0	82	14,427 2 8	1,021 2 2	1,031 12 4	5	564 0 19	22 16 9
Otago	10	1,582 0 27	56	10,593 0 25	8,417 12 0	367	71,680 3 27	2,764 17 2	3,059 17 6	49	9,236 3 3	273 6 9
Southland	4	1,257 3 29	43	9,576 2 13	7,792 16 1	130	25,295 0 14	953 19 10	1,050 11 10	13	3,416 0 1	68 18 10
Totals	220	85,407 1 21	1362	468,214 1 1	386,951 6 0	1,735	440,088 2 27	17,098 3 9	18,703 6 0	222	52,598 2 30	1,656 1 2

* Reallotment.

Table 8.—Return of Occupation-with-right-of-purchase Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Taken up during the Year.				Forfeitures during the Year.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Average Upset Rent per Acre.	Annual Rental payable.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		A. R. P.	s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	205	44,188 2 29	0 5·90	1,091 2 4	22	6,234 0 5	178 9 4
Hawke's Bay	38	13,122 2 0	1 1·66	753 14 0	4	1,233 0 17	42 7 2
Taranaki	29	9,131 2 17	1 1·53	420 15 4	4	814 2 0	29 13 8
Wellington	120	32,106 3 0	1 3	2,009 2 4	20	4,568 0 0	302 10 8
Nelson	20	3,274 3 36	0 4	58 12 8	1	132 0 0	2 9 6
Marlborough	9	3,081 0 0	1 1	165 10 0	..	..	..
Westland	1	47 1 0	0 8	0 12 0	..	..	..
Canterbury	2	533 3 33	0 7·5	16 13 10	..	..	..
Otago	20	2,911 2 17	0 5·6	68 7 6	8	1,454 0 35	59 0 10
Southland	14	1,551 2 18	0 8·66	56 1 0	6	999 0 22	41 0 10
Totals	458	109,949 3 30	0 10·13	4,640 11 0	65	15,434 3 39	655 12 0

District.	Surrenders during the Year.			Exchanges during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.		Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1899.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	8	974 0 37	23 5 8	1	39 2 24	1 0 0	1,141	215,855 1 19	5,499 2 5	496 11 3	2,627 7 8	161	31,973 0 17	883 13 4
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	105	38,549 1 0	1,928 6 6	369 18 9	1,051 12 8	1	1,347 0 0	19 7 3
Taranaki	1	239 0 0	10 18 2	..	..	..	140	37,487 2 2	2,226 13 6	287 3 2	1,672 5 10	11	4,390 1 0	149 0 1
Wellington	1	200 0 0	14 15 0	..	..	..	493	139,876 0 3	8,368 14 0	1,407 11 0	5,344 18 2	13	4,792 3 15	371 10 7
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	117	21,589 1 12	369 16 8	21 7 5	173 13 2	5	1,437 3 14	29 11 9
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	7,580 1 13	363 11 10	82 15 0	184 3 1	..	..	..
Westland	2	220 2 17	4 3 0	..	..	..	24	2,864 1 13	70 14 10	0 6 0	61 10 10	3	329 3 17	6 12 6
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	1,613 1 39	103 7 4	8 6 11	73 19 5	1	203 0 34	11 4 5
Otago	8	1,701 1 22	79 5 8	..	..	..	98	17,130 1 10	630 0 2	37 15 7	609 17 11	8	990 2 12	17 2 2
Southland	2	1,297 1 27	48 16 0	..	..	..	123	22,283 2 26	849 7 2	28 0 6	780 1 2	9	1,601 3 5	30 4 0
Totals	22	4,632 2 23	181 3 6	1	39 2 24	1 0 0	2,281	504,829 2 17	20,409 14 5	2,739 15 7	12,579 9 11	212	47,066 1 34	1,518 6 1

Table 9.—Return of Lease-in-Perpetuity Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Taken up during the Year.				Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Average Upset Rent per Acre.	Annual Rental payable.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental payable.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		A. R. P.	s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	105	25,702 1 28	0 5·4	540 3 4	38	1,745 0 34	112 15 2	11	3,409 1 1	74 8 6
Hawke's Bay	17	9,083 0 0	0 9	340 9 6	5	1,666 3 0	50 14 6	1	900 0 0	20 14 0
Taranaki	34	8,761 0 0	0 10·6	369 16 6	..	..	..	3	1,671 2 30	50 11 2
Wellington	87	24,241 2 36	0 9⅔	965 18 8	3	1,052 0 0	45 18 8	16	4,123 0 0	197 0 0
Nelson	7	1,653 2 18	0 3	23 5 6	..	..	..	3	457 1 22	7 7 6
Marlborough	25	7,432 3 0	0 7·4	227 18 0	3	2,989 0 0	51 5 6	..	..	..
Westland	2	305 0 0	0 3·7	4 14 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	11	2,960 3 6	0 8·5	105 10 2	8	258 0 36	38 4 10	2	610 0 0	41 13 0
Otago	57	14,008 3 9	0 5·04	299 10 0	17	4,641 1 21	138 14 6	13	2,715 2 16	92 17 6
Southland	17	5,112 3 26	0 5·4	115 4 0	19	5,634 2 33	180 13 0	22	10,632 2 20	377 16 0
Total	362	99,262 0 3	0 7·23	2,992 9 8	93	17,987 1 4	618 6 2	71	24,519 2 9	862 7 8
Cheviot Estate—										
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lands for Settlements—					Lands reallotted during Year.					
Auckland	36	7,927 3 19	2 8·5	1,075 9 0	2	10 0 0	9 10 0	2	227 3 31	19 5 4
Hawke's Bay	43	1,429 1 4	25 6	1,833 12 0	1	25 0 35	27 3 0	..	..	..
Wellington	13	72 3 31	24 7	89 14 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	36	18,472 0 0	4 0·5	3,733 5 10	1	148 0 0	27 2 8	1	148 0 0	27 2 8
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	385 3 0	43 6 4
Canterbury	149	25,138 1 38	8 11·4	11,462 4 8	11	786 1 25	142 9 4	10	323 0 34	129 4 2
Otago	5	629 3 22	2 10	89 9 6	8	1,026 1 9	199 4 6	2	332 3 9	64 17 6
Southland	7	4,250 2 6	2 0	440 16 4	1	236 0 0	18 6 0	3	479 1 20	51 15 2
Totals	289	57,921 0 0	6 4·9	18,724 11 8	24	2,231 3 29	423 15 6	20	1,897 0 14	335 11 2

Table 9.—Return of Lease-in-perpetuity Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

District.	Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.		Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1899.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	9	1,779 0 1	42 15 8	634	120,368 0 30	2,834 15 2	224 18 8	1,489 2 7	97	21,336 2 21	458 10 5
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	139	77,511 1 38	2,420 1 9	116 0 8	1,791 5 4	..	..	..
Taranaki	2	942 0 0	38 8 8	175	47,827 3 2	2,430 11 4	206 16 6	1,932 3 8	12	2,888 0 0	116 6 6
Wellington	1	250 0 0	15 0 0	369	106,226 3 14	4,489 17 11	743 9 10	3,153 7 4	15	4,443 2 0	136 6 11
Nelson	2	178 3 31	2 5 2	100	26,149 2 9	371 4 2	13 12 8	314 4 4	2	282 3 0	6 1 9
Marlborough	..	..	..	137	66,355 0 23	1,415 10 8	152 4 9	670 2 4	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	11	1,255 0 0	25 7 0	0 10 0	6 8 0	..	..	..
Canterbury	2	954 2 9	49 17 0	146	72,681 1 11	3,882 3 9	53 14 5	3,776 1 0	16	6,501 2 5	218 7 1
Otago	28	6,554 0 23	228 18 2	566	149,391 1 18	4,468 9 5	148 17 1	3,689 6 3	49	16,002 2 16	518 9 6
Southland	..	..	..	213	63,444 3 13	2,121 10 6	55 8 1	1,892 9 5	19	6,152 0 17	223 15 7
Totals	44	10,658 2 24	377 4 8	2,490	731,211 1 38	24,459 11 8	1,715 12 8	18,714 10 3	210	57,607 0 19	1,677 17 9
Cheviot Estate—											
Canterbury	..	..	..	106	23,903 0 33	6,426 2 8	..	5,911 19 10	6	1,041 2 0	105 12 0
Lands for Settlements—											
Auckland	1	12 0 0	6 0 0	98	15,493 2 7	2,459 15 4	539 19 6	959 17 11	13	1,398 0 39	98 14 4
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	130	12,228 0 3	5,654 10 0	923 18 7	3,477 0 2	4	130 1 27	74 16 6
Wellington	..	..	..	32	285 1 21	284 11 6	68 15 1	77 17 8	1	11 3 7	5 6 2
Marlborough	..	..	..	67	27,472 3 0	5,211 3 5	1,880 4 3	930 8 10	18	5,173 3 0	798 13 11
Westland	..	..	..	16	2,489 0 0	195 14 6	..	182 7 11	1	87 0 0	3 10 8
Canterbury	..	..	..	560	65,526 1 7	24,325 9 10	5,845 0 9	10,011 10 3	36	3,417 0 0	541 5 10
Otago	4	379 2 6	73 9 10	266	34,457 1 34	11,335 12 0	185 15 8	7,936 8 5	38	5,728 0 35	1,100 10 4
Southland	..	..	..	55	15,504 2 20	2,008 0 2	229 11 2	1,197 5 2	8	1,886 2 0	147 7 9
Totals	5	391 2 6	79 9 10	1,224	173,457 0 12	51,474 16 9	9,673 5 0	24,772 16 4	119	17,832 3 28	2,770 5 6

Table 10.—Return of Agricultural-lease Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Taken up during the Year.				Expiries during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Amounts received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1899.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area taken up.	Average to each Selector.	Yearly Rental payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Rental payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Rental payable.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realised.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	625 2 27	..	..	..	67	2,750 0 0	590 5 0	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	279 0 15	488 12 1	..	..	..
Otago	2	114 1 11	57 0 28	7 3 6	1	85 2 0	10 15 0	20	637 0 6	33 7 3	3 11 9	76 7 3	1,322	130,983 3 39	131,240 12 6	9	359 1 28	11 4 9
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	6,570 1 5	6,570 5 0	..	..	..
Totals	2	114 1 11	57 0 28	7 3 6	1	85 2 0	10 15 0	27	1262 2 33	33 7 3	3 11 9	76 7 3	1,471	140,583 1 19	138,889 14 7	9	359 1 28	11 4 9

Table 11.—Occupation Leases under "The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894," taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

Districts.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Amount received during the Year.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	9	555 0 0	23 2 0	..	..	..	32	1,743 0 1	69 5 6	..	12 14 0	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	1,072 0 0	28 5 10	..	28 11 2	..	..	..
Otago	15	508 3 13	19 11 8	..	151 2 5*	18 2 7	96	3,806 2 30	151 19 5	13 0 6	167 9 7	4	332 2 20	14 5 7
Southland	7	384 3 28	28 3 6	2	200 0 0	5 0 0	20	1,336 1 6	58 18 2	6 5 0	..	..	..	..
Totals	31	1,448 3 1	70 17 2	2	351 2 5	23 2 7	165	7,957 3 37	308 8 11	19 5 6	208 14 9	4	332 2 20	14 5 7

* Adjustment of surveys.

Table No. 12.—Return of Village Land Transactions during the Year ended the 31st March, 1899.

—	—	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Made Freehold during Year.			Made Freehold from Commencement.		
		Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Amount realised.	Selectors.	Area.	Total Cash received.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	31	1,207 0 38	127 6 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	Cash	1	0 2 27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	249	634 0 13	4,137 11 10
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	107	1,183 0 10	2,680 14 1
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	25 3 20	45 5 7	9	146 3 1	293 18 1
"	Occupation with right of purchase ..	1	1 0 0	0 7 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	2	11 1 25	1 14 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	853 0 9	6,935 10 9
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	2,289 2 36	10,907 12 11
"	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	262	451 0 29	3,276 3 5
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	956 2 8	3,714 5 4
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	9 0 0	38 0 0	25	294 3 6	962 1 11
"	Lease in perpetuity	65	1,554 2 33	223 11 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	1	1 3 36	0 10 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	22 1 11	75 16 10
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	166	1,208 0 1	5,481 17 4
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	2	80 0 0	12 13 6	1	3 0 0	49 1 8	513	2,411 1 21	20,498 14 10
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	2	20 0 0	12 0 0	1	50 0 0	62 10 0	13	290 1 21	645 10 5
"	Occupation with right of purchase ..	2	1 0 0	1 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	11	131 3 0	48 6 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	103	889 2 19	1,756 3 5
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	1,042 2 2	2,709 0 7
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	184 1 37	247 0 0
"	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	7	72 3 18	5 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	Cash	20	29 0 19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	579	2,946 1 28	9,230 10 3
"	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	40 1 30	116 11 2	245	3,576 1 31	8,660 11 5
"	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	132 1 27	334 6 0
"	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Lease in perpetuity	30	461 1 6	44 1 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals	140	2,265 3 4	325 6 8	35	1,307 0 38	151 19 8	8	128 1 10	311 8 5	2,928	19,513 0 30	82,547 9 5
Cheviot Estate— Canterbury ..	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements Acts— Hawke's Bay ..	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	"	2	*15 0 2	13 5 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals	2	15 0 2	13 5 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

*Reallotted.

Table No. 12.—Return of Village Land Transactions during the Year ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

—	—	Amount received during the Year.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held 31st March, 1899.			Arrears on 31st March, 1899.		
			No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Total Annual Rental payable.	No.	Area.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	Village-homestead special settlement	404 10 10	6	251 3 25	7 6 9	..	..	..	130	5,334 0 2	407 6 6	92	3,964 3 29	1,419 4 4
Hawke's Bay ..	Cash	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	9 1 32	2 14 10	..	..	..
" ..	Perpetual lease	1 2 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Occupation with right of purchase ..	1 11 3	2	2 0 0	0 12 6	..	..	..	7	5 2 8	2 0 0	..	..	..
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	39 3 8	2	1 1 14	0 16 0	..	..	..	33	194 3 31	41 2 4	..	..	..
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	58 12 8	1	1 3 39	0 18 10	..	..	..	30	188 0 37	65 0 0	2	9 0 7	2 3 1
Taranaki ..	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Occupation with right of purchase ..	3 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	13 2 0	4 2 6	3	2 3 0	0 10 6
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	8 9 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	68 0 8	7 5 0	1	2 3 35	0 14 4
Wellington ..	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	14 0 28	130 4 5	..	..	..
" ..	Perpetual lease	4 15 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	29 1 27	3 13 0	..	..	..
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	906 9 8	11	93 3 30	17 0 8	..	..	..	333	6,397 3 1	843 7 5	11	330 3 22	51 0 5
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	436 9 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	1,440 2 26	499 5 2	13	199 0 27	67 9 7
Marlborough ..	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	9 4 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	43 1 20	9 4 8	..	..	..
" ..	Perpetual lease	1 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	10 0 0	1 5 0	..	..	..
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	21 9 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	151 2 35	21 11 4	..	..	..
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	22 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	234 0 24	22 13 6	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	112 12 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	224 1 33	64 1 0	1	5 0 0	0 4 0
" ..	Perpetual lease	518 18 11	2	38 0 32	19 2 0	..	..	..	53	1,052 2 23	247 2 8	9	137 2 12	35 14 0
" ..	Occupation with right of purchase ..	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1 3 0	2 16 0	..	..	..
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	5 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	8 3 11	9 1 2	..	..	..
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	998 12 3	2	44 3 38	16 16 0	..	..	..	234	7,966 0 17	959 16 2	6	240 1 24	22 8 11
.. ..	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	9 13 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	187 2 36	17 11 0	..	..	..
" ..	Perpetual lease	73 15 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	933 2 33	90 7 2	..	..	..
" ..	Occupation with right of purchase ..	0 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3 2 28	0 19 0	2	2 0 0	0 3 0
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	149 12 8	2	39 2 17	2 2 8	9	197 3 2	10 1 4	129	1,958 3 4	161 4 10	9	161 0 17	9 17 5
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	168 14 3	2	52 0 20	3 0 4	..	..	..	84	1,341 1 5	171 17 10	3	23 3 36	6 18 0
Southland ..	Cash	317 6 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	Deferred payment	86 7 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	606 2 34	25 14 2	1	28 1 10	1 2 8
" ..	Perpetual lease	224 16 10	4	55 0 25	8 10 10	..	..	..	115	1,737 0 5	219 7 2	4	86 3 5	5 9 6
" ..	Occupation with right of purchase ..	1 8 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4 0 24	2 13 2	2	2 0 0	1 2 6
" ..	Lease in perpetuity	292 14 11	14	246 3 25	26 3 10	1	10 1 32	0 16 10	200	3,264 2 13	301 19 8	10	201 3 22	10 18 8
" ..	Village-homestead special settlement	146 0 6	3	28 0 32	5 8 0	..	..	..	57	604 1 19	148 19 0	6	56 2 3	10 8 4
	Totals	5,039 7 8	51	856 1 17	107 18 5	10	208 0 34	10 18 2	1,717	34,030 3 4	4,484 5 8	175	5,455 1 9	1,645 9 3
Cheviot Estate—														
Canterbury ..	Lease in perpetuity	813 11 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	76	2,480 1 0	874 0 4	10	227 0 35	55 1 8
Land for Settlements Acts—														
Hawke's Bay ..	Lease in perpetuity	29 19 6	1	0 1 0	0 10 0	..	..	..	9	32 2 28	29 7 0	..	..	..
Otago ..	"	228 12 9	3	35 0 0	31 8 4	..	..	..	28	383 0 4	289 18 10	10	135 3 35	97 8 4
	Totals	258 12 3	4	35 1 0	31 18 4	..	..	..	37	415 2 32	319 5 10	10	135 3 35	97 8 4

Table No. 13.—Summary of Position of Village Settlements at 31st March, 1899.

District.	Number of Settlers in Occupation.	Area occupied.	Annual Rental or Instalments, including Interest on Advances.	Amounts Advanced to Settlers.			Amount of Advances which have been repaid to 31st March, 1899.	Total Amount of Interest paid to 31st March, 1899.	Arrears of Interest on 31st March, 1899.
				For Houses.	For Bush-felling, Grassing, &c.	Total.			
		Acres.	£	£	£	£	£		£
Auckland	130	5,334	407	5,644	7,386	13,03	325	2,077	859
Hawke's Bay	82	431	140	580	297	877	354	426	1
Taranaki	26	81	11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	463	7,881	1,476	2,944	3,671	6,615	1,458	2,680	44
Marlborough	27	439	55	85	19	104	15	51	..
Canterbury	401	11,734	2,157	2,590	..	2,590	420	1,236	4
Otago	293	4,809	732	1,101	440	1,541	25	639	4
Southland	408	6,217	699	756	350	1,106	37	520	4
Totals	1,830	36,926	5,677	13,700	12,163	25,863	2,634	7,629	916

Table 14.—Return of Special Settlement Associations, under Section 163 of "The Land Act, 1885," and Part IV. of "The Land Act, 1892," for the Year ended 31st March, 1899, not included in the Special Returns.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Amount received during the Year.	Total Amount received on Current and Previous Transactions to 31st March, 1899.	Made Freehold.				No. of Selectors required to reside and actually residing, and Area.		
						During the Year.		From Commencement of System to 31st March, 1899.				
	No.	Area.	Capital Value per Acre.			No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No. required to reside.	Actually residing.	
											No.	Area.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.			A. R. P.
Auckland	..	..	..	187 18 10	6,475 16 10	2	201 2 0	46	4,511 3 22	21	29	5,960 2 0
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	90 5 5	5,303 19 0	2	152 3 10	54	4,809 3 12	14	6	1,200 0 0
Taranaki..	..	..	..	1,190 16 10	3,129 0 8	..	..	..	..	33	64	13,108 0 0
Wellington	5	607 1 10	6 14 0	6,999 11 2	109,518 9 0	39	3,914 3 4	753	75,290 2 22	412	347	66,167 3 6
Canterbury	..	..	..	235 11 0	875 17 2	..	..	..	..	4*	5	660 3 11
Otago	..	..	..	130 3 7	458 4 8	..	..	..	..	12	11	2,391 2 16
Totals	5	607 1 10	6 14 0	8,834 6 10	125,761 7 4	43	4,269 0 14	853	84,612 1 16	496	462	89,488 2 33
Under Land for Settlements Acts—												
Canterbury	..	..	..	170 18 4	575 13 3	..	..	..	..	†	..	..

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held, 31st March, 1899: Past and Current Transactions.			Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1899.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	23	9,811 2 0	226 13 4	..	..	..	106	18,440 2 3	499 9 2	1	50 0 0	14 10 0
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	3,111 0 19	115 18 2	..	..	..
Taranaki..	46	9,192 0 2	240 5 6	10	1,600 0 0	114 13 10	95	18,862 1 5	981 17 6	25	4,589 3 29	200 9 3
Wellington	47	8,680 0 0	414 15 6	..	..	..	541	94,864 2 30	5,473 9 5	45	9,470 2 36	507 17 9
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	2,318 0 37	159 18 8	3	137 2 0	5 2 11
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	2,955 1 12	127 5 6	3	566 1 10	22 2 3
Totals	116	27,683 2 2	881 14 4	10	1,600 0 0	114 13 10	801	140,552 0 26	7,357 18 5	77	14,814 1 35	750 2 2
Under Land for Settlements Acts—												
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,114 1 9	162 7 8	..	..	..

* Remainder of Selectors reside on adjoining lands † Selectors reside on adjoining lands

Table 15.—Return of Homestead Lands: Transactions during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1899: Past and Current Transactions.		Made Freehold during the Year.		Made Freehold since Commencement of System to 31st March, 1899.	
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	No. of Selectors.	Area.
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.
Auckland ..	1	75 0 0	20	2,221 0 13	5	563 0 0	444	73,875 2 37
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	1,480 0 0
Otago ..	..	..	3	206 2 37	..	..	18	2,649 1 18
Totals ..	1	75 0 0	23	2,427 3 10	5	563 0 0	501	78,005 0 15

Table 16.—Return of Small Grazing-runs taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Taken up during the Year.					Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.		
	Number of Holders.	Area.	Average Area.	Average Rent per Acre.	Annual Rent payable.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5,011 0 0	81 5 6	2	5,777 0 0	73 4 6
Hawke's Bay	2	11,619 0 0	5,809 2 0	0 1·85	91 7 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2,547 2 18	63 14 0	..	..	..
Nelson ..	1	1,088 0 0	1,088 0 0	0 2·25	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	4	5,166 0 0	1,291 0 0	0 2·5	51 19 10	..	..	..	..	*241 0 0	3 0 2
Canterbury..	3	5,641 0 0	1,880 1 13	0 8·1	191 2 4	..	..	..	2	7,514 2 0	458 7 2
Otago ..	9	18,644 0 24	2,071 2 11	0 4·19	325 11 8	18	27,363 0 10	726 9 2	17	28,716 0 4	812 19 8
Southland ..	2	6,651 2 33	3,325 3 16	0 2·5	68 14 8	..	..	..	1	2,560 3 26	32 0 4
Totals ..	21	48,809 3 17	2,324 1 5	..	738 16 0	21	34,921 2 28	871 8 8	22	44,809 1 30	1,379 11 10
Cheviot Estate.											
Canterbury—Grazing-farms ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements Acts.											
Marlborough	4	12,531 0 0	3,133 0 0	1 9	1,126 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury..	15	16,290 3 19	1,086 0 9	4 3·8	3,519 15 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	19	28,821 3 19	222 0 8	..	4,645 18 10	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Portion of a holding.

Table 16.—RETURN of SMALL GRAZING-RUNS taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.—*continued.*

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1899: Past and Current Transactions.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.		Arrears on 31st March, 1899.		
	Number of Holders.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Number.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	..	..	..	10	58,061 0 0	449 15 11	..	437 7 6	5	32,270 0 0	100 16 9
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	54	150,815 2 18	1,580 17 8	45 13 9	1,393 10 5	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	14	14,043 0 0	169 5 1	..	153 18 6	1	1,547 3 20	9 13 6
Wellington ..	2	732 0 0	27 16 0	74	72,284 3 4	1,956 13 10	..	1,840 14 8	6	7,467 1 0	160 8 10
Nelson ..	..	..	..	1	1,088 0 0	10 0 0	5 0 0	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	76	69,178 2 16	1,098 10 0	28 5 8	910 10 4	7	3,173 0 0	25 14 7
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	48	112,966 3 25	5,322 13 6	159 8 8	4,472 0 1	3	12,517 2 0	813 12 3
Otago ..	..	..	..	239	479,843 3 32	11,526 11 8	162 15 10	11,644 3 8	29	51,439 2 14	962 5 8
Southland ..	..	..	..	20	61,906 1 13	799 10 0	34 7 4	734 8 4	7	13,930 1 28	155 16 7
Totals ..	2	732 0 0	27 16 0	536	1,020,188 0 28	22,913 17 8	435 11 3	21,586 13 6	58	122,345 2 22	2,228 8 2
Cheviot Estate.											
Canterbury—Grazing-farms ..	..	..	..	41	45,691 0 9	6,587 14 8	..	6,259 14 4	1	60 0 3	7 10 0
Land for Settlements Acts.											
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	4	12,531 0 0	1,126 3 6	487 12 5	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	18	25,731 1 20	3,894 14 2	1,783 9 7	474 14 7	2	5,035 2 13	57 4 3
Otago ..	..	..	..	3	3,667 1 30	401 18 10	..	265 6 2	..	..	..
Totals ..	..	..	..	25	41,929 3 10	5,422 16 6	2,271 2 0	740 0 9	2	5,035 2 13	57 4 3

Table 17.—Number and Area of Pastoral Licenses for the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Expiries during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.	
	No. of Holders.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No. of Holders.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	No. of Holders.	Area.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.
Auckland	8	5,549 0 0	70 6 0	..	..	..	..	2	27,043 0 0	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	16	19,134 0 23	57 13 4	..	..	..	..	8	19,603 0 0	..	..
Marlborough	9	86,067 0 0	486 7 6	3	2,989 0 0	1	930 0 0	4	39,679 0 0	1	2,570 0 0
Westland	134	141,404 2 0	363 4 2	..	..	..	..	86	41,740 2 0	1	5,000 0 0
Canterbury	35	119,728 2 36	5,539 11 2	..	..	..	..	2	368 1 34	..	..
Otago	19	317,170 3 22	1,071 18 8	..	..	8	134,485 3 18	12	215,710 1 9	2	96,347 0 0
Southland	6	71,102 0 0	163 13 2	..	..	4	37,953 0 0	8	55,664 0 0	1	40,600 0 0
Totals	227	760,156 1 1	7,752 8 0	3	2,989 0 0	13	173,368 3 18	122	399,808 1 3	5	144,517 0 0

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Rent paid during the Year.	Holders in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.		
	Number of Holders.	Area, approximately.	Average Holdings.		Number.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	19	120,460 0 27	6,340 0 0	95 10 0*	3	31,038 0 0	105 4 0
Hawke's Bay	16	123,359 2 0	7,710 0 0	608 2 11	..	..	..
Wellington	21	26,791 0 0	1,275 3 1	186 5 2	..	..	..
Nelson	114	988,586 1 32	8,672 0 0	3,833 14 10	..	..	..
Marlborough	75	798,255 0 0	10,643 0 0	4,132 7 10	..	..	..
Westland	242	605,651 0 36	2,502 2 30	958 14 10	22	68,513 0 0	86 5 0
Canterbury	104	3,129,587 3 14	30,377 0 16	35,808 14 2†	..	..	..
Otago	244	4,068,424 0 16	16,673 3 19	29,584 5 11	1	413 2 32	12 0 0
Southland	88	1,250,795 0 0	14,213 0 0	3,745 3 10	..	..	..
Totals	923	11,111,910 1 5	12,038 0 0	78,952 19 6	26	99,964 2 32	203 9 0
Cheviot Estate— Canterbury	2	2,102 0 0	1,051 0 0	262 3 8	..	..	..

* £39 credited to State Forests Account. † £6 4s. credited to State Forests Account.

Table 18.—Return of Miscellaneous Leases and Licenses, not otherwise enumerated, during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Objects for which leased.																Total Area.	Total Annual Rental.	Total Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.	Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1899.			Lessees in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.	
	Coal and Mineral.			Timber-cutting, &c.			Flax-cutting.			Miscellaneous.														
	No.	Area.	Annual Rental.	No.	Area.	Amount received.	No.	Area.	Amount received.	No.	Area.	Annual Rental.								No.	Area.	Annual Rental.			
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.					A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.			
Auckland ..	2	87 2 0	821 17 0*	..	..	1,983 0 8†	..	..	..	5	437 3 26	‡58 18 6					525 1 26	64 15 0	4,899 5 9	71	2,174 0 6	933 7 0	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	336 1 37	31 15 0					336 1 37	31 15 0	474 9 8	73	5,486 2 17	505 7 4	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 12 0	..	..	..	8	15 3 0	24 4 0					15 3 0	24 4 0	228 12 9	86	971 2 14	319 7 4	21	71 9 4
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	4,483 2 3	143 1 2					4,483 2 3	143 1 2	831 19 6	75	31,102 0 16	679 12 2	3	14 12 2
Nelson ..	..	..	..	6	923 1 6	..	..	..	..	60	15,957 1 36	204 12 10					16,880 3 2	204 12 10	10,110 16 1	295	42,821 0 31	1,085 10 11§	54	2,657 3 2‖
Marlborough	..	..	..	1	183 0 0	..	..	..	..	2	1,016 2 17	76 10 0					1,199 2 17	76 10 0	562 19 4	50	28,866 0 27	449 8 8	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	34 0 0	0 18 0					34 0 0	0 18 0	41 10 0	68	281 0 34	66 9 3	12	34 5 0
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	2	220 0 0	56 4 2	..	..	..	51	10,506 3 13	389 5 1					10,726 3 13	396 15 1	2,534 13 5	327	52,809 1 6	1,957 11 10	10	75 9 6
Otago ..	..	..	..	13	360 0 0	46 11 0	..	..	..	91	158,017 0 12	481 18 0					158,377 0 12	508 3 0	1,379 11 0	420	163,226 1 37	1,180 4 4	4	7 2 6
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2,800 0 0	2 0 0	30	6,094 2 18	71 1 5					8,894 2 18	73 1 5	724 18 8	262	44,019 1 7	• 711 2 2	16	28 19 7
Totals ..	2	87 2 0	821 17 0	22	1,686 1 6	2,087 7 10	1	2,800 0 0	2 0 0	279	196,900 1 2	1,482 4 0					201,474 0 8	1,523 15 6	21,788 16 2	1,727	371,757 3 35	7,888 1 0	120	2,889 1 3
Cheviot.																								
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	196 0 0	26 1 1					196 0 0	26 1 1	256 8 8	63	1,668 2 0	247 13 1	2	3 15 0
Lands for Settlement.																								
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	151 2 29	29 10 6					151 2 29	29 10 6	14 8 6	7	151 2 29	29 10 6	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					..	..	1 0 0	1	3 0 0	1 0 0	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	289 0 0	34 1 6					289 0 0	34 1 6	33 12 3	5	399 0 0	51 14 0	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	783 0 7	218 9 0					783 0 7	218 9 0	65 9 10	11	788 0 10	152 1 5	3	12 18 8
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0 1 36	0 5 0					0 1 36	0 5 0	29 15 7	36	430 2 33	36 13 10	8	4 6 0
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5 0 9	0 16 3					5 0 9	..	44 12 3	2	25 0 9	3 6 3	..	..
Totals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	1,229 1 1	283 2 3					1,229 1 1	282 6 0	187 18 5	62	1,797 2 1	274 6 0	11	17 4 8

* Includes royalty on 47,226 tons. † Payment for 47 trees—6,269,670 sup. ft., and 190 sleepers. ‡ Includes £5 8s. 6d. as payment for 13¼ tons of bark. § £5,600 also expected from royalties.
‖ This includes the rent in abeyance of the Greymouth-Elizabeth Coal Company, £1,780 14s., and £752—rent in arrear by the Mokihinui Coal Company.

Table 19.—Return of Gross Revenue received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899, compiled from Tables supplied by Commissioners of Crown Lands.

System.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash lands	5,588 17 3	309 10 0	3,487 15 10	3,734 15 6	3,633 1 4	3,424 18 0	..	472 7 2	1,834 1 8	782 11 7	23,267 18 4
Perpetual lease made freehold	8,378 12 0	9,023 5 10	11,956 0 5	31,685 5 9	358 19 0	..	..	2,017 15 0	1,525 7 6	804 5 0	65,749 10 6
Village settlement perpetual lease made freehold	..	45 5 7	..	38 0 0	..	..	..	62 10 0	..	..	145 15 7
Deferred payment, rural	2,096 17 8	469 1 6	3,886 15 9	1,685 11 8	5,124 15 3	77 15 10	21 15 10	1,559 17 11	2,809 12 8	1,860 6 8	19,592 10 9
Deferred payment, pastoral	..	54 6 4	..	..	..	..	..	740 13 10	148 8 6	218 9 6	1,161 18 2
Perpetual lease and small areas	3,724 15 4	1,797 7 8	2,480 13 1	5,201 6 11	282 15 8	51 16 10	22 8 10	1,031 12 4	3,059 17 6	1,050 11 10	18,703 6 0
Occupation with right of purchase	3,123 18 11	1,421 11 5	1,959 9 0	6,752 9 2	195 0 7	266 18 1	61 16 10	82 6 4	647 13 6	808 1 8	15,319 5 6
Lease in perpetuity	1,714 1 3	1,907 6 0	2,139 0 2	3,896 17 2	327 17 0	822 7 1	6 18 0	3,829 15 5	3,838 3 4	1,947 17 6	20,430 2 11
Agricultural lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79 19 0	..	79 19 0
Occupation lease under "The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894"	12 14 0	..	..	..	..	28 11 2	..	..	180 10 1	6 5 0	228 0 3
Village settlement, cash	..	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	317 6 3	327 6 3
Village settlement, deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	9 4 8	..	112 12 1	9 13 3	86 7 9	217 17 9
Village settlement, perpetual lease	..	1 2 9	..	4 15 8	..	1 5 0	..	518 18 11	73 15 8	224 16 10	824 14 10
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	..	1 11 3	3 3 0	..	..	..	..	3 0 0	0 19 0	1 8 2	10 1 5
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	..	39 3 8	8 9 11	906 9 8	..	21 9 4	..	5 13 6	149 12 8	292 14 11	1,423 13 8
Village-homestead special settlement	404 10 10	58 12 8	..	436 9 9	..	22 13 6		998 12 3	168 14 3	146 0 6	2,235 13 9
Special-settlement association, deferred payment	111 8 10	38 18 1	..	1,096 7 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,246 14 7
Special-settlement association, perpetual lease	6 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	221 14 2	..	..	227 19 2
Special-settlement association, lease in perpetuity	70 5 0	51 7 4	1,190 16 10	5,903 3 6	..	..	..	13 16 10	130 3 7	..	7,359 13 1
Improved-farm special settlement	76 14 6	233 4 11	755 1 9	551 7 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,616 9 0
Small grazing-runs	437 7 6	1,439 4 2	153 18 6	1,840 14 8	5 0 0	938 16 0	..	4,631 8 9	11,806 19 6	768 15 8	22,022 4 9
Pastoral runs	56 10 0	608 2 11	..	186 5 2	3,833 14 10	4,132 7 10	958 14 10	35,802 10 2	29,584 5 11	3,745 3 10	78,907 15 6
Coal and mineral leases	821 17 0	37 17 6	..	..	94 3 0	..	..	83 6 0	189 9 4	117 8 6	1,344 1 4
Prospectors' mining leases	..	..	..	2 0 0	10 0 0	..	..	11 10 0	7 0 0	..	30 10 0
Timber licenses and other leases, and sale of timber	2,524 16 6	2 0 0	1 12 0	184 1 10	20 14 6	36 10 2	..	22 10 0	46 11 0	553 0 10	3,391 16 10
Flax-cutting	..	..	..	..	..	15 0 10	..	..	..	2 0 0	17 0 10
Miscellaneous leases	261 15 1	269 16 11	81 16 3	229 11 4	393 9 2	23 5 6	14 0 0	..	1,093 0 10	6 0 0	2,372 15 1
Transfer, lease, and license fees, &c.	439 13 0	152 18 0	180 10 0	241 14 6	146 5 0	80 16 0	154 8 0	350 3 0	210 0 0	169 4 0	2,125 11 6
Rents of reserves	44 0 0	166 15 3	145 4 6	410 18 1	1,490 10 2	488 2 10	27 10 0	2,038 1 6	6 15 0	599 10 2	5,417 7 6
Miscellaneous	1,723 7 9	304 17 3	2,254 2 11	311 8 3	44 5 6	10 17 6	45 1 0	173 7 5	233 18 9	143 10 8	5,244 17 0
Crown-grant fees	223 14 2	60 11 6	171 17 5	291 6 6	203 4 9	10 2 9	..	51 8 3	156 19 11	67 6 9	1,236 12 0
State forests	1,246 17 2	..	..	1,978 19 6	..	..	..	..	43 14 10	2,273 14 3	5,543 5 9
Survey liens on Native lands	..	..	..	165 18 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	165 18 4
Survey fees which do not form part payment of land	25 6 9	..	95 14 8	1,132 12 5	11 2 4	..	..	68 17 8	24 12 0	147 12 3	1,505 18 1
Survey fees which do form part payment of land	..	..	..	63 3 11	249 8 2	..	..	..	72 1 4	..	384 13 5
Carried forward	33,114 5 6	18,503 18 6	30,952 2 0	68,931 14 9	16,424 6 3	10,462 18 11	1,312 13 4	54,904 8 6	58,132 0 7	17,140 10 1	309,878 18 5

Table 19.—Return of Gross Revenue received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899, compiled from Tables supplied by Commissioners of Crown Lands—*continued.*

System.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward	33,114 5 6	18,503 18 6	30,952 2 0	68,931 14 9	16,424 6 3	10,462 18 11	1,312 13 4	54,904 8 6	58,132 0 7	17,140 10 1	309,878 18 5
Land for Settlements Acts—											
Lease in perpetuity	1,499 17 5	4,400 18 9	..	146 12 9	..	2,810 13 1	182 7 11	15,856 11 0	8,122 4 1	1,426 16 4	34,446 1 4
Lease in perpetuity, village	..	29 19 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	228 12 9	..	258 12 3
Special settlements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	170 18 4	..	..	170 18 4
Pastoral runs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65 9 10	..	..	65 9 10
Small grazing-runs	..	..	..	..	..	487 12 5	..	2,258 4 2	265 6 2	..	3,011 2 9
Miscellaneous	28 5 5	13 10 0	..	23 6 0	..	88 2 6	..	42 10 11	564 10 7	92 0 3	852 5 8
Totals	1,528 2 10	4,444 8 3	..	169 18 9	..	3,386 8 0	182 7 11	18,393 14 3	9,180 13 7	1,518 16 7	38,804 10 2
Cheviot Estate—											
Cash sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,234 2 0	..	..	3,234 2 0
Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,911 19 10	..	..	5,911 19 10
Village homesteads	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	813 11 4	..	..	813 11 4
Grazing-farms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,259 14 4	..	..	6,259 14 4
Pastoral runs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	262 3 8	..	..	262 3 8
Miscellaneous leases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	256 8 8	..	..	256 8 8
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	310 0 9	..	..	310 0 9
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,048 0 7	..	..	17,048 0 7
Endowment lands	1,904 5 9	342 17 2	405 13 4	740 7 4	8,193 0 10	..	1,469 18 1	277 6 9	1,324 8 10	2,219 1 9	16,876 19 10
Thermal Springs Districts Act: Rents	1,351 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,351 13 6
"Native Townships Act, 1895"	..	..	..	250 18 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	250 18 10
Hanmer Sanatorium and bath fees	..	..	..	..	1,172 11 7	..	..	..	..	..	1,172 11 7
Grand totals	37,898 7 7	23,291 3 11	31,357 15 4	70,092 19 8	25,789 18 8	13,849 6 11	2,964 19 4	90,623 10 1	68,637 3 0	20,878 8 5	385,383 12 11

The total of the figures supplied by the Auditor of Land Revenue in his report is £385,145 0s. 9d.

Table 20.—Return of Lands Reserved and Alienated under Acts, or for Scrip.

District.	During the Year ended 31st March, 1899.				Total Area Reserved, Granted under Acts, &c., from the Foundation of the Colony to the 31st March, 1899.
	Area Reserved for various Purposes.	Area Granted under Acts.	Area Granted in satisfaction of Scrip.	Total Area Alienated during the Year.	
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Auckland	13,749 3 7	..	289 0 0	14,038 3 7	3,257,501 1 25
Hawke's Bay ..	699 2 26	..	..	699 2 26	241,843 0 39
Taranaki	15,818 1 25	60 2 29	..	15,879 0 14	598,539 2 19
Wellington	14,015 0 14	4,937 3 20	..	18,952 3 34	847,264 0 32
Nelson	1,986 0 14	..	..	1,986 0 14	197,378 0 4
Marlborough ..	1,051 1 21	11,636 2 0	..	12,687 3 21	205,291 3 37
Westland	..	..	..	..	102,411 2 39
Canterbury	372,489 1 12	368 2 3	90 2 7	372,948 1 22	1,189,382 2 3
Otago	152 0 1	494 0 11	..	646 0 12	593,197 1 31
Southland	417 3 28	..	..	417 3 28	590,403 3 16
Totals	420,379 2 28	17,497 2 23	379 2 7	438,256 3 18	7,823,214 0 5

Table 21.—Forfeitures and Surrenders during the Year ending 31st March, 1899, showing under each Tenure the Number of Selectors who have Forfeited and Surrendered their Holdings, and the Area and Rental of such Holdings.

Tenure.	Forfeitures.			Surrenders.		
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment	5	659 3 24	36 9 2	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	27	4,055 3 8	153 3 7	20	3,605 3 10	137 19 0
Occupation with right of purchase	65	15,434 3 39	655 12 0	22	4,632 2 23	181 3 6
Lease in perpetuity	71	24,519 2 9	862 7 8	44	10,658 2 24	377 4 8
Agricultural lease	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining Districts Occupation Act ..	2	351 2 5	23 2 7	..	..	..
Village settlement—						
Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	6	93 1 17	27 12 10	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	2	2 0 0	0 12 6	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	29	381 3 6	46 3 2	10	208 0 34	10 18 2
Homestead special settlement ..	14	379 0 34	33 9 11	..	..	..
Special-settlement associations ..	116	27,683 2 2	881 14 4	10	1,600 0 0	114 13 10
Improved-farm special settlements	36	3,079 3 27	134 11 11	15	1,480 2 20	14 12 4
Homestead	1	75 0 0	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	21	34,921 2 28	871 8 8	22	44,809 1 30	1,379 11 10
Pastoral runs	13	173,368 3 18	101 16 10	5	144,517 0 0	958 3 6
Totals	408	285,007 0 17	3,828 5 2	148	211,512 1 21	3,174 6 10
Land for Settlements Acts—						
Lease in perpetuity	20	1,897 0 14	35 11 2	5	391 2 6	79 9 10
Village lease in perpetuity ..	4	35 1 0	331 18 4	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	..	..	..	1	320 0 0	16 10 0
Totals	432	286,939 1 31	4,195 14 8	154	212,223 3 27	3,270 6 8
Native Townships.						
Wellington	12	136 2 27	72 8 0	..	..	..

Table 22.—Summary of Arrears due to the Crown on 31st March, 1899.

Tenure.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount in Arrear.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment	72	12,969 0 36	590 9 0
Perpetual lease	222	52,598 2 30	1,656 1 2
Occupation with right of purchase	212	47,066 1 34	1,518 6 1
Lease in perpetuity	210	57,607 0 19	1,677 17 9
Agricultural lease	9	359 1 28	11 4 9
Mining Districts Land Occupation Act	4	332 2 20	14 5 7
Village settlements on deferred payment	2	33 1 10	1 6 8
Village settlements on perpetual lease	13	224 1 17	41 3 6
Village settlements on occupation with right of purchase	7	6 3 0	1 16 0
Village settlements on lease in perpetuity	31	696 3 16	72 10 10
Village-homestead special settlements	122	4,494 0 6	1,528 12 3
Special-settlement associations	77	14,814 1 35	750 2 2
Improved farms	79	6,956 1 6	541 8 5
Small grazing-runs	58	122,345 2 22	2,228 8 2
Pastoral runs	26	99,964 2 32	203 9 0
Miscellaneous (not otherwise specified)	120	11,859 1 10	2,889 1 3
Totals	1,264	432,329 1 1	13,726 2 7
Cheviot Estate—			
Lease in perpetuity	6	1,041 2 0	105 12 0
Village-homestead special settlement	10	227 0 35	55 1 8
Grazing-farms	1	60 0 3	7 10 0
Miscellaneous	2	11 1 4	3 15 0
Land for Settlements Acts—			
Lease in perpetuity	119	17,832 3 28	2,770 5 6
Village lease in perpetuity	10	135 3 35	97 8 4
Small grazing-runs	2	5,035 2 13	57 4 3
Miscellaneous	11	102 0 22	17 4 8
Thermal Springs, Rotorua	26	926 2 4	153 6 11
Grand totals	1,451	457,702 1 25	16,993 10 11

Table 23.—Return of Land taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899, within the Thermal Springs District.

Land District.	Locality.	Taken up during the Year.			Total Area held on 31st March, 1898.			Amounts received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1898.		
		Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Rent payable.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Rent payable.		Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	Rotorua district	29	87 2 28	139 5 0	215	5,614 0 26	1,452 18 0	1,351 13 6	26	926 2 4	153 6 11

Table 24.—Return of Lands disposed of under "The Native Townships Act, 1895," for the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

Land District.	Name of Township.	Date of Proclamation.	Area of Township.	Date when opened for Sale.	Taken up during the Year.			Total Area held on 31st March, 1899.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Rent paid during Year.
					No.	Area.	Rent payable.	No.	Area.	Rent payable.	No.	Area.	Annual Rent.	
			A. R. P.			A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	Kaimakau	14 July, 1897	190 0 0	14 Oct., 1898	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	Te Puia ..	13 July, 1898	497 0 0	Not opened ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	Pipiriki ..	2 Oct., 1896	366 0 0	27 July, 1897	1	1 0 12	0 10 2	16	54 3 19	75 16 2	12	136 2 27	72 8 0	60 16 6
"	Tokaanu ..	11 Mar., 1897	490 0 0	17 June, 1898	28	108 2 22	210 6 0	28	108 2 22	210 6 0	..	..	..	190 2 4
Totals ..	..	..	1,543 0 0	..	29	109 2 34	210 16 2	44	163 2 1	286 2 2	12	136 2 27	72 8 0	250 18 10

Table 25.—Return showing the Area of Bush felled on Lands sold or leased by the Crown from 1st April, 1895, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	Felled during the Year on Lands taken up during the Year 1897–98.	Felled during the Year on Lands taken up in Previous Years.	Total felled at 31st March, 1898.	Total felled at 31st March, 1899.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Auckland	(No report)	5,500 0 0	43,500 0 0	49,000 0 0
Hawke's Bay	1,000 0 0	15,000 0 0	30,150 0 0	46,150 0 0
Taranaki	1,500 0 0	12,225 0 0	187,775 0 0	201,500 0 0
Wellington	2,420 0 0	33,522 0 0	482,401 0 0	518,343 0 0
Nelson	(No data)	..	..	..
Marlborough	440 0 0	2,070 0 0	64,050 0 0	66,560 0 0
Westland	..	800 0 0	20,605 0 0	21,405 0 0
Canterbury	..	..	..	..
Otago	100 0 0	100 0 0	19,177 0 0	19,377 0 0
Southland	63 0 0	570 0 0	4,135 0 0	4,768 0 0
Totals	5,523 0 0	69,787 0 0	851,793 0 0	927,103 0 0

Table 26.—Statement of the Number of Selectors on the Books of the Lands and Survey Department on the 31st March, 1899.

District.	Deferred Payment.		Perpetual Lease.		Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Lease in Perpetuity.				Agricultural Lease.	Occupation Lease under "The Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894."		Village Settlement, Deferred Payment.	Village Settlement, Perpetual Lease.	Village Settlement, Occupation with Right of Purchase.	Village Settlement, Lease in Perpetuity.		
	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Cheviot Estate.	Land for Settlements Acts.	Endowment Lands.		Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.				Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements Acts.	Endowment Lands.
Auckland ..	168	..	648	9	1,141	7	634	..	98	11	7	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	17	..	91	20	105	..	139	..	130	1	..	..	..	3	..	7	33	9	..
Taranaki ..	152	..	158	..	140	..	175	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	9	..	..
Wellington ..	27	2	203	..	493	..	369	..	32	..	..	..	..	7	3	..	333	..	..
Nelson ..	490	8	38	..	117	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	45	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	10	..	11	..	26	..	137	..	67	..	..	17	..	5	1	..	7	..	..
Westland ..	11	..	7	..	24	..	11	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	25	..	82	..	14	..	146	106	560	58	..	..	..	15	53	5	18	..	..
Otago ..	87	2	367	15	98	..	566	..	266	9	20	96	..	5	42	5	129	28	7
Southland ..	122	13	130	40	123	1	213	..	55	19	..	20	..	32	115	4	200	..	..
Totals ..	1,109	25	1,735	84	2,281	8	2,490	106	1,224	98	27	165	45	67	214	38	729	37	7

District.	Village-homestead Special Settlement.			Special-settlement Associations.		Improved-farm Special Settlements.		Small Grazing-runs.			Grazing-farms: Cheviot Estate.	Pastoral.			Homestead.	Miscellaneous.				Thermal Springs, Rotorua.	Native Towns.	Total.
	Crown Lands.	Cheviot Estate.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements Acts.	Complete.	Not registered.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements Acts.	Endowment Lands.		Crown Lands.	Cheviot Estate.	Endowment Lands.		Crown Lands.	Cheviot Estate.	Land for Settlements Acts.	Endowment Lands.			
Auckland ..	130	..	1	106	..	..	57	10	..	8	..	19	..	..	20	71	..	7	..	215	..	3,399
Hawke's Bay ..	30	..	..	18	..	17	..	54	..	3	..	16	..	..	..	73	..	1	..	..	..	767
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	95	..	140	3	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	..	..	16	..	..	1,005
Wellington ..	120	..	..	541	..	124	47	74	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	75	..	..	4	..	44	2,519
Nelson ..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	114	..	..	..	295	..	..	207	..	..	1,435
Marlborough ..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	76	4	..	..	75	..	..	..	50	..	5	..	..	..	505
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	242	..	..	..	68	..	..	..	..	..	379
Canterbury ..	234	76	48	26	11	..	..	48	18	..	41	104	2	..	..	327	63	11	16	..	..	2,107
Otago	84	..	..	15	..	..	73	239	3	13	..	244	..	4	3	420	..	36	3	..	..	2,879
Southland ..	57	..	..	..	..	..	52	20	..	4	..	88	..	4	..	262	..	2	1	..	..	1,577
Totals ..	669	76	69	801	11	281	232	536	25	28	41	923	2	8	23	1,727	63	62	247	215	44	16,572

Table 27.—Statement showing the Total Number of Crown Tenants, with Area selected or held, the Yearly Rent payable, and Rent in Arrear on 31st March, 1899.

Tenures.	Total Number of Tenants.	Total Area held by such Tenants.	Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.	Total Amount of such Rents or Payments in Arrear.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment	1,119	160,939 3 13	11,561 12 8	590 9 0
Perpetual lease	1,735	440,088 2 27	17,098 3 9	1,656 1 2
Occupation with right of purchase	2,281	504,829 2 17	20,409 14 5	1,518 6 1
Lease in perpetuity	2,490	731,211 1 38	24,459 11 8	1,677 17 9
Agricultural lease	27	1,262 2 33	33 7 3	11 4 9
Homestead	23	2,427 3 10	..	..
Mining Districts Land Occupation Act	165	7,957 3 37	308 8 11	14 5 7
Village settlements—				
Deferred payment	67	1,085 3 23	249 10 1	1 6 8
Perpetual lease	214	3,762 3 8	561 15 0	41 3 6
Occupation with right of purchase	38	28 2 20	12 10 8	1 16 0
Lease in perpetuity	729	12,044 2 23	1,385 11 9	72 10 10
Village-homestead special settlements—				
Perpetual lease	569	12,956 1 32	1,878 9 0	1,528 12 3
Lease in perpetuity	100	4,152 1 18	396 9 2	..
Special settlements—				
Deferred-payment associations	72	7,045 3 37	405 1 2	..
Perpetual lease	25	2,207 0 11	151 1 10	19 12 11
Lease in perpetuity	704	131,299 0 18	6,801 15 5	730 9 3
Improved-farm special settlements	513	50,226 1 31	2,284 3 4	541 8 5
Small grazing-runs	536	1,020,188 0 28	22,913 17 8	2,228 8 2
Pastoral runs	923	11,111,910 1 5	74,050 0 1	203 9 0
Miscellaneous leases	1,727	371,757 3 35	7,888 1 0	2,889 1 3
Totals	14,037	14,577,383 3 24	192,849 4 10	13,726 2 7
Cheviot Estate—				
Lease in perpetuity	106	23,903 0 33	6,426 2 8	105 12 0
Village-homestead special settlement	76	2,480 1 0	874 0 4	55 1 8
Grazing-farms	41	45,691 0 9	6,587 14 8	7 10 0
Pastoral runs	2	2,102 0 0	262 3 8	..
Miscellaneous	63	1,668 2 0	247 13 1	3 15 0
Land for Settlements Acts—				
Lease in perpetuity	1,224	173,457 0 12	51,474 16 9	2,770 5 6
Lease in perpetuity, village	37	415 2 32	319 5 10	97 8 4
Special-settlement associations	11	2,114 1 9	162 7 8	..
Small grazing-runs	25	41,929 3 10	5,422 16 6	57 4 3
Miscellaneous	62	1,797 2 1	274 6 0	17 4 8
Thermal-Springs (Rotorua)	215	5,614 0 26	1,452 18 0	153 6 11
Grand totals	15,899	14,878,557 1 36	266,353 10 0	16,993 10 11

Table 28.—Endowments: Lands taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

District.	Endowments, &c.	Cash Lands.			Village-homestead Lands.			Lease in Perpetuity.			Perpetual Lease.			Occupation Leases under Mining Act.			Miscellaneous Leases.		
		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realised.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalments.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Lessees.	Area.	Annual Rental.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	University	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	272 2 28	2 16 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auckland ..	Museum	2	438 0 2	288 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	Education	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	415 1 3	25 15 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	University	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	720 0 0	18 0 0
Nelson ..	Westport Harbour ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	638 1 14	34 4 6	17	2 2 34	81 18 4
Canterbury ..	Ellesmere	..	..	..	2	12 0 0	3 7 2	1	573 0 0	35 17 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	28 0 26	4 14 6
Otago ..	School Commissioners..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	285 2 31	10 0 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	High Schools	..	..	..	3	62 3 36	6 6 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland ..	Education	2	507 1 5	660 18 4	..	..	..	4	967 2 16	37 13 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	.. .. ..	4	945 1 7	948 18 4	5	74 3 36	9 14 0	10	2,098 3 35	86 7 8	3	415 1 3	25 15 6	18	638 1 14	34 4 6	20	750 3 20	104 12 10

Table 29.—Endowments: Return of Revenue received during the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

Tenure.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash lands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease made freehold	288 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	660 18 4	948 18 4
Deferred payments	..	..	..	732 19 1	30 16 0	..	..	347 14 1	435 16 9	1,547 5 11
Perpetual lease and small areas	43 9 5	170 15 4	..	..	..	..	..	191 17 4	570 12 11	976 15 0
Occupation with right of purchase	9 2 9	..	..	..	32 2 9	..	..	..	5 10 0	46 15 6
Lease in perpetuity	36 15 1	35 9 7	..	..	..	..	..	75 6 10	126 5 10	273 17 4
Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	9 8 6	..	..	..	..	9 8 6
Village lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 13 3	..	13 13 3
Small grazing-runs	144 6 9	76 12 3	..	..	..	..	..	354 6 6	149 16 1	725 1 7
Pastoral runs	25 11 0	..	..	..	..	..	6 4 0	341 10 10	263 6 10	636 12 8
Coal and mineral leases	1 10 0	..	..	..	7,002 19 10	..	..	..	..	7,004 9 10
Timber licenses and royalties	1,352 0 9	60 0 0	..	..	42 1 5	1,458 13 1	..	..	..	2,912 15 3
Miscellaneous leases	3 10 0	..	..	4 2 6	..	..	..	..	..	7 12 6
Rents of reserves	..	..	405 13 4	3 5 9	1,075 12 4	11 5 0	271 12 9	..	6 15 0	1,774 4 2
Totals	1,904 5 9	342 17 2	405 13 4	740 7 4	8,193 0 10	1,469 18 1	277 16 9	1,324 8 10	2,219 1 9	16,877 9 10

Table No. 30.—Summary of Cheviot Estate Receipts for the Year ended 31st March, 1899.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash sales, cash conditional		3,234 2 0
Rents, lease in perpetuity	6,725 11 2	
„ grazing-farms	6,259 14 4	
„ miscellaneous pastoral leases	518 12 4	
		13,503 17 10
Interest, cash, conditional	179 16 10	
„ advance to Cheviot Dairy-factory Company	45 0 0	
		224 16 10
Port Robinson landing-service	..	69 8 8
Timber-cutting licenses..	..	11 2 9
		17,043 8 1
Recoveries, fire insurance premium	0 10 0	
„ advertising	4 2 6	
		4 12 6
		£17,048 0 7

Table No. 31.—Summary of Cheviot Estate Receipts from 1st April, 1893, to 31st March, 1899.

Particulars.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Proceeds fire insurance policies..	1,400 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1,400 0 0
Cash sales, land	4,595 5 8	26,613 16 7	903 9 8	336 2 0	838 12 0	3,234 2 0	36,521 7 11
„ sundries	11 5 10	166 12 8	144 17 6	100 11 6	20 18 3	..	444 5 9
Leases in perpetuity	3,349 9 8	5,142 8 4	6,410 17 10	6,793 13 11	7,236 3 8	6,725 11 2	35,658 4 7
Grazing-farms	1,842 10 1	3,637 1 1	5,440 8 3	6,311 13 1	6,355 1 7	6,259 14 4	29,846 8 5
Miscellaneous pastoral leases ..	6,922 8 1	1,058 3 1	687 17 7	688 16 3	789 0 6	518 12 4	10,664 17 10
Interest on cash, conditional ..	100 0 0	370 9 3	194 11 10	188 6 6	185 16 6	179 16 10	1,219 0 11
Interest, Cheviot Dairy-factory Company	..	..	..	45 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0	135 0 0
Port Robinson landing-service ..	301 18 1	1,050 12 8	730 11 7	869 4 10	806 8 1	69 8 8	3,828 3 11
Fencing adjoining Homestead Reserve	..	0 7 6	..	..	..	..	0 7 6
Timber-cutting licenses and royalty	..	1 1 0	..	..	..	11 2 9	12 3 9
	18,522 17 5	38,040 12 2	14,512 14 3	15,333 8 1	16,277 0 7	17,043 8 1	119,730 0 7
Recoveries—							
Passage-money, tools, &c. ..	367 7 5	86 8 9	10 9 10	9 15 6	137 9 3	..	611 10 9
Cheviot rabbit-fence ..	..	7 10 0	..	..	..	..	7 10 0
Share fencing Harbour Reserve	..	..	..	2 13 0	..	..	2 13 0
Rebate fire insurance premiums	..	..	56 5 10	..	..	0 10 0	56 15 10
Cement sold	..	..	34 3 6	..	..	..	34 3 6
Advertising	..	..	..	..	..	4 2 6	4 2 6
	18,890 4 10	38,134 10 11	14,613 13 5	15,345 16 7	16,414 9 10	17,048 0 7	120,446 16 2

Table 32.—Cheviot Estate: Return of Outlay and Income as at 31st March, 1899.

Outlay.	£
Balance from previous year	262,429
Administration and contingencies	647
Balance of interest chargeable to 31st March, 1899	6,642
Rents accrued, included in former accounts	6,204
Total	£275,922

Income.	£
Cash—Instalments of purchase-money of freehold	3,234
„ Rents	13,515
„ Interest	225
„ Shipping and port charges	69
Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	4,155
Balance	254,724
Total	£275,922

Table 33.—Return showing Position and Transactions in Improved-farm Settlements from their Commencement to 31st March, 1899.

Names.	Areas.	Dates of *Gazette* Proclamation.	Number of Sections in each Settlement.	Number of Settlers remaining in Occupation on 31 Mar., '99.	Number of Persons resident.	Area occupied.	Area felled	Areas grassed.	Number of Cattle on Allotments.	Roads felled and formed, or partially formed during the Year.	Amount paid to Selectors for Improvements: Past and Present Transactions.			Rent and Interest paid by Selectors.		Value of Improvements now on the Land, including that paid for by Government.
											For Houses.	For Bush-felling and other Works.	Total Payments.	During the Year ending 31 Mar., '99.	From Commencement of System.	
Auckland—	Acres.					A. R. P.	Acres.	Acres.		Mls. ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Te Rau-a-moa ..	1,410	1896, p. 655	10	9	50	1,294 2 32	683	534¾	130	..	205 14 0	775 1 8	980 15 8	..	..	1,612 0 0
Paemako	1,412	1897, p. 5	13	12	43	1,443 2 38	..	370	161	..	297 17 1	..	297 17 1	12 10 2	12 10 2	890 5 0
Mangatu	1,100	1895, p. 863	10	10	73	991 0 0	663½	517	104	7 0	184 8 3	1,179 17 9	1,364 6 0	26 7 8	58 5 3	2,623 0 0
Awatuna	1,000	1895, p. 863	10	4	20	405 0 0	365	351	32	4 40	122 2 11	634 5 11	756 8 10	..	6 12 0	1,293 10 0
Katui	1,000	1895, p. 863	10	8	55	775 0 0	408¼	347	155	8 4	165 11 4	555 15 6	721 6 10	34 11 3	34 11 3	2,279 17 6
Rangatira	1,000	1895, p. 863	10	3	8	300 0 0	87	76	12	2 60	45 18 4	124 18 0	170 16 4	..	..	409 10 0
Tahawai	411	1896, p. 1541	19	11	23	218 2 20	3	304	60	3 8	82 10 0	473 2 7	555 12 7	3 5 5	3 5 5	866 2 7
Totals ..	7,333	..	82	57	272	5,428 0 10	2,209¾	2,499¾	654	25 32	1,104 1 11	3,743 1 5	4,847 3 4	76 14 6	115 4 1	9,974 5 1
Hawke's Bay—																
Waikopiro	1,771	1895, p. 79	15	15	79	1,771 0 0	143	806	149	5 3	129 14 4	1,551 17 4	1,681 11 8	233 4 11	373 19 9	3,285 0 0
Akitio	145	1896, p. 655	2	2	7	145 2 0	33	69	..	..	20 0 0	145 6 11	165 6 11	..	..	200 0 0
Totals ..	1,916	..	17	17	86	1,916 2 0	176	875	149	5 3	149 14 4	1,697 4 3	1,846 18 7	233 4 11	373 19 9	3,485 0 0
Taranaki—																
Ngaire	170	1895, p. 233	16	16	70	169 2 30	..	161	106	0 34	222 10 0	311 7 9	533 17 9	51 4 8	80 19 7	1,170 0 0
Tongaporutu ..	2,500	1894, p. 1505	16	8	39	786 2 0	..	307	152	0 70	200 0 0	922 13 11	1,122 13 11	62 1 6	62 7 6	1,445 0 0
Mangaere	482	1895, p. 30	13	10	46	444 1 2	..	399	203	0 42	132 10 0	574 2 0	706 12 0	75 6 2	114 17 8	1,645 0 0
Uruti	697	1895, p. 30	7	3	19	497 0 0	..	502	75	..	59 0 0	817 7 0	876 7 0	53 9 7	86 7 7	1,020 0 0
Taumatatahi ..	430	1894, p. 1691	4	4	26	430 2 0	..	159	50	0 46	70 0 0	259 12 2	329 12 2	31 16 5	52 0 1	700 0 0
Whangamomona ..	10,543	1896, p. 149	111	64	168	6,096 0 0	354	3,052	858	11 14	767 10 0	5,413 14 9	6,181 4 9	304 11 4	313 6 10	10,230 0 0
Poti	108	1895, p. 1053	8	8	49	108 0 0	..	106	48	0 28	120 0 0	173 15 3	293 15 3	33 3 9	45 16 1	700 0 0
Maata	30	1895, p. 1053	3	2	6	30 0 0	..	23	12	1 51	50 0 0	58 1 8	108 1 8	7 14 7	9 2 1	160 0 0
Huiroa	668	1894, p. 1722	9	7	34	549 1 21	..	358	56	0 56	93 10 0	587 3 0	680 13 0	34 4 11	56 12 0	1,135 0 0
Okau	1,889	1896, p. 398	19	4	22	393 0 0	15	650	17	5 18	107 10 0	1,003 4 0	1,110 14 0	23 12 7	23 12 7	1,220 0 0
Derwent	1,369	1896, p. 398	13	9	26	973 0 0	21	633	119	5 8	192 10 0	1,110 3 6	1,302 13 6	57 0 9	65 6 2	1,765 0 0
Nihoniho	1,406	1895, p. 1248	16	3	15	213 2 0	28	119	102	11 63	..	203 1 11	203 1 11	16 8 6	16 8 6	355 0 0
Greenlands	603	1896, p. 1542	6	2	9	203 0 0	6½	250	17	3 7	50 0 0	629 0 3	679 0 3	4 7 0	4 7 0	770 0 0
Mangapona	702	1897, p. 1983	7	3	3	300 0 0	..	60	110	2 5	20 0 0	286 5 6	306 5 6	..	..	350 0 0
Mangatawa	2,978	1896, p. 1629	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	24,575	..	277	143	532	11,193 3 13	424½	6,779	1,925	43 42	2,085 0 0	12,349 12 8	14,434 12 8	755 1 9	931 3 8	22,665 0 0
Wellington—																
Pemberton	1,260	1895, p. 30	15	13	61	1,247 0 0	1,151	1,163	741	6 37	170 0 0	1,717 9 6	1,887 9 6	159 12 0	656 4 3	3,945 17 6
	200	1897, p. 1631		2		200 0 0										
Kawatau	1,000	1894, p. 1637	12	12	82	999 3 36	649½	610¼	918	5 51	230 0 0	959 14 6	1,189 14 6	86 11 6	140 18 5	2,340 3 6
Hautapu	1,204	1894, p. 1637	12	11	59	1,057 0 0	387	303	202	4 50	180 0 0	632 7 0	812 7 0	43 6 0	43 6 0	1,457 6 9
Masterton–Tenui ..	800	1896, p. 1526	12	12	57	1,163 0 0	450	376	290	1 0	170 0 0	602 0 11	772 0 11	78 0 4	111 6 1	1,821 4 4
	368	1896, p. 1629														
	2,433	1896, p. 655														
Akitio	2,324	1897, p. 6	42	36	61	3,810 2 0	1,752	1,189	1,556	18 40	170 0 0	2,307 16 3	2,477 16 3	71 17 1	75 4 5	3,722 18 3
	204	1898, p. 1397		2		204 0 0										

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

Table 33.—Return showing Position and Transactions in Improved-farm Settlements from their Commencement to 31st March, 1899—*continued*.

Names.	Areas.	Dates of *Gazette* Proclamation.	Number of Sections in each Settlement.	Number of Settlers remaining in Occupation on 31 Mar., '99.	Number of Persons resident.	Area occupied.	Area felled.	Areas grassed.	Number of Cattle on Allotments.	Roads felled and formed or partially formed during the Year.	Amount paid to Selectors for Improvements: Past and Present Transactions.			Rent and Interest paid by Selectors.		Value of Improvements now on the Land, including that paid for by Government.
											For Houses.	For Bushfelling and other Works.	Total Payments.	During the Year ending 31 Mar., 99.	From Commencement of System.	
Wellington—*continued*.	Acres.					A. R. P.	Acres.	Acres.		Mls. ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ d.
Horopito	2,000	1894, p. 1505	12	2	5	200 0 0	117	86	71	1 38	50 0 0	244 18 4	294 18 4	19 5 2	22 16 0	545 11 5
Otaihape	200	1894, p. 1950	10	10	39	204 1 10	201¾	178	78	2 16	238 0 0	405 12 0	643 12 0	43 5 10	68 11 8	1,012 15 9
Ohutu	2,187	1896, p. 631	28	28	48	2,199 3 26	809½	635½	365	7 23	142 0 0	1,036 5 0	1,178 5 0	35 4 1	35 4 1	2,499 11 9
Otuarei	2,000	1896, p. 631	7	6	14	1,170 0 0	85	50	331	2 0	30 0 0	111 6 9	141 6 9	..	..	227 7 10
Rongoiti	2,189	1896, p. 1511	24	8	16	789 2 0	131½	90	458	4 37	77 10 0	193 17 11	271 7 11	9 19 2	9 19 2	466 7 5
	198	1897, p. 2082														
Mangatiti	4,379	1897, p. 8	33	29	41	3,585 3 38	1,096½	576	132	20 50	20 0 0	1,690 9 0	1,710 9 0	4 6 8	4 6 8	2,214 7 4
	100	1897, p. 1901														
	100	1898, p. 1322														
Totals	23,146	..	207	171	548	16,831 0 30	6,830¾	5,256¾	5,142	74 22	1,477 10 0	9,901 17 2	11,379 7 2	551 7 10	1,167 16 9	20,253 11 10
Otago—																
Purakauiti No. 2 ..	1,515	1895, p. 29	12	12	19	1,515 1 30	322	322	30	4 78	78 1 2	1,738 12 11	1,816 14 1	..	..	2,150 0 0
Puaho	1,003	1895, p. 30	7	5	4	857 2 20	111	111	..	1 46	20 0 0	494 5 4	514 5 4	..	..	550 0 0
Waipiti	3,000	1895, p. 1584	22	17	84	2,649 1 8	952	952	354	6 14	192 13 2	4,346 1 5	4,538 14 7	..	..	5,000 0 0
Rimu	1,600	1895, p. 927	16	13	58	1,538 1 1	437	437	150	8 22	178 14 8	2,497 16 2	2,676 10 10	..	..	3,000 0 0
Woodlands	1,214	1895, p. 927	9	9	..	1,207 1 35	32	32	..	0 25	..	39 14 6	39 14 6	..	..	60 0 0
Heathfield	2,400	1895, p. 438	27	17	95	2,111 0 30	1,221	1,221	339	5 57	209 1 6	4,905 9 9	5,114 11 3	..	92 8 2	5,250 0 0
Totals	10,732	..	93	73	260	9,879 1 4	3,075	3,075	873	27 2	678 10 6	14,022 0 1	14,700 10 7	..	92 8 2	16,010 0 0
Southland—																
Waikawa	1,768	1891, p. 585	16	9	51	1,196 0 11	695¼	678¼	174	4 42	197 15 0	3,298 4 7	3,495 19 7	..	..	3,994 8 7
		1895, p. 1222														
		1895, p. 1445														
Haldane	2,200	1895, p. 176	24	22	78	2,241 2 7	966¼	903¾	199	3 58¾	342 0 0	3,315 11 5	3,657 11 5	..	..	4,158 0 5
Papatotara	1,480	1894, p. 618	15	10	38	1,058 3 16	614½	607¼	80	1 75	65 0 0	2,387 11 1	2,452 11 1	..	..	2,577 9 7
Moturimu	670	1895, p. 1526	14	11	54	481 0 20	149½	139½	48	..	170 0 0	344 2 0	514 2 0	..	..	1,050 3 6
Totals	6,118	..	69	52	221	4,977 2 14	2,425½	2,328¾	501	10 15¾	774 15 0	9,345 9 1	10,120 4 1	..	..	11,780 2 1
Grand totals ..	73,820	..	745	513	1,854	50,226 1 31	15,141½	20,814¼	9,244	185 36¾	6,269 11 9	51,059 4 8	57,328 16 5	1,616 9 0	2,680 12 5	84,167 19 0

Table 34.—RETURN of LANDS disposed of under the Land for Settlements Acts for the Year which ended 31st March, 1899.

Name of Estate.	Date when Land opened for Selection.	Area acquired, including ascertained Surplus or Deficiency.	Area occupied by Roads and Reserves unlet.	Area of Land Unlet, including Land Forfeited, Surrendered, or Resumed and not Relet, and also Land not yet offered for Selection.	New Selections and Addition to Holdings during the Year.			Total Lands Leased at Date.			Yearly Value of Unlet Land at 31st March, 1899.	Occupied Land.			Arrears on 31st March, 1899.			Rent and other Payments received during the Year.	Total Receipts from Inception to 31st March, 1899.
					No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rent payable.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rent now payable.		No. of Houses on Holdings.	No. of Souls resident on Holdings.	Value of Improvements.	No.	Are	Rent in Arrear.		
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland—																			
Opouriao	Feb. 12, 1896	7,604 0 0	264 2 0	384 1 21	1	0 2 0	1 0 0	64	6,955 0 19	1,390 15 8	45 11 2	56	199	11,942 0 0	13	1,398 0 39	98 14 4	931 11 6	3,379 15 7
Okauia	Feb. 21, 1898	5,920 0 0	1,606 2 0	747 2 0	5	2,715 0 0	115 7 10	7	3,566 0 0	135 3 10	149 14 0	*	*	..	..	..	..	49 19 5	59 17 5
Rangiatea	June 22, 1898	4,004 0 0	149 3 0	753 0 0	17	3,101 1 0	564 6 2	17	3,101 1 0	564 6 2	147 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	348 13 10	348 13 10
Karapiro	Oct. 21, 1898	2,270 3 9	90 1 30	69 1 0	13	2,111 0 19	394 15 0	13	2,111 0 19	394 15 0	19 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	‡197 18 1	‡197 18 1
Hawke's Bay—																			
Raureka	May 6, 1896	427 2 0	11 1 2	..	..	..	..	20	416 0 38	543 2 0	..	17	84	1,821 5 0	2	112 1 1	64 15 6	561 8 6	1,420 19 5
Elsthorpe	June 24, 1896	9,740 0 0	192 0 20	4 3 20	..	..	..	36	9,543 0 0	2,302 13 0	5 16 0	23	92	5,836 17 0	..	..	..	2,218 6 6	6,665 4 0
Waimarie	Sept. 9, 1896	430 1 30	4 2 16	..	..	..	..	18	425 3 14	463 0 0	..	15	60	1,413 18 0	2	18 0 26	10 1 0	424 14 6	998 1 6
Pouparae	April 21, 1897	337 3 4	1 1 32	..	..	..	..	9	336 1 12	405 8 0	..	8	27	786 15 0	..	..	..	346 3 0	635 19 0
Mahora	Mar. 22, 1899	1,133 3 0	21 1 5	268 1 27	27	844 0 8	1,260 1 8	27	844 0 8	1,260 1 8	371 11 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	546 11 7	546 11 7
Tomoana	Mar. 2, 1898	111 3 38	1 3 35	..	..	..	..	13	110 0 3	135 2 0	..	9	34	1,314 15 0	..	..	..	60 9 0	128 0 0
Willows..	Mar. 22, 1899	775 1 36	..	190 1 0	16	585 0 36	573 10 4	16	585 0 36	573 10 4	184 19 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	286 15 2	286 15 2
Wellington—																			
Paparangi	Feb. 28, 1898	322 3 32	24 2 31	12 3 20	13	72 3 31	89 14 4	32	285 1 21	284 11 6	22 10 0	23	92	1,347 0 0	1	11 3 7	5 6 2	169 18 9	312 0 10
Marlborough—																			
Blind River	Jan. 16, 1895	5,020 0 0	344 0 0	..	..	..	..	19	5,163 0 0	888 10 11	..	16	95	4,201 15 6	14	4,114 0 0	701 5 9	§712 9 0	§2,170 0 6
Leasehold surrendered		487 0 0																	
Omaka	June 24, 1896	3,898 0 0	60 1 0	..	..	..	..	13	3,837 3 0	589 6 8	..	12	55	3,348 15 0	4	1,059 0 0	97 8 2	294 7 11	1,405 4 7
Puhipuhi	Feb. 25, 1897	320 0 0	..	320 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 5 0	33 0 0
Starborough, part Flaxbourne, and Exchange	Mar. 13, 1899	34,224 0 0	608 0 0	3,949 0 0	43	31,292 0 0	4,893 10 10	43	31,292 0 0	4,893 10 10	928 10 4	3	..	215 0 0	..	..	..	2,371 6 1	2,371 6 1
Crown Leasehold surrend'd		1,625 0 0																	
Canterbury—																			
Pareora..	Jan. 18, 1894	620 2 13	8 2 38	..	..	..	..	28	611 3 15	396 18 6	..	26	105	1,950 4 6	6	143 3 9	46 1 7	348 0 3	1,743 0 1
Studholme Junction ..	Jan. 18, 1894	109 0 7	4 1 39	..	..	..	..	4	104 2 8	73 4 6	..	3	13	257 18 0	..	..	..	68 1 1	353 10 3
Kapua	Jan. 24, 1894	574 1 22	2 0 0	..	..	..	..	12	572 1 22	270 3 4	..	12	40	1,102 5 0	4	181 1 29	97 9 4	213 8 6	1,154 8 10
Rosebrook	June 26, 1895	600 1 8	..	..	..	..	..	14	600 1 8	307 13 6	..	14	63	1,667 17 6	2	106 3 9	25 18 3	230 7 0	1,064 6 2
Otaio	June 26, 1895	373 3 14	6 2 21	..	..	..	..	9	367 0 33	216 14 8	..	9	25	842 14 6	3	135 2 17	41 15 9	188 17 8	738 4 6
Patoa	Nov. 27, 1895	4,535 3 14	17 3 26	..	..	293 0 0	14 13 0	4	4,517 3 28	170 16 6	..	2	5	813 0 0	..	..	..	579 5 8	517 10 4
The Peaks	Aug. 1, 1895	2,811 0 9	12 0 0	..	..	..	..	12	2,799 0 9	196 12 6	..	1	1	1,142 0 0	..	..	..		609 18 1
Roimata	Aug. 14, 1895	48 3 37	4 1 14	..	..	..	..	26	44 2 23	138 10 0	..	26	115	3,406 0 0	..	..	..	149 2 0	492 13 6
Kereta	Dec. 4, 1895	105 2 29	..	..	..	..	..	4	105 2 29	82 18 0	..	4	27	523 5 6	..	..	..	72 18 0	280 3 0
Braco	Nov. 27, 1895	27 2 4	..	..	..	..	..	14	27 2 4	72 8 4	..	13	36	773 0 0	..	..	..	80 6 6	232 19 5
Epworth	Nov. 27, 1895	21 0 3	..	..	..	..	..	2	21 0 3	13 11 2	..	1	4	80 0 0	..	..	..	6 15 7	34 17 11
Ashley Gorge	Dec. 4, 1895	1,165 3 6	4 2 4	..	..	..	..	10	1,161 1 2	258 1 0	..	11	46	2,405 0 0	..	..	..	279 9 10	900 15 6
Omihi Valley	Dec. 29, 1897	20 0 0	..	20 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Orakipaoa	June 22, 1896	384 0 31	..	..	..	..	..	27	384 0 31	397 10 8	..	13	70	1,363 18 0	2	34 1 20	8 10 9	372 0 1	1,137 3 7
Highbank	June 24, 1896	9,121 3 8	86 3 30	10 0 0	..	..	..	72	9,024 3 18	3,039 3 4	5 0 0	62	214	9,323 17 0	5	342 1 38	44 17 2	2,326 3 11	8,668 13 5
Otarakaro	Mar. 24, 1897	39 3 9	..	..	..	..	..	7	39 3 9	111 18 0	..	7	35	770 0 0	2	12 2 31	11 3 5	92 14 8	161 16 5
Wharenui	Mar. 24, 1897	73 1 10	..	2 0 0	3	6 2 4	33 15 0	25	71 1 10	285 2 8	6 12 0	18	66	1,444 0 0	2	17 0 0	10 13 10	233 19 2	465 2 6
Rakitairi	Mar. 22, 1897	3,526 1 16	3 3 22	188 2 0	..	..	..	21	3,333 3 34	1,009 7 6	52 8 2	15	68	2,535 10 6	2	453 3 0	60 12 1	728 14 11	1,787 6 10
Waiapi	Mar. 22, 1897	1,124 2 36	..	..	..	..	..	15	1,124 2 36	518 19 10	..	15	55	2,278 19 7	..	..	..	487 16 2	1,006 16 0
Horsley Down ..	May 31, 1897	3,982 3 35	36 2 16	..	..	..	..	25	3,946 1 19	1,072 3 0	..	24	76	7,508 0 0	..	..	..	1,088 12 6	2,515 10 0
Albury	April 12, 1897	19,539 1 24	128 3 2	219 3 38	..	..	..	74	19,190 2 24	3,434 2 0	37 3 2	49	184	9,226 13 6	11	7,016 2 20	256 15 6	2,510 19 1	5,500 18 2
R.S. 36469, Cannington (R.S. 1862) ..	April 12, 1897	26 2 24	..	6 2 24	..	..	..	1	20 0 0	3 7 4	11 11 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 7 4	5 1 0
Marawiti	May 7, 1897	2,028 2 33	2 0 0	..	..	..	..	13	2,026 2 33	748 15 10	..	13	64	1,743 9 0	1	25 0 0	5 6 3	494 12 5	1,239 14 3
Hekeao	Mar. 9, 1898	2,254 2 11	68 1 26	30 0 0	1	10 0 0	3 0 0	10	2,156 0 25	617 0 2	9 0 0	5	24	1,718 5 6	..	..	..	313 0 1	620 0 2
Waikakahi	Mar. 20, 1899	48,248 0 21	744 3 19	6,426 2 11	139	41,076 2 31	14,838 14 10	139	41,076 2 31	14,838 14 10	1,922 6 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,434 9 5	7,434 9 5
Pawaho .. .	April 5, 1898	52 0 18	1 3 14	7 0 22	21	43 0 22	108 14 6	21	43 0 22	108 14 6	6 10 4	7	14	385 10 0	1	7 0 22	2 4 10	90 12 5	90 12 5
Otago—																			
Pomahaka†	Feb. 20, 1894	7,478 2 2	234 3 39	323 3 17	2	626 3 2	86 7 0	26	6,919 2 26	1,375 7 8	48 13 0	23	75	4,751 18 0	6	1,436 0 28	126 3 4	2,080 6 10	4,131 18 3
Teanaraki†	Feb. 7, 1894	351 0 39	6 3 9	30 0 0	..	..	..	20	314 1 30	267 9 10	27 5 0	15	54	1,117 0 0	10	135 3 35	97 8 4	194 17 5	1,131 15 1
Tahawai†	Aug. 21, 1895	70 1 35	1 3 21	..	..	..	..	8	68 2 14	35 14 4	..	8	29	667 0 0	..	..	..	33 15 4	119 15 1
Maerewhenua† ..	Sept. 10, 1895	11,163 3 31	250 2 3	3 0 0	..	..	..	70	10,910 1 28	3,550 4 0	0 15 0	59	221	9,764 5 9	5	948 0 0	295 15 4	1,990 8 10	10,587 19 5
Puketapu	Mar. 18, 1896	509 0 6	12 3 10	..	..	..	..	11	496 0 36	213 16 0	..	8	23	763 8 7	..	..	..	159 14 6	509 18 6
Ardgowan†	May 12, 1896	4,268 3 28	106 0 24	19 0 29	..	..	..	63	4,143 2 15	1,894 19 8	9 11 10	50	199	7,009 19 1	1	33 0 6	11 4 0	1,257 4 11	4,888 17 1
Makareao†	June 26, 1896	2,383 0 4	259 1 3	..	..	..	..	31	2,123 3 1	378 19 6	..	15	55	1,494 11 9	15	578 2 1	102 4 4	396 14 4	873 0 10
Makareao Extension† ..	April 14, 1897	2,573 3 6	3 0 37	..	..	..	..	4	2,570 2 9	296 15 4	..	3	6	596 10 0	..	..	..		296 15 4
Momona†	May 10, 1897	224 0 15	5 0 0	..	..	..	..	14	219 0 15	210 3 0	..	14	49	1,808 12 6	1	6 0 37	0 13 0	186 12 10	398 11 6
Tokarahi†	May 11, 1897	11,259 2 36	473 3 13	4 0 27	3	3 0 20	3 2 6	51	10,781 2 36	4,114 5 2	3 16 10	39	116	6,665 14 6	10	2,726 1 3	564 10 4	2,880 18 7	5,679 12 0
Southland—																			
Merrivale	Dec. 18, 1895	9,998 0 0	543 2 20	479 1 20	..	..	..	42	8,975 0 0	1,362 7 8	51 15 2	33	132	6,422 0 0	7	1,332 1 0	140 19 3	1,171 10 10	4,549 19 7
Otahu	Nov. 4, 1897	6,044 0 29	128 2 25	1,668 1 36	3	2,748 1 3	230 10 4	6	4,247 0 8	306 5 2	100 7 10	2	5	318 15 0	1	554 1 0	6 18 6	201 6 6	264 3 11
Beaumont†	Jan. 26, 1898	4,322 3 20	21 1 5	2,019 0 3	4	1,502 1 3	210 6 0	6	2,282 2 12	339 7 4	229 10 0	4	10	433 0 0	..	..	..	145 19 3	210 9 11
Westland—																			
Poerua	June 26, 1896	3,230 1 6	101 3 6	639 2 0	..	..	..	16	2,489 0 0	195 14 6	75 0 8	8	15	1,836 15 0	1	87 0 0	3 10 8	182 7 11	558 12 1
Totals	..	243,947 2 8	6,664 2 17	18,796 3 35	311	87,031 3 19	23,421 10 2	1,304	218,485 3 36	57,747 18 5	4,503 3 0	813	3,077	129,133 18 9	134	23,027 3 18	2,938 6 9	38,804 10 2	93,916 7 11

* *Note.*—When the numbers in occupation and the amount of improvements are not given the leaseholds have not been inspected or the quantities are nil. † Old closed roads and small areas of Crown lands added. ‡ £7 17s. 9d. additional received, but not credited to estate; will be adjusted following year.
§ £46 5s. 3d, excess credit in this estate; will be adjusted following year. ‖ This was resumed along with run No. 126, Marlborough, and 240 acres were relet in May, 1899.

ESTATE acquired but not dealt with at 31st March, 1899.

	Acres.
Marlborough—	
Richmond Brook	5,158
Canterbury—	
R.S. 2682	7

Table 35.—Statement showing Outlay and Income of Estates purchased under the Land for Settlements Acts, 1892 and 1894.

(Continued from Table No. 40 of 1897–98.)

Name of Estate.	Date of Purchase.	Outlay.		Income.	
		Particulars.	Amount.	Particulars.	Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Studholme Junction	27 July, 1893	Balance from previous year	1,413 12 9	Rents paid	68 1 1
		Incidental expenses ..	0 8 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	12 12 3
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	7 8 10		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	38 19 8	Balance	1,379 15 11
		Total	1,460 9 3	Total	1,460 9 3
Pareora ..	16 Aug., 1893	Balance from previous year	7,101 3 0	Rents paid	348 0 3
		Incidental expenses ..	1 10 1	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	201 3 1
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	156 16 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	196 0 6	Balance	6,906 6 3
		Total	7,455 9 7	Total	7,455 9 7
Pomahaka ..	10 Oct., 1893	Balance from previous year	23,197 4 11	Rents paid	2,080 6 10
		Incidental expenses ..	152 9 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	576 13 6
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	1,555 14 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	657 14 11	Balance	22,906 3 9
		Total	25,563 4 1	Total	25,563 4 1
Kapua ..	11 Nov., 1893	Balance from previous year	4,709 7 9	Rents paid	213 8 6
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	65 12 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	140 3 10
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	128 1 5	Balance	4,549 8 10
		Total	4,903 1 2	Total	4,903 1 2
Te Anaraki ..	31 Jan., 1894	Balance from previous year	5,357 9 7	Rents paid	194 17 5
		Incidental expenses ..	36 3 4	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	219 1 7
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	177 11 2		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	149 10 3	Balance	5,306 15 4
		Total	5,720 14 4	Total	5,720 14 4
Blind River	20 Aug., 1894	Balance from previous year	16,586 5 5	Rents paid	712 9 0
		Incidental expenses ..	7 6 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	1,098 2 9
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	985 10 5		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	459 15 10	Balance	16,228 5 11
		Total	18,038 17 8	Total	18,038 17 8
Rosebrook ..	15 Feb., 1895	Balance from previous year	5,891 3 9	Rents paid	230 7 0
		Incidental expenses ..	0 9 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	149 13 3
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	89 19 8		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	162 16 11	Balance	5,764 9 1
		Total	6,144 9 4	Total	6,144 9 4
Otaio ..	25 Feb., 1895	Balance from previous year	4,129 3 3	Rents paid	188 17 8
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	112 17 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	140 14 2
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	113 16 9	Balance	4,026 5 4
		Total	4,355 17 2	Total	4,355 17 2
Merrivale ..	17 Apl., 1895	Balance from previous year	26,928 10 2	Rents paid	1,171 10 10
		Incidental expenses ..	5 6 6	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	583 3 5
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	879 15 11		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	756 1 6	Balance	26,814 19 10
		Total	28,569 14 1	Total	28,569 14 1
Tahawai ..	25 Apl., 1895	Balance from previous year	600 2 1	Rents paid	33 15 4
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	20 9 5	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	4 0 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	17 0 10	Balance	599 17 0
		Total	637 12 4	Total	637 12 4
Patoa, and Peak's Farm	3 May, 1895	Balance from previous year	6,689 17 7	Rents paid	579 5 8
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	415 18 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	23 9 4
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	189 8 4	Balance	6,692 9 7
		Total	7,295 4 7	Total	7,295 4 7

Table 35.—Statement showing Outlay and Income of Estates purchased, &c.—*continued*

Name of Estate.	Date of Purchase.	Outlay.		Income.	
		Particulars.	Amount.	Particulars.	Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Roimata ..	29 June, 1895	Balance from previous year	2,685 0 7	Rents paid	149 2 0
		Incidental expenses ..	3 14 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	5 5 6
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	77 5 9		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	75 17 5	Balance	2,687 10 5
		Total	2,841 17 11	Total	2,841 17 11
Kereta ..	24 July, 1895	Balance from previous year	1,537 15 11	Rents paid	72 18 0
		Incidental expenses ..	0 9 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	10 0 0
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	41 9 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	43 11 2	Balance	1,540 7 1
		Total	1,623 5 1	Total	1,623 5 1
Maerewhenua	27 July, 1895	Balance from previous year	66,225 16 6	Rents paid	1,990 8 10
		Incidental expenses ..	3 4 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	1,860 11 2
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	2,063 7 10		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1,874 12 4	Balance	66,316 0 10
		Total	70,167 0 10	Total	70,167 0 10
Braco ..	5 Aug., 1895	Balance from previous year	1,355 4 0	Rents paid	80 6 6
		Incidental expenses ..	6 8 3	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	6 1 6
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	52 11 3		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	38 11 6	Balance	1,366 7 0
		Total	1,452 15 0	Total	1,452 15 0
Ashley Gorge	9 Aug., 1895	Balance from previous year	4,892 3 8	Rents paid	279 9 10
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	141 6 4	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	21 8 10
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	137 11 10	Balance	4,870 3 2
		Total	5,171 1 10	Total	5,171 1 10
Epworth ..	14 Aug., 1895	Balance from previous year	254 5 0	Rents paid	6 15 7
		Incidental expenses ..	0 9 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	6 15 7
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	6 15 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	7 4 3	Balance	255 2 8
		Total	268 13 10	Total	268 13 10
Puketapu ..	18 Nov., 1895	Balance from previous year	3,518 0 9	Rents paid	159 14 6
		Incidental expenses ..	6 14 9	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	16 13 8
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	8 6 2		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	97 8 2	Balance ..	3,454 1 8
		Total	3,630 9 10	Total	3,630 9 10
Omihi S.R.	16 Jan., 1896	Balance from previous year	288 19 5		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	7 19 10	Balance	296 19 3
		Total	296 19 3	Total	296 19 3
Poerua ..	3 Feb., 1896	Balance from previous year	4,587 9 8	Rents paid	182 7 11
		Incidental expenses ..	319 10 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	39 3 11
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	46 8 6		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	135 17 0	Balance	4,867 13 4
		Total	5,089 5 2	Total	5,089 5 2
Raureka ..	9 Mar., 1896	Balance from previous year	10,231 9 10	Rents paid	561 8 6
		Incidental expenses ..	0 10 7	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	236 14 0
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	255 0 6		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	282 2 0	Balance	9,971 0 5
		Total	10,769 2 11	Total	10,769 2 11
Opouriao ..	20 Mar., 1896	Balance from previous year	24,136 7 7	Rents paid	931 11 6
		Rents accrued, included in former accounts ..	1,207 19 1	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	616 16 3
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	694 10 0	Balance	24,490 8 11
		Total	26,038 16 8	Total	26,038 16 8

Table 35.—STATEMENT showing OUTLAY and INCOME of ESTATES PURCHASED, &c.—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Date of Purchase.	Outlay. Particulars.	Outlay. Amount.	Income. Particulars.	Income. Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Orakipaoa ..	20 Mar., 1896	Balance from previous year	7,628 1 10	Rents paid	372 0 1
		Incidental expenses ..	1 10 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	49 1 7
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	30 3 3		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	210 8 8	Balance	7,449 2 1
		Total	7,870 3 9	Total	7,870 3 9
Omaka ..	20 Apl., 1896	Balance from previous year	10,912 13 10	Rents paid	294 7 11
		Incidental expenses ..	32 7 9	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	362 15 5
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	67 16 8		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	301 14 9	Balance	10,657 9 8
		Total	11,314 13 0	Total	11,314 13 0
Elsthorpe ..	21 Apl., 1896	Balance from previous year	43,664 2 1	Rents paid	2,218 6 6
	27 Nov., 1896	Incidental expenses ..	201 17 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	327 16 0
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	323 1 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1,211 12 8	Balance	42,854 10 5
		Total	45,400 12 11	Total	45,400 12 11
Makareao ..	12 May, 1896	Balance from previous year	14,401 1 0	Rents paid	396 14 4
	14 Dec., 1896	Incidental expenses ..	4,685 9 10	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	422 7 10
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	158 5 8		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	526 10 0	Balance	18,952 4 4
		Total	19,771 6 6	Total	19,771 6 6
Highbank ..	18 May, 1896	Balance from previous year	58,338 18 5	Rents paid	2,326 3 11
		Incidental expenses ..	4 12 6	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	997 8 4
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	242 16 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1,607 6 4	Balance	56,870 1 7
		Total	60,193 13 10	Total	60,193 13 10
Ardgowan ..	23 May, 1896	Balance from previous year	37,799 6 7	Rents paid	1,257 4 11
		Incidental expenses ..	20 6 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	822 3 8
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	207 7 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1,043 0 8	Balance	36,990 12 5
		Total	39,070 1 0	Total	39,070 1 0
Waimarie ..	21 July, 1896	Balance from previous year	8,658 15 3	Rents paid	424 14 6
		Incidental expenses ..	101 2 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	65 1 6
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	40 7 6		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	241 10 3	Balance	8,551 19 2
		Total	9,041 15 2	Total	9,041 15 2
Otarakaro ..	4 Sept., 1896	Balance from previous year	2,091 4 5	Rents paid	92 14 8
		Incidental expenses ..	5 1 3	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	45 5 4
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	40 17 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	58 0 0	Balance	2,057 3 3
		Total	2,195 3 3	Total	2,195 3 3
Wharenui ..	28 Oct., 1896	Balance from previous year	4,983 1 6	Rents paid	233 19 2
		Incidental expenses ..	63 11 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	36 15 8
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	3 17 5		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	139 2 9	Balance	4,918 18 6
		Total	5,189 13 4	Total	5,189 13 4
Tomoana ..	31 Dec., 1896	Balance from previous year	2,523 6 7	Rents paid	60 9 0
		Incidental expenses ..	16 12 3	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	19 12 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	70 0 6	Balance	2,529 18 4
		Total	2,609 19 4	Total	2,609 19 4
Horsley Down	1 Jan., 1897	Balance from previous year	20,133 11 3	Rents paid	1,088 12 6
		Incidental expenses ..	1 14 4	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	6 16 0
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	22 15 6		19,617 15 2
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	555 2 7	Balance	
		Total	20,713 3 8	Total	20,713 3 8

Table 35.—STATEMENT showing OUTLAY and INCOME of ESTATES PURCHASED, &c.—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Date of Purchase.	Outlay. Particulars.	Outlay. Amount.	Income. Particulars.	Income. Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Pouparae ..	31 Jan., 1897	Balance from previous year less error of 10s. ..	7,905 16 8	Rents paid	346 3 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	217 19 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	58 15 0
				Balance	7,718 18 4
		Total	8,123 16 4	Total	8,123 16 4
Rakitairi ..	31 Mar., 1897	Balance from previous year	19,487 9 7	Rents paid	728 14 11
		Incidental expenses ..	1 16 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	315 13 10
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	4 19 9		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	537 9 1	Balance	18,987 5 8
		Total	20,031 14 5	Total	20,031 14 5
Waiapi ..	31 Mar., 1897	Balance from previous year	9,530 8 6	Rents paid	487 16 2
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	27 5 11	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	31 3 8
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	263 10 2	Balance	9,302 4 9
		Total	9,821 4 7	Total	9,821 4 7
Albury ..	31 Mar., 1897	Balance from previous year	65,652 12 1	Rents paid	2,510 19 1
		Incidental expenses ..	181 3 3	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	1,162 15 9
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	477 0 2		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1,815 19 6	Balance	64,453 0 2
		Total	68,126 15 0	Total	68,126 15 0
Puhipuhi ..	14 Apl., 1897	Balance from previous year	312 7 1	Rents paid	8 5 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	8 12 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	8 5 0
				Balance	304 9 3
		Total	320 19 3	Total	320 19 3
Momona ..	26 Apl., 1897	Balance from previous year	3,571 19 10	Rents paid	186 12 10
		Incidental expenses ..	51 10 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	26 5 10
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	2 13 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	99 18 0	Balance	3,513 2 2
		Total	3,726 0 10	Total	3,726 0 10
Tokarahi ..	26 Apl., 1897	Balance from previous year	78,224 7 6	Rents paid	2,880 18 7
		Incidental expenses ..	82 15 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	2,592 8 0
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	1,378 12 7		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	2,158 4 11	Balance	76,370 13 5
		Total	81,844 0 0	Total	81,844 0 0
Marawhiti ..	26 Apl., 1897	Balance from previous year	14,324 17 2	Rents paid	494 12 5
		Incidental expenses ..	0 15 0	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	257 17 5
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	3 14 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	394 19 1	Balance	13,971 15 5
		Total	14,724 5 3	Total	14,724 5 3
Cannington	5 June, 1897	Balance from previous year	64 17 7	Rents paid	3 7 4
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1 15 9	Balance	63 6 0
		Total	66 13 4	Total	66 13 4
Paparangi ..	23 July, 1897	Balance from previous year	4,684 0 6	Rents paid	169 18 9
		Incidental expenses ..	1,919 9 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	34 11 5
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	182 1 3	Balance	6,581 0 9
		Total	6,785 10 11	Total	6,785 10 11
Otahu ..	4 Aug., 1897	Balance from previous year	8,106 17 2	Rents paid	201 6 6
		Incidental expenses ..	322 18 7	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	44 15 11
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	232 8 2	Balance	8,416 1 6
		Total	8,662 3 11	Total	8,662 3 11
Beaumont ..	9 Dec., 1897	Balance from previous year	10,639 13 5	Rents paid	145 19 3
		Incidental expenses ..	18 3 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	124 8 1
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	294 18 9		
		Rents accrued, included in former account ..	40 0 0	Balance	10,722 8 6
		Total	10,992 15 10	Total	10,992 15 10

Table 35.—STATEMENT showing OUTLAY and INCOME of ESTATES PURCHASED, &c.—*continued.*

Name of estates.	Date of Purchase.	Outlay.		Income.	
		Particulars.	Amount.	Particulars.	Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Pawaho ..	3 Mar., 1898	Balance from previous year	1,858 0 7	Rents paid	90 12 5
		Incidental expenses ..	105 5 8	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	15 12 9
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	54 2 7	Balance	1,911 3 8
		Total	2,017 8 10	Total	2,017 8 10
Hekeao ..	8 Mar., 1898	Balance from previous year	10,605 11 5	Rents paid	313 0 1
		Incidental expenses ..	679 14 4	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	6 0 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	311 2 8	Balance	11,277 8 4
		Total	11,596 8 5	Total	11,596 8 5
Okauia ..	23 Mar., 1898	Balance from previous year	4,177 8 7	Rents paid	49 19 5
		Incidental expenses ..	590 5 2	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	9 18 0
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	131 8 11	Balance	4,839 5 3
		Total	4,899 2 8	Total	4,899 2 8
Rangiatea ..	24 Mar., 1898	Balance from previous year	14,146 4 11	Rents paid	348 13 10
		Incidental expenses ..	190 4 10	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899	157 1 7
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	395 5 2	Balance	14,225 19 6
		Total	14,731 14 11	Total	14,731 14 11
Karapiro ..	27 Oct., 1898	Purchase-money ..	8,364 4 6	Rents paid	197 18 1
		Incidental expenses ..	79 12 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	98 17 1	Balance	8,344 15 6
		Total	8,542 13 7	Total	8,542 13 7
R.S. 2682 ..	18 Nov., 1898	Purchase-money ..	105 0 0		
		Incidental expenses ..	4 13 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	1 2 6	Balance	110 15 6
		Total	110 15 6	Total	110 15 6
Starborough	27 Mar., 1899	Purchase-money ..	99,350 0 0	Rents paid	2,371 6 1
		Incidental expenses ..	1,355 4 6		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	30 8 6	Balance	98,364 6 11
		Total	100,735 13 0	Total	100,735 13 0
Waikakahi	27 Mar., 1899	Purchase-money ..	323,456 17 1	Rents paid	7,434 9 5
		Incidental expenses ..	1,693 10 9		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	98 4 9	Balance	317,814 3 2
		Total	325,248 12 7	Total	325,248 12 7
Mahora ..	27 Mar., 1899	Purchase-money ..	31,178 2 6	Rents paid	546 11 7
		Incidental expenses ..	112 15 10		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	9 9 0	Balance	30,753 15 9
		Total	31,300 7 4	Total	31,300 7 4
Willows ..	27 Mar., 1899	Purchase-money ..	14,734 10 0	Rents paid	286 15 2
		Incidental expenses ..	23 4 9		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	4 9 1	Balance	14,475 8 8
		Total	14,762 3 10	Total	14,762 3 10
Tamai ..	27 Mar, 1899	Purchase-money ..	2,662 11 3		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	0 16 1	Balance	2,663 7 4
		Total	2,663 7 4	Total	2,663 7 4
Richmond Brook	27 Mar., 1899	Purchase-money ..	21,921 10 0		
		Incidental expenses ..	37 19 0		
		Interest to 31st March, 1899	6 9 0	Balance	21,965 18 0
		Total	21,965 18 0	Total	21,965 18 0

Table 35—*continued.*—Land for Settlements Account.

SUMMARY.

Outlay.				Income.			
Particulars.	Amount.			Particulars.	Amount.		
Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance from previous year, less error of 10s.	690,536	17	8	Rents paid	38,804	10	2
Purchase-moneys	501,772	15	4	Rents accrued to 31st March, 1899 ..	13,969	3	2
Roads, and other incidental expenses of estates paid for at 31st March, 1899 ..	13,129	18	1				
Incidental expenses of estates not paid for at 31st March, 1899, including £27 9s. deducted in 1897–98 account, and deducting £2 7s. 2d. erroneously included in 1897–98 account.. ..	58	8	4				
Miscellaneous expenses incidental to estates declined or not yet accepted ..	2,676	18	2				
Land-purchase Inspector's salary ..	800	0	0				
Rents accrued, included in former accounts	12,197	13	0				
Interest to 31st March, 1899	19,578	13	5	Balance	1,187,977	10	8
Total	1,240,751	4	0	Total	1,240,751	4	0

SELECTORS AND LAND SELECTED.

Table No. 36.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of SELECTORS and LANDS selected under SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS for the Ten Years ended 31st March, 1899.

Year ending 31st March,	Cash.		Deferred Payment.		Perpetual Lease.		Lease in Perpetuity.		Occupation with Right o Purchase.		Agricultural Lease.		Occupation Leases.*	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1890	543	46,922	304	41,376	756	236,905	..	..	..	..	1	53	..	..
1891	573	100,014	258	34,091	788	288,917	..	..	..	..	4	551	..	..
1892	492	40,501	223	40,467	824	282,547	..	..	..	..	2	90	..	..
1893	552	36,326	169	21,084	385	122,557	126	55,320	161	54,271	4	193	..	..
1894†	497	34,998	96	12,669	17	3,854	612	179,993	461	108,133	5	365	..	..
1895†	392	38,694	47	5,453	3	1,263	372	91,799	398	75,477	2	44	..	..
1896†	476	26,574	6	456	7	1,427	696	122,350	431	84,968	3	36	69	2,931
1897†	388	28,485	..	..	19	9,106	659	104,927	277	59,648	2	13	48	2,817
1898†	272	22,525	..	..	2	651	599	117,938	380	81,414	5	258	23	1,285
1899†	534	37,400	1	13	1	640	675	159,415	458	109,950	2	114	31	1,449

Year ending 31st March,	Village Settlement: Cash.		Village Settlement: Deferred Payment.		Village Settlement: Perpetual Lease.		Village-homestead Special Settlement.		Special-settlement Associations.		Homestead.		Small Grazing-runs and Grazing-farms.		Totals.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1890	159	656	75	782	76	1,729	20	270	46	4,970	19	1,751	35	60,340	2,034	395,754
1891	87	210	51	369	56	954	10	350	2	71	9	945	43	86,161	1,881	512,634
1892	89	429	23	182	59	893	140	2,213	13	1,922	8	1,010	80	159,464	1,953	529,720
1893	75	528	29	390	{164 §2	2,636 §4}	33	493	838	157,381	1	38	39	92,926	2,578	544,153
1894†	3	2	‡5	‡1	§208	§3,953	118	2,549	290	68,852	..	..	142	252,693	2,454	668,064
1895†	23	23	‡30	‡23	§232	§4,050	60	2,742	262	51,345	‖107	‖9,731	60	117,845	1,988	398,497
1896†	16	9	‡3	‡2	§193	§3,364	19	794	238	44,237	‖315	‖28,348	32	46,407	2,504	361,904
1897†	4	4	‡4	‡4	§102	§1,317	18	360	142	28,084	‖45	‖4,882	27	68,934	1,735	308,581
1898†	2	1	‡2	‡2	§92	§1,426	9	42	5	442	‖77	‖9,007	71	149,458	1,539	384,449
1899†	21	30	‡3	‡2	§106	§2,115	12	134	5	607	‖64	‖4,823	40	77,632	1,953	394,324

* "Mining Districts Land Occupation Act, 1894." † Inclusive of Cheviot Estate, and lands disposed of under the Land for Settlements Acts
‡ Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase. § Village settlement, lease in perpetuity. ‖ Improved farms.

Table 37.—SUMMARY OF RETURNS of FIELD-WORK executed by the STAFF and CONTRACT SURVEYORS, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Topographical Survey for Selections before Survey under "The Land Act, 1892."		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Survey.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Detention by Native Opposition or other Causes.	Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyors and Parties from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.	Cost.	
		d.		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	25,652	1·11	..	..	116,081	437	1·38	140	150	16·75	94,106	166	7·96	3,848	56	3·77	316·88	10·20	..	1,294 10 8	13,390 0 0
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	86,760	120	0·52	510¾	160	25·54	146,904	62	2·32	..	..	..	71·50	25·91	..	1,154 12 2	5,179 10 6
Taranaki	73,600	1·51	..	..	50,858	105	1·38	..	..	..	189	4	51·37	..	..	..	32·44	22·20	..	501 5 9	6,166 0 8
Wellington	609,000	0·34	6,000	1·28	41,501	142	1·7	279½	246	20·01	89,323	80	3·59	..	..	..	154·75	12·12	10 0 0	985 8 4	7,042 6 10
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	115,760	236	0·9	12	46	10·0	..	..	..	1,017	11	4·42	32·92	18·88	..	1,105 4 4	6,558 15 8
Nelson	..	..	..	..	8,817	65	1·96	32	121	12·6	..	..	..	2,996	31	4·9	33·44	14·03	..	1,198 19 9	4,066 1 5
Westland	..	..	..	..	1,972	45	2·18	..	..	..	..	..	..	743	22	9·12	29·00	8·29	..	251 1 1	866 8 6
Canterbury	..	..	7,758	0·9	75,917	224	0·62	89	133	7·7	54½	7	38·97	..	..	..	23·95	26·20	..	487 5 1	2,414 0 8
Otago	..	..	..	..	8,664	95	2·03	16	35	19·0	..	..	..	6,487	168	4·58	34·37	10·03	..	737 9 5	3,058 12 10
Southland	..	..	..	..	34,155	146	1·08	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,551½	48	6·32	1·69	19·52	..	646 3 7	2,149 14 0
Means and totals	708,252	0·49	13,758	1·07	540,485	1,615	1·06	1,079	891	17·08	330,576½	319	4·3	17,642½	336	4·90	730·94	13·61	10 0 0	8,362 0 2	50,891 11 1*

* Total cost does not include mining and rural surveys by contract surveyors paid out of deposits, nor Native Land Court surveys by contract surveyors.

Table 37.—RETURN of Field-work executed by the Staff and Contract Surveyors, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

LAND DISTRICT OF AUCKLAND.

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1897, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
Staff Surveyors.		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
L. Cussen. Great Barrier, King Country, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,187 8 7*	Gold-mining inspection; road explorations, King country; inspection and supervision.
J. Baber. Rotorua, &c. ..	..	..	13,270	11	1·11	..	..	..	2,628	6	10·00	..	..	..	..	..	34 18 0	652 19 9	Generally forest and open; reports, &c.
G. A. Martin. Whangarei, &c. ..	..	..	14,077	32	1·11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10·50	15·00	..	969 1 7	All broken forest land.
A. H. Vickerman. Karioi, &c. ..	..	..	4,716	14	1·45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8·25	15·60	468 8 8	834 3 2	Broken country. "Other work" is road-engineering surveys, King country, reports, &c.
H. D. M. Hazard. Ohinemuri, &c.	..	..	1,398	11	1·83	140	150	16·75	..	..	..	..	..	..	29·50	8·66	450 1 4	812 11 4	"Other work" is chiefly inspection of Native Land Court surveys, mining and other surveys.
T. K. Thompson. Muriwhenua, &c.	..	..	2,550	25	3·25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4·50	7·00	16 0 0	722 4 6	"Other work" is four miles Native boundary.
R. S. Galbraith. Onewhero ..	..	..	6,288	20	1·73	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8·00	14·87	5 0 0	738 9 8	Resurveying old boundaries.
H. F. Edgecumbe. Kaeo ..	..	..	133	8	1·57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2·37	12·63	1 10 0	353 10 9	Generally open land.
A. B. Wright. Various	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100·05	6·50	..	..	Road-engineering surveys.
Temporary Staff.		..																	
W. C. Spencer. King Country ..	..	..	3,278	17	0·83	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29·69	8·82	..	634 1 5	All open land.
H. A. Warner. Hokianga, &c. ..	..	0·98	12,977	2	0·58	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3·25	11·75	29 8 0	673 16 6	Heavy bush.
J. B. Thompson. Opuawhanga, &c.	17,000		6,893	44	1·70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2·00	10·00	150 13 4	871 13 0	Chiefly heavy forest, broken land. "Other work" is road inspections, kauri reports, &c.
E. P. Turner. Rangiriri, &c. ..	..	..	2,415	27	1·92	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18·51	10·31	32 14 6	675 9 9	Chiefly open country.
A. Wilson. Tutamoe, &c. ..	..	..	8,658	34	1·30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17·25	12·29	68 0 0	795 3 1	Broken country, heavy forest. "Other work" is defining State forest boundary, kauri reports, &c.
A. A. Seaton. Onewhero ..	..	..	13,723	53	1·24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8·50	10·74	..	739 1 0	Broken, bush, and open country.
A. J. Mountfort. Awakino ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38·75	15·48	30 0 0	887 9 3	Roads, Awakino district; rough bush country.
E. W. Laseron. Ngaruawahia ..	..	..	6,900	17	1·43	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17·00	13·90	7 16 10	739 17 8	Generally forest land. "Other work": Education Reserves fencing and reports.
Means and Totals.. ..	17,000	0·98	97,276	315	1·28	140	150	16·75	2,628	6	10·00	..	..	..	298·12	10·14	1,294 10 8	12,287 1 0	
Contract Surveyors.																			
E. F. Adams. Thames	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	231	4	1·99	..	..	..	..	
P. Bedlington. Coromandel, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	737	2	21·02	..	..	..	..	..	..	242 19 11	Forest country.
Clare and Palmer. Ohinemuri ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,804	11	9·42	577	8	6·05	..	..	..	..	Open and forest.
Wm. Cussen. King Country ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41,207	15	6·27	195	2	1·84	..	..	..	..	Broken forest country.
O. M. Creagh. Rotorua, &c. ..	..	..	3,343	6	1·30	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	1	11·50	1·17	15·81	..	18 15	

Table 37.—RETURN of FIELD-WORK executed by the STAFF and CONTRACT SURVEYORS, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

LAND DISTRICT OF AUCKLAND—*continued.*

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1897, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Section.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
Contract Surveyors—continued.		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
R. Campbell. Kerikeri	..	..	1,922	5	1·48	..	..	..	87	1	35·72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Open land.
T. C. Denniston. Thames ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	1	0·31	..	..	..	..	
E. de C. Drury. Wharekawa ..	..	..	1,963	13	1·65	..	..	..	1,278	8	5·80	..	..	..	..	..	..	203 12 6	Forest and open.
J. Drummond. Thames ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65	8	56·66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
E. Fairburn. Maramarua ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	520	1	15·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Open land.
J. Goodhall. Whitianga ..	..	..	223	4	3·45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 14 1	" "
Harrison and Foster. Kerikeri, &c.	..	..	647	2	1·56	..	..	..	7,190	36	12·69	40	1	5·75	..	..	..	..	Forest and open land.
W. F. Hammond. Awhitu ..	..	..	495	11	2·02	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50 8 4	Open land.
F. J. Hosking. Maungaru ..	..	..	1,388	5	1·53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43 0 1	All forest.
N. F. J. Haszard. Ohinemuri ..	..	..	26	1	4·61	..	..	..	300	1	9·89	968	14	3·52	..	..	..	..	Open land.
J. Hannah. Waipu, &c. ..	..	..	1,056	14	1·71	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3·37	14·18	..	59 2 2	All forest.
W. Hallett. Hauturu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,179	5	5·21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Forest and open land.
R. C. Jordan. Ohinemuri ..	..	..	108	2	3·24	..	..	..	555	3	8·65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
L. Jackson. Ohinemuri ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95	3	24·00	333	5	3·17	..	..	..	..	" "
N. Kenny. Ohinemuri	..	..	255	3	3·11	..	..	..	20	6	78·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Open land.
A. M. and F. V. Kelly. Opaheke, &c.	..	..	1,274	2	1·10	..	..	..	1,000	3	10·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Forest and open land.
Newton and Mountain. Thames	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104	2	6·69	..	..	..	..	
A. B. Morrow. Fitzroy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	1	3·00	..	..	..	..	Broken forest and open.
R. Neumann. Waoku, &c. ..	..	..	2,026	13	2·64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4·41	12·26	..	110 15 0	
W. C. O'Neill. Mangonui ..	..	..	2,365	15	2·31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	211 7 0	Forest and open.
C. C. Otway. Atiamuri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,140	5	4·99	..	..	..	9·00	8·00	..	..	All open.
F. Pavitt. Te Aroha	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	2	4·15	..	..	..	..	
J. I. Philips. Ongaruhe ..	8,652	1·38	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,217	26	6·91	194	3	1·75	0·81	9·94	..	8 1 0	All broken heavy forest.
J. Reilly. Coromandel	..	..	105	2	3·80	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	2	7·66	..	..	..	..	Forest.
F. B. Sewell. Opotiki	..	..	450	5	3·05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
D. Stubbing. Thames	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76	2	44·05	307	1	3·64	..	..	..	..	Open land.
L. Simpson. Te Tumu	..	..	167	2	2·98	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
J. Simms. Thames	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	2	3·45	..	..	..	..	
I. Stephens. Hokianga	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90	3	36·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 1 0	
A. Templer. Thames	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	170	2	20·00	363	7	1·43	..	..	..	..	
H. M. Wilson. Waiwera, &c. ..	..	..	992	17	2·43	..	..	..	6,748	19	15·15	..	..	..	..	..	..	143 2 4	Forest and open.
Means and Totals.. ..	8,652	1·38	18,805	122	1·87	..	..	..	91,478	160	7·90	3,848	56	3·77	18·76	11·23	..	1,102 19 0	
Grand Means and Totals ..	25,652	1·11	116,081	437	1·38	140	150	16·75	94,106	166	7·96	3,848	56	3·77	316·88	10·20	1,294 10 8	13,390 0 0*	

* Total cost does not include mining surveys and rural surveys by contract surveyors paid from deposits, nor Native Land Court surveys.

LAND DISTRICT OF HAWKE'S BAY.

Staff Surveyors.																					
Llewellyn Smith. Poverty Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	819 7 8	78 1 10	District Surveyor and Land Officer, Gisborne. "Other work" includes field inspections, exploration and location of roads, survey of boundaries of sections, and general departmental duties, &c.
James Hay. Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	14,408	47	1·86	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79 4 3	747 12 7	Forest country. "Other work" includes field inspections, attending Native Land Court, road surveys, &c.
William J. Wheeler. Poverty Bay	..	..	..	..	..	503¼	159	24·6	26,952	49	3·5	..	..	..	17·5	15·25	54 0 0	806 6 8	Forest country. "Other work" includes work in connection with Native Land Purchase Department.
John Mouat. Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	6,802	38	0·45	7½	1	187·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	26·2	111 12 8	377 16 0	"Other work" includes survey of Native claims, inspections, &c.
Thomas Brook. Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	669 3 9	Forest country. Ngapaeruru plans unfinished.
P. Dalziel. Poverty Bay ..	..	..	27,682	15	0·18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	320 19 0	Surveys in hand carried forward to next year.
Temporary Staff.																			
John Roddick. Poverty Bay ..	..	..	35,023	9	0·14	..	..	..	119952	13	2·06	..	..	..	..	..	..	839 7 2	Forest country. "Other work" includes Native Land Court surveys and road surveys.
J. Stevenson. Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	1,728	10	2·60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	32·75	34 5 3	573 18 1	"Other work" includes engineering surveys, &c.
H. K. Hovell. Poverty Bay ..	..	..	1,117	1	1·05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56 2 4	57 5 5	From January, 1899. "Other work" includes survey of Native township, exploring for roads, &c.
Means and Totals.. ..	..	..	86,760	120	0·52	510¾	160	25·54	146904	62	2·32	..	..	..	71·5	25·91	1,154 12 2	5,179 10 6	

Table 37.—RETURN of FIELD-WORK executed by the STAFF and CONTRACT SURVEYORS, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

LAND DISTRICT OF TARANAKI.

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Section.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
Staff Surveyors.		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
H. M. Skeet (District Surveyor). Awakino, Paritutu, Waitara, Egmont, Cape, Kaupokonui, Opunake, Mimi, Mahoe, Pouatu, Upper Waitara	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	147	3	40·0	..	..	..	..	..	22 1 0	729 14 3	Cadet assisting. Field-work of remainder of town section and whole of standard survey, Waitara Township, completed, but plans not finished. Topographical and trigonometrical survey of Mount Egmont and ranges in hand. Other work: Sundry inspection surveys, &c. Native land survey was in the Land District of Auckland, in isolated situation.
G. H. Bullard (District Surveyor). Cape Egmont, Paritutu, Hawera, Ngaire, Opaku	..	..	226	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	12·5	..	768 13 10	Cadet assisting. Subdivision of block of rural land, 30,000 acres, in hand. Exploring for and laying-out road routes to open up back country; engineering surveys thereof. Broken, densely bushed country. Thirty miles engineering survey of roads completed in field, but plans and sections not finished. Trig. work connection of block also completed, but not mapped; and 7,000 acres sectionally subdivided, also almost completed.
J. F. Frith (Assistant Surveyor). Taurakawa, Kapara, Tua, and Omara	..	..	8,420	5	1·33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	25·0	..	664 13 9	Exploration for and survey of Pipiriki–Pokeka Road completed; very rough densely bushed country.
W. T. Morpeth (Assistant Surveyor). Mimi and Upper Waitara	..	..	10,765	9	1·77	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0·5	28·2	33 12 0	388 5 10	Road survey, a short deviation in an expensive locality. Officer on leave of absence five months being replaced part of that time by Temporary Assistant Surveyor Oldfield and party, cost of which, £136 14s. 2d., will be added to this officer's work on completion. Country operated upon extremely rough and dense bush, exceptionally difficult to road.
W. H. Skinner (Office Surveyor). Carlyle, Paritutu, Waitara, Omata, Kaupokonui, Wairau	..	..	89	11	8·75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 12 3	320 18 3	Various Land Transfer surveys, inspections, and checks. Section surveys, some isolated rural and suburban, and revisions of old work; also placed standards along Waihi and Tikorangi Roads. Periodical harbour surveys, inspection, &c.
Temporary Staff.																			
W. H. Murcott (Assistant Surveyor). Upper Waitara	..	..	6,935	9	1·25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	647 16 6	Section survey in very broken heavily bushed country. Another block well in hand.

Percy Holt (Assistant Surveyor). Opaku and Kapara	13,600	0·78	13,848	19	0·7	..	..	..	42	1	92	..	..	..	0·19	26·32	..	604 16 9	Broken bush country. Road survey was a small deviation; Native land survey an isolated section. This officer voluntarily resigned and left the department in December, 1898, and no successor has yet been appointed to fill the vacancy.
L. C. Sladden (Assistant Surveyor). Pouatu and Mahoe	8,500	0·75	8,742	34	1·47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2·75	9·5	35 9 6	750 10 0	Broken bush country. Preliminary explorations, tracks, &c., for subdivision of part Maraekowhai Block well in hand. Other work, measuring areas of bush felled at Whangamomona.
Charles Finnerty (Assistant Surveyor). Mahoe	11,500	3·0	1,833	16	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	329 11 0	457 5 0	Broken bush country. Cost of work was very much enhanced by breakdown of Mr. Finnerty's health, which finally culminated in that officer's death. Mr. Sladden was then instructed to carry on and complete the work in hand by Mr. Finnerty; but on Mr. Morpeth's return Mr. Oldfield was enabled to be put to this, taking over the debit for cost of unfinished work on block, £150.
William Laing (Assistant Surveyor). Upper Waitara and Pouatu	40,000	1·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	657 12 4	Broken bush country. Section subdivision of his block almost completed in field, but plans not well advanced.
Thomas Oldfield (Assistant Surveyor). Upper Waitara and Mahoe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	175 14 2	Broken bush country at present expensive district. Mr. Oldfield temporarily took on Mr. Morpeth's block until that officer's return from leave of absence. He was then transferred to Mr. Finnerty's block, as above mentioned. His expense for progress work on Mr. Morpeth's block, £136 14s. 2d., will eventually be debited against same. The balance between such amount and the total cost for year shown, £108 18s. 10d., added to the £150 above referred to, are charges against Mr. Finnerty's block.
Means and totals	73,600	1·51	50,858	105	1·38	..	..	..	189	4	51·37	..	..	..	32 44	22·2	501 5 9	*6,166 0 8	

	Minor Triangulation.																		
LAND DISTRICT OF WELLINGTON.																			
J. D. Climie. General	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	10·21	224 3 8	664 18 11	Mr. Climie's work has comprised chiefly inspection duties and miscellaneous surveys, &c. He has unfinished work on hand costing £208 16s. 6d. to end of year.
F. A. Thompson. Pohangina, Belmont, Nukumaru	..	..	2,619	4	5·27	..	..	..	5,000	1	4·63	..	..	..	..	..	152 11 7	680 15 11	Sectional work rendered unusually expensive by the high altitude of the country and continuous wet weather.
H. J. Lowe	609,000	0.34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 11 0	839 14 4	Mr. Lowe has the field-work completed of an additional area of 200,000 acres of minor triangulation, including topography, on which £583 6s. has been spent to 31st March, 1899.

* Against this total for field-work there are credits for work done for other departments, &c., of £1,491 5s. 1d.

Table 37.—Return of Field-work executed by the Staff and Contract Surveyors, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

LAND DISTRICT OF WELLINGTON—*continued.*

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Section.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
P. A. Dalziell. Kaitieke, Aohanga, Mount Cerebus, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	167	126	27·70	..	..	..	..	..	..	22·25	14·03	20 5 0	300 0 3	Return is for seven months only. Transferred to Hawke's Bay. Mr. Dalziell left work in Waimarino incomplete, on which £613 17s. has been expended, and is carried forward.
James McKay. Ngamatea, Maungakaretu, &c.	..	..	11,369	40	1·19	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1·25	16·40	..	665 10 0	Mostly heavy forest country. Has unfinished road and Native Land Court surveys on hand on which £431 14s. 2d. has been expended.
H. Maitland. Hautapu, Ohinewairua, &c.	..	..	885	11	2·50	..	..	..	6,697	11	13·59	..	..	..	15	37·35	44 5 0	347 15 2	Return is for seven months only. Transferred to Marlborough. Mostly heavy forest country.
J. R. Strachan. Rewa, Kaiwhata, &c.	* ..	..	9,630	10	1·26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72 11 5	497 2 10	Rough forest and scrub country.
C. A. Mountfort. Ohinewairua, Hautapu	..	..	6,535	38	2·29	..	..	..	17,400	2	2·61	..	..	..	..	..	54 12 4	569 5 4	Mr. Mountfort has unfinished railway and other surveys on hand on which £241 9s. 7d. has been expended. Sectional work includes previous expenditure by Mr. Maitland of £261 10s. 3d. Chiefly hilly forest country.
H. J. Lewis. Tauakira, Mangawhero, Waipakura	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 14 8	587 17 10	Mr. Lewis has the sectional survey of Tauakira Block well in hand, containing 26,650 acres. On this survey and the roads approaching it, &c., an expenditure of £1,545 17s. 7d. has been incurred. Broken forest country.
P. R. Earle. Kaiwaka, Makuri Tararua, Wairarapa	† ..	..	2,227	4	1·14	2¼	6	10·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	5·64	247 1 9	529 10 0	Other work" includes £129 18s. 7d., Wairarapa Lake foreshore survey, and £84 16s. 2d. for the survey of 15 miles of coast survey, East Coast. Mr. Earle has unfinished road, topographical, and miscellaneous surveys on hand on which £259 14s. 3d. has been expended.
J. M. Morice. Hautapu.. ..	..	..	6,279	24	1·60	..	..	..	8,775	13	5·97	..	..	..	4·25	15·82	126 16 11	578 1 3	Heavy forest country. The road and "Other work" duties comprised isolated road deviations and small surveys, necessitating a large amount of travelling.
H. J. Biggs. Ohinewairua, Pukeokahu	..	..	1,957	11	0·83	..	..	..	51,451	53	2·11	..	..	..	32	7·19	..	590 7 0	Open and forest country in the Awarua Block.
Means and totals	609,000	0·34	41,501	142	1·70	169¼	132	26·9	89,323	80	3·59	..	..	..	136·75	12·00	968 13 4	6,850 18 10	

* Also topographical survey, 3,000 acres; cost, 1·35d. per acre. † Also topographical survey, 3,000 acres; cost, 1·27d. per acre.

Contract Surveys.																				
C. W. Reardon. Makotuku, Hautapu	..	..	..	..	..	110	114	12·24	..	..	..	..	..	..	3·5	8·19	..	28	13	0	
H. J. Wylde. Rangitoto ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7·5	14·41	..	89	5	0	
G. L. R. Scott. Rangitoto ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	14·05	†16 15 0	73	10	0	
Means and Totals.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	110	114	12·24	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	13·06	†16 15 0	191	8	0	†Erection of new trig. station on Somes Island.
Grand Means and Totals ..	609,000	0·34	41,501	142	1·7	279¼	246	20·1	89,323	80	3·59	..	..	..	154·75	12·12	985 8 4	7,042	6	10	

LAND DISTRICT OF MARLBOROUGH.

F. S. Smith, T. W. Hughes, E. H. Farnie, and R. J. Johnston. Hundalee, Greenburn, Kaitarau, and Mt. Fyffe	..	..	48,832	74	0·81	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5·92	49·56	417 11 9	2,605	2	4	Settlement surveys, grazing-runs, &c., Kaikoura District. Nearly all open country; steep rough hills. "Other work" consists of inspections, &c., incidental to the supervision of settlement surveys.
D. W. Gillies. Puhipuhi and Kaitarau	..	..	1,788	5	0·67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	544 15 4	656	9	11	Waipapa Reserve; nearly all open country. "Other work" consists of £400 worth of field-work in connection with the area returned by Mr. F. S. Smith, and traverse of eighteen miles of River Clarence.
Wm. Wilson. Clifford Bay, Blue Mountain, Taylor Pass, and Cape Campbell	..	..	12,280	21	0·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	424	0	4	Starborough Estate. All open country; flat, downs, and low hills. Transferred from Westland in July.
E. W. Buckeridge. Whernside and Puhipuhi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	13·05	23 2 9	743	5	6	Survey of road through Woodbank and Shades Runs. Was engaged most of the year on triangulation and topography of Seaward Kaikouras.
H. Maitland. Wakamarina, &c.	..	..	7,244	52	1·66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 2 11	455	0	4	Settlement surveys, Pelorus Sound. All heavy bush and rough hills. Transferred from Wellington District in August.
M. Carkeek. Clifford Bay, Blue Mountain, Taylor Pass, and Cape Campbell	..	..	12,280	21	0·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	422	5	8	Starborough Estate. All open country; flats, downs, and low hills. Transferred from Wellington in June.
C. W. McFarland. Onamalutu, Mt. Olympus, and Pine Valley	..	..	16,967	23	0·75	..	..	..	..	..	..	348	6	6·24	..	..	..	625	13	6	Rough broken country, rising to 4,000 ft. One-fourth bush, remainder open.
A. Simpson. Clifford Bay, Blue Mountain, Taylor Pass, and Cape Campbell	..	..	12,327	26	0·9	12	46	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	9	103 11 7	626	18	1	Starborough Estate. All open country; flat, downs, and low hills; also 1,500 acres of heavy bush in the Sounds. "Other work" consists of incomplete section survey at Kaiuma handed over to Mr. Maitland.
Contract Surveyors.																					
A. P. Seymour. Gore and Linkwater	..	..	2,197	6	1·32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			Settlement surveys in the Sounds, mostly open country.
R. F. Goulter. Wakamarina, Arapawa, and Hodder	..	..	716	5	1·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	3	8·97	..	..	..	..			Settlement surveys in the Sounds, and in the Awatere Valley; half open, half heavy bush.
A. D. Wilson. Linkwater ..	..	..	1,129	3	1·52	..	..	..	..	..	..	568	2	2·26	..	..	..	..			Settlement surveys, Pelorus Sound. Nearly all heavy bush. Mining surveys consist of dredging claims, Mahakipawa.
Means and totals	..	..	115,760	236	0·9	12	46	10	..	..	..	1,017	11	4·42	32·92	18·88	1,105 4 4	6,558	15	8*	

* Total cost does not include mining or rural surveys by contract surveyors, paid out of deposits.

Table 37.—Return of Field-work executed by the Staff and Contract Surveyors, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

LAND DISTRICT OF NELSON.

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
Staff Surveyors.		d.						s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
J. A. Montgomerie. Reefton, Waitahu, Waiwhero, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	167	3	4·79	4·75	19·27	546 10 1	695 15 1	In charge at Reefton District Office. "Other work" includes £73 11s. for inspections of surveys and settlement holdings, and general cost of local survey office. Cadet assisting.
R. T. Sadd. Aorere, Waitapu, Takaka, &c.	..	..	3,948	17	0·97	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	1	4·26	17·50	13·35	104 15 0	793 13 9	"Other work" includes inspection of roadworks, surveys, and settlement holdings; 180,000 acres trig. and topo. field-work completed. All high mountainous wooded country.
J. Snodgrass. Kawatiri, Ngakawau, Mokihinui, &c.	..	..	933	12	3·02	32	121	12·6	..	..	..	109	2	8·47	..	..	228 16 11	729 18 7	"Other work" includes inspection of roadworks, surveys, and settlement holdings, and general cost of local survey office. Cadet assisting. 40,000 acres trig. and topo. field-work completed. Heavily timbered country throughout in all classes of survey.
J. D. Thomson. Mount Arthur, Wangapeka, Leslie, &c.	..	..	1,896	15	1·74	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5·25	10·0	43 16 5	666 5 10	180,000 acres trig. and topo. field-work completed. Very high mountainous wooded country. Sectional work all in forest.
D. Innes Barron. Waimea, Wakapuaka, French Pass, Wangamoa, &c.	..	..	952	5	4·55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5·94	15·41	275 1 4	770 7 10	25,000 acres of sectional work completed in field, but not mapped. The sectional work was widely scattered, and high cost caused by necessarily heavy travelling-expenses. "Other work": Engineering surveys and inspections.
	..	..	7,729	49	1·85	32	121	12·6	..	..	..	375	6	5·72	33·44	14·03	1,198 19 9	3,656 1 1	
Contract Surveyors.																			Recoyeries by fees, £513 2s. 10d.
W. F. Robinson. Reefton, Burnett, Waitahu, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	160 0 0	100,000 acres trig. and topo. completed in field.
J. H. Jennings. Wakapohi, Gouland, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	250 0 4	Preliminary survey of block for landless Natives at Heaphy River, including pegging out 16¾ miles of roads.
J. B. Saxon. Oparara, Kongahu, Tutaki, &c.	..	..	1,088*	16	2·72	..	..	..	..	..	..	211	3	7·88	..	..	..	..	Mining: 25 sections = 2,641 acres, at 4s. 9·1d., £626 8s. 9d. Paid by fees.
R. A. Young. Tutaki, Lyell, Ngakawau, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,467	7	3.35	..	..	..	..	
H. W. Young. Cobden, Waiwhero, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	317	6	7·99	..	..	..	..	
J. O. McCabe. Waiwhero, &c. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	408	6	5·24	..	..	..	..	
W. G. Houston. Mawheranui ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	1	12·48	..	..	..	..	
E. J. Lord. Waiwhero	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	1	5·43	..	..	..	..	
J. H. Schadick. Inangahua ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	1	4·37	..	..	..	..	
Means and totals	..	..	8,817	65	1·96	32	121	12·6	..	..	..	2,996	31	4·9	33·44	14·03	1,198 19 9	4,066 1 5	

* Rural: 16 sections = 1,088 acres, at 2s. 8·7d. Paid by fees.

LAND DISTRICT OF WESTLAND.

Staff Surveyor.					s.						d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
W. Wilson. Totara District ..	..	..	1,036	33	2·53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68 4 2	258 1 6 (April to July)	Mr. Wilson was transferred to Blenheim on 6th July to assist in survey of subdivisions of the Starborough Estate, and up to the present has not returned. Fixing boundaries of Borough of Ross.
Temporary Staff.																			
J. N. Smyth. Waimea, Kanieri, and Turiwhate Districts	..	..	936	12	1·8	..	..	..	..	..	..	365	9	9·43	29	8·29	182 16 11	608 7 0	The average rate per acre and mile shows high. This is caused principally by the continued wet season which we have had in Westland. "Other work": Long and cross sections, check levels, &c.
Authorised Surveyors.																			
J. C. Macfarlane. Waimea, Kanieri, Waiho, and Totara Districts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	275	8	8·4	..	..	..	..	
E. J. Lord. Arnold District ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	103	5	9·92	..	..	..	..	
Means and totals	..	..	1,972	45	2·18	..	..	..	..	..	..	743	22	9·12	29	8·29	251 1 1	*866 8 6	

* Total does not include mining surveys by contract surveyors paid out of deposits.

LAND DISTRICT OF CANTERBURY.

Staff Surveyors.																						
T. N. Brodrick. Four Peaks, Pareora, Orari, Burke, Mackenzie, Tekapo, Pukaki, Otaio, Waitaki	..	..	37,141	53	0·48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	156 12 6	592 16 4	9,703 acres, part of the Waikakahi Estate, flat and undulating country; the balance mountainous, up to 5,000 ft. above sea-level. Field-work of 140 acres and 4½ miles of standard traverse completed but not mapped. Cadet assisting. "Other work" comprises inspection and supervision of roads, &c.
G. H. M. McClure. Oxford, Upper Ashley, Sumner, Christchurch, Rangiora, Waitaki*	..	..	7,259	54	0·72	51½	111	7·53	54½	7	38·97	..	..	..	13·25	42·75	254 6 6	567 2 4	7,259 acres, part of the Waikakahi Estate, flat and undulating country. Topographical, rough and hilly bush land. Cadet assisting. "Other work" includes cost of unmapped field-work of 5,426 acres, further subdivision of E.R. 119, road supervision, and general office-work.
L. O. Mathias. Alford, Ashburton, Rangiora, Waitaki	..	..	7,402	51	1·52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7·50	4·33	69 6 4	493 14 2	7,090 acres, part of the Waikakahi Estate, flat and undulating country; the balance very scattered surveys. "Other work" comprises inspection and reporting on water-races, engineering surveys, road-supervision, and general office-work.
J. Langmuir. Waitaki, Elephant Hill	..	..	12,057	31	0·63	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	381 18 9	Part of the Waikakahi Estate, flat and undulating country. Temporarily engaged in this district for five months.
W. D. R. McCurdie. Elephant Hill	..	..	6,122	7	0·49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3·20	8·87	6 19 9	185 7 9	Part of the Waikakahi Estate, hilly and undulating country. Temporarily engaged in this district for three months. "Other work" consists of reporting on Elephant Hill Stream storm-water, and survey of road connection.
W. T. Neill. Waitaki	..	..	5,936	28	0·62	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	183 11 4	Part of the Waikakahi Estate, flat country. Temporarily engaged in this district for three months and one week.
J. R. Strachan. Elephant Hill ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Assisting Mr. Langmuir with traverse work on the Waikakahi Estate. Temporarily engaged in this district for three weeks. Cost, £47 5s. 5d., included in Mr. Langmuir's cost of work.
Contract Surveyors.																			
Messrs. Meason and Marchant ..	..	..	..	..	..	37½	22	8·64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 10 0	Re-marking 17 quarter-acre sections and 5 blocks of the Town of Opawa.
Means and totals	..	..	75,917	224	0·62	89	133	7·7	54½	7	38·97	..	..	..	23·95	26·2	487 5 1	2,414 0 8	

* Also topographical survey of 7,758 acres; cos 0·90d. per acre.

Table 37.—Return of Field-work executed by the Staff and Contract Surveyors, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

OTAGO LAND DISTRICT.

Surveyor and District.	Minor Triangulation and Topographical Survey.		Rural and Suburban.			Town Section Survey.			Native Land Court Survey.			Gold-mining Surveys.			Roads, Railways, and Water-races.		Other Work.	Total Cost of Surveyor and Party from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Remarks.
	Acres.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Allotments.	Cost per Allotment.	Acres.	No. of Secs. or Divs.	Cost per Acre.	Acres.	No. of Sections.	Cost per Acre.	Miles.	Cost per Mile.	Cost.		
		d.			s.			s.			d.			s.		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
John Langmuir. Tuapeka, Waipori, Waitahuna, Otago Peninsula, and Silver Peak	..	..	333	12	4·06	..	..	..	..	..	..	424	14	5·70	..	..	143 2 9	426 10 11	Rural surveys were mostly small sections on rough country. Mining surveys complicated. This officer working on Waikakahi Estate from 1st November to end of year. "Other work": Inspecting, supervision road-works, &c.
E. H. Wilmot. Queenstown, Cromwell, Nevis, Fraser, Tarras, Kawarau, Shotover, and Wanaka	..	..	1,166	17	2·50	8	4	87·0	..	..	..	1,631	46	5·52	..	..	87 12 4	670 18 10	Spotting surveys, very much scattered, entailing a great amount of travelling. "Other work": Inspections for Warden's Court and reports, &c.
D. M. Calder. Naseby, Lauder, Tiger Hill, Blackstone, Gimmerburn, and Maniototo	..	..	5,063	43	1·76	..	..	..	..	..	..	900	23	5·25	..	..	115 1 3	732 10 6	Mining sections, scattered. Inspections and reports for Warden's Court.
W. D. R. McCurdie. Tautuku, Woodland, Catlin's, Rimu, Glenomaru, and Awamoko	..	..	1,851	13	2·05	8	31	10·23	..	..	..	..	..	..	9·0	10·56	226 6 0	593 17 6	Rural sections in dense bush and wet climate. Other works scattered, entailing much travelling. This officer working for Canterbury from 5th November to 15th February. "Other work": Redefining boundaries, &c.
W. T. Neill. Lauder and Wakefield	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25·37	9·85	146 5 1	454 8 0	This officer working for Canterbury at Waikakahi from 26th October to end of January, and joined Mr. Farr in connection with magnetic survey on 13th February.
John Edie. Cairnhill, Fraser, Whitecomb, Leaning Rock, Teviot, Beaumont, and Tuapeka	..	..	251	10	2·59	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,300	97	2·59	..	..	19 2 0	180 7 1	Surveys scattered. This officer joined service on 8th November, and the fees received more than cover cost of party.
Fee system.																			
N. M. Kirkcaldy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	630	17	4·07	..	..	..	..	
H. Park	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	527	11	4·11	..	..	..	..	
H. W. Reid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	250	7	4·61	..	..	..	..	
R. Hay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	204	4	3·66	..	..	..	..	
L. D. Macgeorge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	181	6	5·07	..	..	..	..	
G. M. Barr	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168	4	4·79	..	..	..	..	
John Cumine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	164	3	4·67	..	..	..	..	
John Edie	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	3	6·98	..	..	..	..	
L. O. Beal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	2	8·71	..	..	..	..	
J. W. Johnston	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13½	1	28·15	..	..	..	..	
Means and totals	..	..	8,664	95	2·03	16	35	19·0	..	..	..	6,487	168	4·58	34·37	10·03	737 9 5	3,058 12 10*	

* Total does not include mining surveys by contract surveyors, paid out of deposits.

NOTE.—Of the mining surveys, 110 sections, having an area of 4,255 acres, were surveyed by the staff surveyors at an average cost of 4·58s. per acre; and 58 sections, having an area of 2,232 acres, were surveyed by private survey cost of 4·59s. The total amount received by private surveyors for mining surveys made during the year was £51 11s. 6d

Alfred Hodgkinson (Assistant Surveyor)	..	..	10,816	40	1·4	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	1	..	0·19	15·8	3 14 11	701 3 6	8,246 acres bush country; resurvey, 2,570 acres open country. "Other work": Inspection of fencing on Beaumont Estate.
J. H. Treseder (Temporary Surveyor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1·5	20·0	285 16 8	433 10 6	All bush country; 20 miles of coast traverse, &c. Left the field at the end of August.
J. S. Miller (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	707	11	2·2	..	..	..	..	..	..	218	3	7·3	..	..	346 12 0	..	"Other work": 3,487 acres sawmill areas surveyed and valued.
H. R. Dundas (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,126	16	6·13	..	..	10 0 0	..	"Other work": School site and coal area.
James Blaikie (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	432	14	5·56	..	..	..	..	Mining surveys.
J. A. Robertson (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	22,632	95	0·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,015 0 0	Contract work, Landless Native Block, and 1,900 acres settlement surveys.
Thure Likiecrona (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	569	9	7·16	..	..	..	..	Mining surveys.
J. W. Johnston (Authorised Surveyor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	190½	5	5·2	..	..	..	..	Mining surveys.
Means and totals	..	..	34,155	146	1·08	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,551½	48	6·32	1·69	19·52	646 3 7	2,149 14 0*	

* Total does not include mining and other surveys by contract surveyors paid out of deposits.

Table 38.—Showing Surveyors employed and the Work on Hand at 31st March, 1899.

Chief Surveyors.	Surveyors employed.		Work on Hand.						
	Staff.	Temporary.	District.	Trig.	Settlement.	Native Blocks, &c.	Roads, &c.	Town.	Mining and Mineral Leases.
				Sq. Ml.	Acres.	Acres.	Miles.	Acres.	Acres.
G. Mueller ..	7	10	Auckland ..	..	194,408	..	134½	40	..
J. Strauchon ..	4	4	Taranaki ..	273	91,000	..	42	900	..
E. Gold-Smith ..	6	3	Hawke's Bay	..	183,728	39,700	10	350	..
J. W. A. Marchant	5	5	Wellington ..	312	202,750	75,100	223	..	..
C. W. Adams ..	5	6	Marlborough	950	109,000	9,800	70	140	..
T. Humphries ..	5	3	Nelson ..	1,105	4,077	..	53	..	250
W. G. Murray ..	1	1	Westland ..	..	16,900	..	15	..	..
S. Weetman ..	3	..	Canterbury ..	..	47,486	..	..	..	..
J. Hay	5	1	Otago ..	..	15,013	..	3¾	2½	832
D. Barron ..	1	1	Southland ..	..	25,496	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	42	34	..	2,640	889,858	124,600	551	1,432½	1,082

Table 39.—Crown Grants, Certificates of Title, Leases, and other Instruments of Title from the Crown prepared or examined, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	Number.					Cost.
	Singly.	In Duplicate.	In Triplicate.	In Quadruple.	Total Copies.	
						£ s. d.
Auckland	497	75	421	195	2,690	134 0 0
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	74	..	222	18 15 0
Taranaki	..	..	100	..	300	5 19 1
Wellington	22	35	428	149	1,972	109 12 6
Nelson	37	123	243	6	1,036	47 14 4
Marlborough ..	60	32	41	..	247	12 7 0
Westland	3	195	6	..	411	49 15 0
Canterbury	315	88	133	..	890	66 15 0
Otago	138	178	335	..	1,499	82 0 0
Southland	..	65	38	14	300	10 2 0
Totals	1,072	791	1,819	364	9,567	536 19 11

Table 40.—Plans placed on Crown Grants and other Instruments of Title from the Crown, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	Number.					Cost.
	Singly.	In Duplicate.	In Triplicate.	In Quadruple.	Total Copies.	
						£ s. d.
Auckland	585	438	358	164	3,191	215 4 0
Hawke's Bay ..	..	128	155	..	721	58 2 0
Taranaki	..	7	131	..	407	82 9 6
Wellington	577	24	153	169	1,760	112 13 6
Nelson	37	123	243	6	1,036	87 11 8
Marlborough ..	35	46	195	..	712	74 14 10
Westland	3	65	6	..	151	31 3 0
Canterbury	314	138	91	..	863	120 18 0
Otago	138	158	262	..	1,240	167 0 0
Southland	400	65	68	..	734	110 0 0
Totals	2,089	1,192	1,662	339	10,815	1,059 16 6

Table 41.—Work done under the Land Transfer Act, &c., from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	No. of Plans passed.	Deeds and other Instruments passed.	Number of Plans placed on Certificates of Title.			Miscellaneous Plans, &c.	Cost.
			Singly.	In Duplicate.	In Triplicate.		
							£ s. d.
Auckland	175	..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
Hawke's Bay	101	..	..	376	..	..	235 13 11
Taranaki	114	1,054	..	245	150	..	337 6 4
Wellington	270	1,503	67	1,941	..	32	901 10 0
Nelson	61	100	..	124	..	17	79 16 0
Marlborough	6	..	..	46	..	1	12 7 7
Westland	251	917	..	1,168	15	2	758 3 0
Canterbury	73	..	2	32	2	1	19 4 0
Otago	51	2,749	..	464	98	..	245 5 6
Southland	51	23	17	313	139	..	190 10 0
Totals	1,153	6,346	86	4,709	404	53	2,779 16 4

Table 42.—Summary of Work done for other Departments, and for Local Bodies, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

District.	Cost.	District.	Cost.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Head Office	922 1 5	Brought forward ..	6,836 19 10
Auckland	1,170 2 6	Marlborough	15 1 3
Hawke's Bay	402 15 1	Westland	724 5 8
Taranaki	1,837 7 1	Canterbury	854 8 11
Wellington	2,377 17 3	Otago	376 2 0
Nelson	126 16 6	Southland	194 19 6
Carried forward ..	6,836 19 10	Total	9,001 17 2

Table 43.—Summary showing Payments to Local Bodies during the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899, from "Thirds" of Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, and Lease-in-perpetuity Lands, and "Fourths" of Small Grazing-runs.

District.	For Details see Statements below.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and leased Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.						
					Bush-clearing.	Scrub-clearing.	Formation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Maintenance.	Cost of taking Road under Public Works Act.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	1	4,143 16 2	132 1 2	4,275 17 4	1,357	838	2,479	177 7 10	124 10 8	1,037 4 11	..
Hawke's Bay	2	2,181 3 11	409 10 0	2,590 13 11	169	250	1,200	198 19 8	17 0 0	617 17 2	..
Taranaki ..	3	5,860 14 2	31 5 9	5,891 19 11	127	93	1,813¾	105 2 9	213 6 4	1,155 5 3	..
Wellington	4	7,143 0 7	495 4 3	7,638 4 10	151	25	1,694	266 13 9	48 18 2	235 14 5	15 0 0
Nelson ..	5	1,385 3 8	..	1,385 3 8	214	10	652	..	..	596 17 1	..
Marlborough	6	185 9 11	88 16 11	274 6 10	115	185	72	..	..	147 2 6	..
Westland ..	7	28 14 3	..	28 14 3	..	..	..	..	..	28 14 3	..
Canterbury	8	2,430 15 0	1,243 11 7	3,674 6 7	..	31½	1,168	239 18 1	42 17 9	649 3 6	..
Otago ..	9	3,106 6 4	2,359 9 5	5,465 15 9	105	67	2,452	204 9 1	405 10 3	2,410 19 5	..
Southland	10	1,685 11 8	188 13 5	1,874 5 1	27	296	1,022½	116 1 0	222 12 5	223 3 6	..
Totals ..	..	28,150 15 8	4,948 12 6	33,099 8 2	2,265	1795½	12553¼	1,308 12 2	1,074 15 7	7,102 2 0	15 0 0

Note.—Amount authorised for interest on loans: Taranaki, £1,887 17s. 3d. Pledged interest on loans: Hawke's Bay, £610 10s. 3d.

Statements showing Payments to Local Bodies during the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1899, from "Thirds" of Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, and Lease-in-perpetuity Lands, and "Fourths" of Small Grazing-runs.

Local Bodies.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and Perpetual-lease Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.					
				Bush-clearing.	Scrub-clearing.	For-mation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Main-tenance.
STATEMENT No. 1.—AUCKLAND.									
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bay of Islands C.C.	139 19 7	1 13 11	141 13 6	..	101	128	4 0 2	12 0 6	22 19 3
Coromandel C.C. ..	99 18 2	..	99 18 2	..	..	..	..	..	99 18 2
Hobson C.C. ..	59 12 7	..	59 12 7	..	..	82	..	6 14 5	..
Hokianga C.C. ..	227 11 2	..	227 11 2	380	146	164	14 16 0	7 4 10	34 7
Kawhia C.C. ..	888 1 1	62 14 0	950 15 1	400	..	109	..	..	..
Mangonui C.C. ..	62 16 8	..	62 16 8	14	18	36	..	5 6 7	30 16 0
Otamatea C.C. ..	157 2 6	..	157 2 6	90	248	181	2 17 1	..	17 5 7
Piako C.C. ..	4 7 5	..	4 7 5	..	..	15	..	..	..
Raglan C.C. ..	878 6 3	..	878 6 3	233	64	796	59 10 3	19 1 2	101 18 1
Rodney C.C. ..	68 7 11	..	68 7 11	18	34	84	5 7 7	6 4 10	9 11 5
Tauranga C.C. ..	186 13 5	51 8 11	238 2 4	..	..	29	23 11 9	..	171 5 3

Table 43.—Showing Payments to Local Bodies, &c.—*continued.*

Local Bodies.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and Perpetual-lease Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.					
				Bush-clearing	Scrub-clearing.	For-mation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Main-tenance.
STATEMENT No. 1.—AUCKLAND—*continued.*									
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Whangarei C.C. ..	326 11 7	..	326 11 7	31	..	223	13 9 8	8 7 7	134 4 0
Waitemata C.C. ..	57 7 7	..	57 7 7	..	37	40	..	1 9 11	36 16 0
Whakatane C.C. ..	30 14 6	16 4 4	46 18 10	..	..	..	..	..	46 18 10
Whangaroa C.C. ..	15 9 2	..	15 9 2	..	..	7	3 5 8	..	8 4 2
Awitu R.B. ..	20 16 5	..	20 16 5	..	14	28	..	..	9 4 4
Ahuroa R.B. ..	15 15 7	..	15 15 7	..	11	..	..	..	8 0 7
Albertland N'th R.B.	3 8 1	..	3 8 1	6	4	..	..	..	..
" S'th R.B.	2 16 1	..	2 16 1	..	3	..	0 14 0	1 3 1	0 10 11
Cambridge R.B. ..	0 6 3	..	0 6 3	..	..	..	..	..	0 6 3
Gordon Special Settlement	44 4 7	..	44 4 7	..	..	68	..	..	15 19 7
Hunua R.B. ..	4 15 1	..	4 15 1	..	..	5	..	0 13 9	..
Komokoriki R.B. ..	2 6 4	..	2 6 4	..	..	..	..	..	2 6 4
Kaukapakapa R.B.	19 16 1	..	19 16 1	40	15	5	..	..	0 14 3
Kirikiriroa R.B. ..	2 12 5	..	2 12 5	..	..	..	..	..	2 12 5
Maunu R.B. ..	38 10 3	..	38 10 3	..	..	3	23 16 4	..	10 2 1
Matakohe R.B. ..	32 19 3	..	32 19 3	..	..	51	5 2 11	1 0 0	6 2 3
Mangatawhiri R.B.	13 2 0	..	13 2 0	..	..	24	..	1 0 0	..
Mauku R.B. ..	23 19 8	..	23 19 8	..	..	45	..	..	4 10 9
Mangawai R.B. ..	5 12 5	..	5 12 5	..	..	12	..	..	..
Maraetai R.B. ..	0 6 8	..	0 6 8	..	..	..	..	..	0 6 8
Maungakaramea R.B.	4 1 5	..	4 1 5	..	17	..	..	0 10 0	1 14 1
Onewhero R.B. ..	61 13 7	..	61 13 7	7	..	17	8 1 8	6 8 10	23 18 5
Ororu R.B. ..	86 7 8	..	86 7 8	6	57	50	..	5 12 5	18 8 3
Opotiki R.B. ..	131 7 9	..	131 7 9	17	..	97	1 5 4	2 6 3	52 2 7
Omaha R.B. ..	24 17 7	..	24 17 7	5	4	10	..	9 5 5	5 17 9
Opaheke R.B. ..	8 7 1	..	8 7 1	..	..	..	6 11 2	..	1 15 11
Otonga R.B. ..	10 0 11	..	10 0 11	..	..	6	..	1 3 4	1 19 5
Otonga East R.B. ..	32 4 10	..	32 4 10	5	..	20	..	..	10 17 3
Puhoi R.B. ..	28 16 2	..	28 16 2	..	26	12	4 18 3	..	..
Pukekohe East R.B.	2 14 10	..	2 14 10	..	..	..	..	..	2 14 10
Parua R.B. ..	10 10 4	..	10 10 4	..	..	10	..	1 4 2	4 4 10
Pukeno R.B. ..	16 8 4	..	16 8 4	..	..	12	..	6 0 0	..
Ruarangi R.B. ..	6 5 11	..	6 5 11	12	..	3	..	..	..
Tauhoa R.B. ..	23 2 5	..	23 2 5	34	25	7	..	6 5 9	1 19 11
Tuhekaramea R.B.	0 6 8	..	0 6 8	..	..	..	..	..	0 6 8
Upper Mahurangi R.B.	55 12 9	..	55 12 9	54	4	8	..	0 10 4	16 19 4
Waitoa R.B. ..	94 17 0	..	94 17 0	..	..	..	..	..	94 17 0
Waipipi R.B. ..	9 17 4	..	9 17 4	..	..	..	..	..	9 17 4
Whakatane R.B. ..	11 9 7	..	11 9 7	..	..	7	..	..	..
Wharehine R.B. ..	0 6 4	..	0 6 4	..	..	..	..	0 6 4	..
Whangamarino R.B.	64 16 5	..	64 16 5	..	..	38	..	11 19 10	6 13 5
Waipu North R.B. ..	7 1 6	..	7 1 6	..	10	5	..	1 11 4	..
Whangaparaoa R.B.	6 4 0	..	6 4 0	..	..	40	..	..	..
Wairoa R.B. ..	7 7 0	..	7 7 0	5	..	2	..	1 0 0	3 5 2
Whareora R.B. ..	4 12 0	..	4 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	4 12 0
Totals ..	4,143 16 2	132 1 2	4,275 17 4	1357	838	2479	177 7 10	124 10 8	1,037 4 11
STATEMENT No. 2.—HAWKE'S BAY.									
Kumeroa R.B. ..	145 6 10	..	145 6 10	..	..	7	..	..	4 16 0
Norsewood R.B. ..	20 11 2	..	20 11 2	..	10	..	..	..	17 6 7
Ormond R.B. ..	4 1 4	..	4 1 4	..	..	..	..	..	4 1 4
Patutahi R.B. ..	28 3 4	..	28 3 4	..	..	..	..	..	28 3 4
Hawke's Bay C.C. ..	342 8 10	..	342 8 10	..	..	200	133 16 0	..	20 0 0
Woodville R.B. ..	168 13 11	..	168 13 11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waikohu R.B. ..	..	11 7 0	11 7 0	..	..	..	..	..	11 7 0
Waimata R.B. ..	32 1 5	59 3 3	91 4 8	..	..	..	..	..	32 1 5
Weber R.B. ..	803 3 8	..	803 3 8	..	..	343	41 6 0	12 0 0	186 6 10
Cook C.C.	257 11 9	139 11 6	397 3 3	80	240	110	..	..	168 8 0
Wairoa C.C. ..	208 12 4	170 7 8	379 0 0	..	..	384	19 8 0	3 0 0	90 0 0
Waipawa C.C. ..	158 17 2	..	158 17 2	89	..	96	4 9 8	2 0 0	43 14 6
Waiapu C.C. ..	11 12 2	29 0 7	40 12 9	..	..	60	..	..	11 12 2
Totals ..	2,181 3 11	409 10 0	2,590 13 11	169	250	1200	198 19 8	17 0 0	617 17 2

Note.—Out of the above "Total Payments" the following amounts have been pledged for interest on loans: Kumeroa R.B., £124 0s. 10d.; Hawke's Bay C.C., £33 4s.; Woodville R.B., £168 13s. 11d.; Waimata R.B., £59 3s. 3d.; Cook C.C. £141 18s. 10d.; Waipawa C.C., £83 9s. 5d.: total, £610 10s. 3d.

Table 43.—Showing Payments to Local Bodies, &c.—*continued.*

Local Bodies.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and Perpetual-lease Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.					
				Bush-clearing.	Scrub-clearing.	Formation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Maintenance.
STATEMENT No. 3.—TARANAKI.									
Moa R.B. ..	1,112 14 8	..	1,112 14 8	..	..	455½	37 16 7	30 15 10	205 16 4
Parihaka R.B. ..	390 5 1	..	390 5 1	40	90	86½	2 3 5	28 10 10	123 1 8
Waiwakaiho R.B. ..	74 18 0	..	74 18 0	9	..	66½	..	0 18 9	..
Stratford C.C. ..	1,063 13 8	..	1,063 13 8	7	..	205½	16 15 10	27 19 2	401 19 11
Hawera C.C. ..	1,321 15 9	0 15 5	1,322 11 2	34	..	662	..	88 2 7	109 1 11
Waimate R.B. ..	717 8 1	..	717 8 1	..	..	109	34 5 1	11 10 0	84 11 8
Manganui R.B. ..	325 18 0	..	325 18 0	..	..	6	8 1 10	..	0 16 4
Taranaki C.C. ..	42 3 2	..	42 3 2	..	..	..	..	..	42 3 2
Patea West R.B. ..	6 6 6	20 14 6	27 1 0	37	..	19	..	..	5 4 11
Clifton C.C. ..	803 7 10	..	803 7 10	..	3	200	6 0 0	25 9 2	180 5 11
Patea East R.B. ..	..	9 15 10	9 15 10	..	..	4	..	..	..
Egmont R.B. ..	2 3 5	..	2 3 5	..	..	..	..	..	2 3 5
Totals ..	5,860 14 2	31 5 9	5,891 19 11	127	93	1813¾	105 2 9	213 6 4	1,155 5 3

N.B.—Amount authorised for interest on loans, £1,887 17s. 3d.

STATEMENT No. 4.—WELLINGTON.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Eketahuna R.B. ..	670 18 1	..	670 18 1	..	..	88	..	14 6 8	..
Featherston R.B. ..	246 17 4	..	246 17 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kiwitea C.C. ..	839 14 6	7 11 9	847 6 3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manawatu R.B. ..	1 6 8	..	1 6 8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Masterton R.B. ..	120 12 4	7 7 7	127 19 11	40	..	32	..	2 12 6	2 10 5
Mauriceville R.B. ..	492 12 9	8 14 6	501 7 3	..	..	11	3 12 0	..	..
Motoroa R.B. ..	13 16 8	..	13 16 8	..	..	..	..	..	13 16 8
Pahiatua C.C. ..	1,891 4 4	..	1,891 4 4	..	25	443	206 5 6	9 19 0	88 16 4
Patea C.C. ..	24 9 2	..	24 9 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pohangina C.C. ..	842 0 7	57 19 0	899 19 7	..	..	436	..	..	..
Rangitikei C.C. ..	356 0 6	60 15 4	416 15 10	..	..	31	..	..	19 4 5
Taratahi - Carterton R.B.	151 19 6	19 6 4	171 5 10	100	..	237	6 7 4	..	4 14 0
Te Horo R.B. ..	54 11 9	..	54 11 9	11	..	2	20 10 6	..	..
Upper Taueru R.B.	25 17 6	17 8 8	43 6 2	..	..	27	..	..	..
Upper Wangaehu R.B.	635 7 4	113 8 3	748 15 7	..	..	240	..	..	50 1 2
Wairarapa North C.C.	359 5 1	38 18 7	398 3 8	..	..	67	29 18 5	22 0 0	41 17 11
Waitotara C.C. ..	192 19 9	163 14 3	356 14 0	..	..	40	..	..	14 13 6
Waitot'ra-Momahaki R.B.	105 15 11	..	105 15 11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wirokino ..	117 10 10	..	117 10 10	..	..	40	..	..	..
Totals ..	7,143 0 7	495 4 3	7,638 4 10	151	25	1694	266 13 9	48 18 2	235 14 5

Note.—The "Total Payments" include the sums paid under hypothecation certificates in reduction of interest upon loans, and do not therefore represent the cost of the work in the following columns. Cost of taking road under Public Works Act: Pohangina C.C., £15.

STATEMENT No. 5.—NELSON.

Suburban North R.B.	15 10 2	..	15 10 2	..	..	10	..	..	..
Stoke R.B. ..	43 14 4	..	43 14 4	..	..	30	..	..	..
Waimea West R.B.	7 7 6	..	7 7 6	..	10	3½	..	..	..
Dovedale R.B. ..	28 7 1	..	28 7 1	..	..	26	..	..	8 10 0
Upper Moutere R.B.	47 12 2	..	47 12 2	..	..	110	..	..	1 11 4
Motueka R.B. ..	12 5 1	..	12 5 1	..	..	20	..	..	..
Riwaka R.B. ..	50 17 2	..	50 17 2	10	..	35	..	..	12 8 7
Takaka R.B. ..	180 10 7	..	180 10 7	200	..	89	..	..	98 12 7
Collingwood R.B. ..	168 14 6	..	168 14 6	4	..	165	..	..	26 12 1
Waimea C.C. ..	543 9 2	..	543 9 2	..	..	149½	..	..	191 12 7
Buller C.C. ..	102 17 10	..	102 17 10	..	..	..	..	..	102 17 10
Inangahua C.C. ..	72 0 4	..	72 0 4	..	..	..	..	..	72 0 4
Grey C.C. ..	74 1 0	..	74 1 0	..	..	..	..	..	74 1 0
Cheviot C.C. ..	29 6 0	..	29 6 0	..	..	14	..	..	..
Amuri C.C. ..	8 10 9	..	8 10 9	..	..	..	..	..	8 10 9
Totals ..	1,385 3 8	..	1,385 3 8	214	10	652	..	..	596 17 1

STATEMENT No. 6.—MARLBOROUGH.

Wairau R.B. ..	6 8 3	13 4 0	19 12 3	..	..	9	..	..	..
Pelorus R.D. ..	69 7 11	46 5 7	115 13 6	82	50	37	..	..	42 17 1
Picton R.D. ..	8 13 11	9 10 2	18 4 1	..	135	10	..	..	11 2 8
Kaikoura C.C. ..	100 19 10	19 17 2	120 17 0	33	..	16	..	..	93 2 9
Totals ..	185 9 11	88 16 11	274 6 10	115	185	72	..	..	147 2 6

STATEMENT No. 7.—WESTLAND.

Westland C.C. ..	28 14 3	..	28 14 3	..	..	..	..	..	28 14 3

Table 43.—Showing Payments to Local Bodies, &c.—*continued.*

Local Bodies.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and Perpetual-lease Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.						
				Scrub-clearing.	Formation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Maintenance.	Water-races.	Unexpended Balance.
STATEMENT No. 8.—CANTERBURY.										
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anama R.B.	27 18 8	..	27 18 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	27 18 8
Arowhenua T.B. ..	11 11 2	..	11 11 2	..	..	..	..	35 5 8	..	..
Ashburton C.C.	10 15 2	..	10 15 2	..	..	..	..	..	10 15 2	..
Coldstream R.B. ..	56 13 4	..	56 13 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	56 13 4
Ellesmere R.B.	75 6 11	..	75 6 11	..	18	..	..	22 5 0	..	43 4 11
Geraldine R.B.	235 14 5	..	235 14 5	..	98	100 0 0	1 0 0	117 16 6	..	..
Geraldine T.B. ..	0 10 8	..	0 10 8	..	..	..	..	0 10 8	..	..
Hampstead T.B. ..	2 18 0	..	2 18 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 18 0
Kowai R.B.	4 13 8	..	4 13 8	..	..	..	0 11 0	4 2 2	..	..
Le Bon's Bay R.B. ..	3 0 8	..	3 0 8	..	5	..	..	..	..	1 14 3
Levels C.C.	43 5 2	..	43 5 2	..	..	..	..	55 0 6	..	..
Longbeach R.B... ..	2 8 8	..	2 8 8	..	..	..	..	2 8 8	..	..
Mackenzie C.C.	272 19 9	133 19 4	406 19 1	..	135	13 2 9	11 13 3	42 18 1	75 1 2	91 3 6
Mandeville-Rangiora R.B.	0 13 4	..	0 13 4	..	..	..	..	1 5 0	..	..
Mount Hutt R.B. ..	24 12 4	..	24 12 4	..	..	..	..	34 5 0	..	..
Mount Peel R.B. ..	168 2 6	..	168 2 6	..	..	121 15 4	..	11 3 9	..	35 3 5
Mount Somers R.B. ..	5 1 2	20 3 7	25 4 9	11½	7½	..	4 11 11	0 16 0	0 4 0	12 7 0
Oxford R.B.	372 6 1	32 3 3	404 9 4	20	150	..	6 11 7	14 13 0	..	310 10 3
Port Levy R.B.	0 14 6	..	0 14 6	..	..	..	..	0 14 6	..	..
Rakaia R.B.	25 6 7	..	25 6 7	..	..	..	..	25 6 7	..	..
Rangitata R.B.	436 13 7	24 4 8	460 18 3	..	186	..	10 10 0	36 8 10	..	353 18 5
South Rakaia R.B. ..	13 17 7	..	13 17 7	..	..	..	..	4 10 6	10 12 9	..
Springs R.B.	2 18 2	..	2 18 2	..	..	..	..	2 9 6	..	0 8 8
Temuka R.B.	82 5 0	..	82 5 0	..	182½	..	..	5 19 9	9 18 9	..
Upper Ashburton R.B. ..	101 9 8	..	101 9 8	..	..	5 0 0	5 0 0	18 12 10	..	..
Vincent C.C.	1 9 11	..	1 9 11	..	10	..	3 0 0	..	..	..
Waimate C.C.	304 9 1	505 14 8	810 3 9	..	42	..	..	82 18 0	..	694 5 9
Waipara R.B.	110 9 7	527 6 1	637 15 8	..	334	..	..	20 9 2	..	188 14 7
Wakanui R.B.	32 9 8	..	32 9 8	..	..	..	..	109 3 10	..	..
Totals ..	2,430 15 0	1,243 11 7	3,674 6 7	31½	1,168	239 18 1	42 17 9	649 3 6	106 11 10	1,819 0 9

Note.—Cost of taking road under Public Works Act: Upper Ashburton R.B., credited to account, £72 16s. 10d.

Local Bodies.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment and Perpetual-lease Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	Total Payments.	Length, Locality, Description, and Particulars of Work authorised by Waste Lands Board.					
				Bush-clearing.	Scrub-clearing.	Formation.	Bridges.	Culverts.	Maintenance.
STATEMENT No. 9.—OTAGO.									
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Taieri C.C. ..	264 0 7	535 9 8	799 10 3	..	50	440	51 18 3	26 9 4	382 16 11
Maniototo C.C. ..	987 2 10	365 10 11	1,352 13 9	..	..	1180	42 17 8	229 11 1	199 8 10
Vincent C.C. ..	356 8 4	204 18 2	561 6 6	..	..	271	..	..	13 15 1
Waitaki C.C. ..	271 6 1	197 0 4	468 6 5	..	..	108	..	..	270 1 3
Waihemo C.C. ..	172 11 0	500 5 5	672 16 5	..	..	..	39 10 4	..	628 1 8
Waikouaiti C.C. ..	60 1 5	277 15 2	337 16 7	..	..	178	39 14 3	18 13 0	101 7 11
Clutha C.C. ..	605 13 1	24 10 9	630 3 10	105	1	64	7 16 7	130 3 1	295 8 5
Bruce C.C. ..	19 18 10	28 10 11	48 9 9	..	5	68	..	0 13 9	25 5 4
Tuapeka C.C. ..	365 9 4	219 15 6	585 4 10	..	11	116	22 12 0	..	482 19 5
Lake C.C.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mount Stuart R.B.	..	5 12 7	5 12 7	..	..	27	..	..	7 19 9
Balmoral R.B. ..	3 14 10	..	3 14 10	..	..	..	..	..	3 14 10
Totals ..	3,106 6 4	2,359 9 5	5,465 15 9	105	67	2452	204 9 1	405 10 3	2,410 19 5

* Local body has failed to submit proposals for expenditure.

STATEMENT No. 10.—SOUTHLAND.

Southland C.C. ..	797 11 7	5 2 0	802 13 7	..	..	237	..	25 0 0	20 0 0
Wallace C.C. ..	652 14 0	183 11 5	836 5 5	27	36	649	116 1 0	182 6 9	172 12 1
Stewart Island C.C.	8 6 7	..	8 6 7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Invercargill R.B. ..	57 5 0	..	57 5 0	..	..	30	..	10 0 0	15 0 0
Knapdale R.B. ..	12 6 9	..	12 6 9	..	..	42	..	2 15 0	9 11 9
Oteramika R.B. ..	151 3 4	..	151 3 4	..	260	64½	..	2 10 8	5 0 0
Otaraia R.B. ..	0 19 8	..	0 19 8	..	..	..	..	..	0 19 8
Stewart Island C.C.	5 4 9	..	5 4 9	..	..	..	..	5 4 9	..
Totals ..	1,685 11 8	188 13 5	1,874 5 1	27	296	1022½	116 1 0	227 17 2	223 3 2

Table 44.—Statement showing the Blocks of Land which have been proclaimed under "The Government Loans to Local Bodies Act Amendment Act, 1891," and the Report of the Surveyor-General on the Value of such Blocks, and on the Necessary Works, and the Estimated Cost of the Works, and on the Moneys expended in respect of such Blocks out of Moneys borrowed under the said Act.

Name of Block.	Area of Block.	Gazetted.			Surveyor-General's Report.			Expenditure.		
		No.	Page.	Date.	Valuation of Block.	Works required to open up such Block.	Estimated Cost proposed to be borrowed.	To Mar. 31, 1898.	April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899.	Total to March 31, 1899.
1891–92.	Acres.				£		£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ahuroa	4,000	23	479	18 Mar., 1892	2,500	Road-works	500	432	65 2 0	497 2 5
East Puketoi	83,500	"	"	" "	83,500	"	19,375	19,375	..	19,375 0 0
Mangamingi	6,000	15	336	18 Feb., "	9,040	"	4,286	4,286	..	4,286 0 0
Manganuiowae	5,000	23	479	18 Mar., "	2,500	"	500	500	..	500 0 0
Mareretu	5,000	"	"	" "	2,500	"	395	395	..	395 0 0
Maruwhenua	36,090	"	"	" "	49,200	"	2,000	2,000	..	2,000 0 0
Maruwhenua (part)	13,000	15	336	18 Feb., "	10,000	"	5,000	5,000	..	5,000 0 0
Maungataniwha	4,000	23	479	18 Mar., "	1,500	"	500	484	..	483 10 0
Motatau	5,000	"	"	" "	1,875	"	600	596	2 9 0	598 10 7
Motu	33,000	"	"	" "	14,025	"	2,475	2,475	..	2,475 0 0
Mount Baker	9,200	15	336	18 Feb., "	9,600	"	2,487	2,487	..	2,487 0 0
North-east Puketoi	13,300	"	"	" "	6,455	"	3,990	3,990	..	3,990 0 0
Oroua-Coal Creek	6,000	"	"	" "	6,440	"	1,050	1,050	..	1,050 0 0
Takahue	1,900	23	479	18 Mar., "	712	"	300	115	24 3 6	139 13 6
Tauhoa, Sections 184 to 201	4,069	15	336	18 Feb., "	1,675	"	449	380	..	380 0 0
Waimarino	20,900	"	"	" "	16,880	"	1,000 6,837	1,000 6,809	.. ..	1,000 0 0 6,808 15 7
Waoku	22,804	23	479	18 Mar., "	10,000	"	2,000	2,000	..	2,000 0 0
Woodlands, Blocks II., V., VI., VIII.	13,400	15	336	18 Feb., "	11,225	"	4,950	4,950	..	4,950 0 0
1892–93.										
Akaaka Swamp	2,935	72	1273	15 Sept., 1892	2,093	Drainage	920	917	..	916 12 1
Glenomaru, Blocks III., IV., V., VII., IX., X.	1,495	95 13	1606 246	8 Dec., " 23 Feb., 1893	946	Road-works	237	237	..	237 0 0
Hautapu-Ruahine	28,600	74	1297	22 Sept., 1892	21,000	"	6,931	6,767	152 15 6	6,919 18 7
Huiroa	6,433	72	1273	15 Sept., "	5,318	"	2,093	2,093	..	2,093 0 0
Kaimanuka	9,987	"	"	" "	5,350	"	2,665	2,665	..	2,665 0 0
Kakariki	5,000	23	413	30 Mar., 1893	5,786	"	1,562	1,562	..	1,562 0 0
Liberal	2,800	83	1388	20 Oct., 1892	2,900	"	400	400	..	400 0 0
Lillburn, Monowai, and Alton	30,745	83	1389	" "	23,059	"	8,000	8,000	..	8,000 0 0
Longwood, Blocks XVI. and I.	5,659	90	1529	11 Nov., "	2,829	"	1,400	1,400	..	1,400 0 0
Maioro Swamp	722	80	1365	13 Oct., "	451	Drainage	225	225	..	225 0 0
Mangaehu	492	72	1273	15 Sept., "	604	Road-works	301	301	..	301 0 0
Milsom	6,686	21	374	23 Mar., 1893	6,237	"	1,750	1,750	..	1,750 0 0
Mokoreta	7,400	23	411	30 Mar., "	3,700	"	1,850	493	..	492 13 2
Momahaki	626	72	1273	15 Sept., 1892	550	"	156	156	..	156 0 0
Ngatimaru, Blocks V., IX.	4,580	23	412	30 Mar., 1893	4,762	"	1,940	1,940	..	1,940 0 0
Nuhaka	9,577	80	1365	13 Oct., 1892	4,664	"	568	568	..	568 0 0
Opuawhanga No. 1	5,000	23	412	30 Mar., 1893	1,875	"	500	265	..	265 0 0
Otau	18,510	71	1255	8 Sept., 1892	6,941	"	2,350	2,350	..	2,350 0 0
Oxford	4,000	4	23	12 Jan., 1893	3,550	"	1,200	813	333 6 6	1,146 10 3
Paterson, Block I.	633	23	411	30 Mar., "	316	"	158	158	..	158 0 0
Rankleburn, Block VI.	544	13 102	246 1744	23 Feb., " 29 Dec., 1892	409	"	136	136	..	136 0 0
Ruapekapeka	11,900	77	1345	6 Oct., 1892	4,462	"	500	432	42 13 6	474 13 4
Tanner	5,200	78	1361	10 Oct., "	5,950	"	1,780	1,780	..	1,780 0 0
Tautuku, Block I.	3,850	77	1346	6 Oct., "	2,800	"	555	555	..	555 0 0
Tuapeka West, Blocks I., II., III., IV., VII., VIII.	2,545	13 102 "	246 1742 1745	23 Feb., 1893 29 Dec., 1892 " "	1,681	"	367	367	..	367 0 0
Upper Waitara	840	13	240	23 Feb., 1893	1,914	"	126	126	..	126 0 0
Waiau	8,831	23	412	30 Mar., "	5,621	"	1,405	837	..	837 4 6
Waikawa	6,000	"	"	" "	3,000	"	1,500	1,500	..	1,500 0 0
Waikawa-Otara	31,000	"	411	" "	15,500	"	7,750	7,750	..	7,749 12 5
Waimate Reserve No. 1126	634	72	1273	15 Sept., 1892	6,269	"	300	300	..	300 0 0
Waimate Reserve No. 1128	516	"	"	" "	7,268	"	25	25	..	25 0 0
Waimate Reserve No. 1178	157	"	"	" "	2,193	"	25	25	..	25 0 0
Waiwera	3,900	23	413	30 Mar., 1893	4,101	"	1,460	1,460	..	1,460 0 0
Woodlands, Blocks VII., X., XI.	1,693	74	1297	22 Sept., 1892	1,384	"	307	307	..	307 0 0
1893–94.										
Autawa	4,725	21	393	23 Mar., 1893	4,276	Road-works	1,153	947	2 19 6	950 3 0
Catlin's, Block II.	196	13	246	23 Feb., "	196	"	50	50	..	50 0 0
Glenomaru, Block VI.	25	62	1211	10 Aug., "	80	"	25	25	..	25 0 0
Hautapu, Blocks XI., XIV., XV.	6,293	92	1567	24 Nov., 1892	5,469	"	1,573	1,567	..	1,567 0 0
Kaimarama	3,182	71	1372	21 Sept., 1893	1,580	"	318	318	..	318 0 0
Lepperton	2,775	83	1383	20 Oct., 1892	2,998	"	966	899	67 0 5	966 0 0
Mangaere	7,432	30	526	27 April, 1893	12,845	"	4,144	4,144	..	4,144 0 0
Mangaokahu	2,325	54	1047	6 Aug., "	1,163	"	233	232	..	232 0 0
Mangoira-Coal Creek	6,500	74	1297	22 Sept., "	8,204	"	2,031	2,030	..	2,030 0 0
Nuhaka No. 2	777	68	1324	7 Sept., "	485	"	58	58	..	58 0 0
Omahine, Block I.	455	8	152	2 Feb., "	341	"	114	114	..	114 0 0
Opaku-Kapara	18,620	4	26	12 Jan., "	10,455	"	2,793	2,595	130 2 5	2,725 1 3
Opuawhanga-Whangarei No. 1	4,600	34	571	1 May, "	2,300	"	500	476	..	476 5 6
Oteramika	6,253	71	1377	21 Sept., "	2,631	"	625	120	..	120 1 8
Pohui	4,306	90	1521	11 Nov., 1892	3,655	"	538	538	..	538 0 0
Stirling	4,770	28	539	31 Mar., "	6,678	"	1,193	1,192	..	1,192 0 0
Swinburn	1,790	40	656	18 May, 1893	1,610	"	288	200	..	200 0 0
Tahaukupu	2,817	13	245	23 Feb., "	2,256	"	675	675	..	675 0 0
Carried forward	593,494	..	..	..	472,332	..	127,413	123164	820 12 4	123,984 7 10

Table 44.—Statement showing the Blocks of Land which have been proclaimed under "The Government Loans to Local Bodies Act Amendment Act, 1891," &c.—*continued.*

Name of Block.	Area of Block.	Gazetted. No.	Gazetted. Page.	Gazetted. Date.	Surveyor-General's Report. Valuation of Block.	Surveyor-General's Report. Works required to open up such Block.	Surveyor-General's Report. Estimated Cost proposed to be borrowed.	Expenditure. To Mar. 31, 1898.	Expenditure. April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899.	Expenditure. Total to March 31, 1899.
	Acres.				£		£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward ..	593,494	..	..	..	472,332	..	127,413	123164	820 12 4	123,984 7 10
1893–94.										
Tararua	3,993	19	339	16 Mar., 1893	4,592	Road-works	998	998	..	998 0 0
Tauhoa-Komokoriki	2,650	35	573	4 May, "	1,000	"	325	325	..	325 0 0
Taupiri	9,200	45	860	8 June, "	3,910	"	920	176	330 0 0	506 4 0
Tauwharetoi	9,404	68	1324	7 Sept., "	4,975	"	1,175	1,169	..	1,169 0 0
Umutaoroa	1,461	49	939	22 June, "	956	"	100	28	..	28 7 1
Waipoua	58,200	74	1419	5 Oct., "	29,100	"	5,800	5,795	4 1 0	5,799 5 5
Wellington Fruit-growers' Association	2,625	72	1274	15 Sept., 1892	8,565	"	1,313	1,313	..	1,313 0 0
Woodville	254	49	939	22 June, 1893	286	"	25	25	..	25 0 0
1894–95.										
Egmont, Block VI.	1,683	57	1163	26 July, 1894	1,721	Road-works	421	303	5 19 4	309 0 11
Gimmerburn	8,682	24	481	29 Mar., "	6,152	"	1,032	400	350 0 0	750 0 0
Hall	3,175	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	4,871	"	794	794	..	794 0 0
Hautapu No. 2	6,856	65	1272	24 Aug., 1894	8,860	"	1,714	1,694	19 7 3	1,713 15 10
Invercargill Hundred ..	1,403	72	1273	15 Sept., 1892	1,840	"	400	308	14 2 3	321 16 9
Kaitangiwhenua Special Settlement	11,000	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	6,600	"	1,375	1,375	..	1,375 0 0
Lauder-Blackstone	3,809	24	481	29 Mar., 1894	3,608	"	476	400	..	400 0 0
Lauder-Tiger Hill	28,723	"	"	" "	22,112	"	3,361	300	..	300 0 0
Lower Wanaka	3,368	34	714	10 May, "	1,250	"	101	..	101 0 0	101 0 0
Maniototo	277	24	481	29 Mar., "	245	"	104	100	..	100 0 0
Mecalickstone	6,010	19	339	16 Mar., 1893	4,954	"	1,503	1,503	..	1,503 0 0
Momahaki Village Settlement	824	7	131	25 Jan., 1894	6,311	"	1,360	1,311	..	1,310 17 8
Okoke	13,893	51	1049	5 July, "	9,577	"	2,369	1,541	9 9 0	1,550 2 0
Pakiri	2,950	21	387	23 Mar., 1893	1,106	"	369	369	..	369 0 0
Palmerston North Knights of Labour	10,995	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	12,222	"	2,749	2,749	..	2,749 0 0
Pohonuiatane	28,000	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	28,000	"	600	600	..	600 0 0
Ruahine	4,800	61	1291	16 Aug., 1894	2,225	"	840	822	2 6 10	824 1 9
Salisbury and Delaware ..	13,399	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	14,272	"	3,348	3,348	..	3,348 0 0
Sommerville	8,566	"	"	" "	9,085	"	2,142	2,142	..	2,142 0 0
Waiotahi	6,050	57	1162	26 July, 1894	2,269	"	756	751	..	750 13 9
Wanganui	6,222	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	6,046	"	1,556	1,388	167 10 10	1,556 0 0
1895–96.										
Ackers	351	68	1327	7 Sept., 1893	702	Road-works	220	217	..	216 16 3
Avoca	3,668	24	482	29 Mar., 1894	1,834	"	458	458	..	458 0 0
Blackstone-Gimmerburn ..	22,535	10	233	7 Feb., 1895	24,748	"	3,233	200	..	200 0 0
Beaumont	15,081	57	1113	20 July, 1893	6,215	"	1,886	..	..	..
Clifton No. 1	4,650	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	4,081	"	1,163	1,163	..	1,163 0 0
Dannevirke Centennial ..	11,041	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	5,233	"	2,616	135	181 8 6	316 17 11
Domet and Maerewhenua ..	12,301	30	524	27 April, "	10,023	"	1,974	..	..	..
Eltham	3,200	19	340	16 Mar., "	3,150	"	800	800	..	800 0 0
Gatton	3,800	19	"	" "	3,860	"	950	950	..	950 0 0
Glenomaru, Blocks III., IV., V., VII., X.	1,040	13 / 42	246 / 783	23 Feb., " / 25 May, 1895	619	"	179	131	..	130 15 4
Hikurangi No. 2	4,148	82	1663	16 Nov., 1894	3,240	"	520	496	0 5 0	496 4 5
Hokonui	3,223	18 / 7	459 / 149	7 Mar., 1895 / 30 Jan., 1896	1,607	"	603	79	6 12 10	85 2 10
Kaiparoro	9,392	60	1245	15 Aug., 1895	6,414	"	1,174	1,167	7 6 10	1,174 0 0
Kaitangata	4,785	89	1863	15 Dec., "	3,871	"	656	656	..	656 0 0
Kaitangiwhenua No. 2 ..	46,045	27	510	5 April, 1894	27,627	"	5,765	5,756	..	5,756 0 0
Kaitieke	45,500	12	283	14 Feb., 1895	41,700	"	11,375	2,751	109 16 0	2,861 5 0
Karioi-Alexandra	13,300	10	269 / 270	13 Feb., 1896	4,987	"	1,662	1,662	..	1,661 14 6
Kaupokonui	230	62	1215	10 Aug., 1893	230	"	58	34	..	34 7 6
Kawhatau	5,700	94	1951	21 Dec., 1894	6,588	"	1,425	861	400 10 3	1,261 9 3
Llewellyn	4,594	5	94	23 Jan., 1896	3,445	"	861	..	..	..
Malton Farm Homestead ..	1,028	80	1637	8 Oct., 1894	944	"	302	302	..	302 0 0
Manganui and Ruapehu ..	7,350	46	958	21 June, "	6,337	"	1,838	220	276 3 7	496 3 6
Manganui-Egmont	2,833	72	1510	4 Oct., "	3,597	"	894	894	..	894 0 0
Maniototo No. 2	6,916	10	233	7 Feb., 1895	5,911	"	907	300	..	300 0 0
Maniototo No. 3	6,295	12	284	14 Feb., "	6,001	"	1,282	..	..	..
Naseby, No. 2	2,444	10	234	7 Feb., 1895	2,038	"	313	..	..	..
Ngunguru	6,125	46	973	20 June, "	3,210	"	772	661	..	661 9 9
Pohangina	4,722	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	4,250	"	1,181	1,181	..	1,181 0 0
Puketoi-Aohanga	1,277	92	1933	19 Dec., 1895	1,027	"	319	305	8 12 0	313 6 5
Puniwhakau	10,695	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	7,604	"	1,926	930	995 13 3	1,926 0 0
Rangiwhakaoma	13,650	72	1501	4 Oct., 1894	5,487	"	1,707	..	..	..
Ross	1,912	34	760	9 May, 1895	2,564	"	478	421	..	421 0 0
Ruakituri	4,855	46	939 / 955	21 June, 1894	4,624	"	364	354	..	353 15 2
Ruapuna	847	80	1640	8 Nov.,	1,270	"	106	75	..	75 0 0
Swinburn No. 2	4,540	" / 72	1528 / 1393	26 Oct., 1893 / 28 Sept., "	3,830	"	227	..	..	..
Takahue and Whangape ..	12,200	89	1864	5 Dec., 1895	4,270	"	1,800	1,505	224 18 10	1,730 6 6
Terrace End ..	11,118	60	1245	15 Aug., "	8,950	"	2,173	2,173	..	2,173 0 0
Tokatoka	11,080	66	1399	5 Sept., "	5,923	"	2,890	2,887	..	2,887 3 7
Carried forward ..	1176437	..	..	..	917,053	..	222,496	184915	4,035 15 11	188,951 10 11

Table 44.—STATEMENT showing the BLOCKS of LAND which have been proclaimed under "The Government Loans to Local Bodies Act Amendment Act, 1891," &c.—*continued.*

Name of Block.	Area of Block.	Gazetted.			Surveyor-General's Report.			Expenditure.		
		No.	Page.	Date.	Valuation of Block.	Works required to open up such Block.	Estimated Cost proposed to be borrowed.	To Mar. 31, 1898.	April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899.	Total to March 31, 1899.
	Acres.				£		£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward ..	1176437	..	..	..	917,053	..	222,496	184915	4,035 15 11	188,951 10 11
1895–96.										
Toro	627	19	466	19 Mar., 1896	627	Road-works	115	..	..	..
Umutoi	2,200	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	1,675	"	550	550	..	550 0 0
Waiawa	20,000	5	94	27 Jan., 1896	8,000	"	2,500	200	..	200 0 0
Waimana	15,986	46	973	20 June, 1895	5,994	"	2,000	2,000	..	2,000 0 0
Whakarara, Section 14, Block XII.	508	16	342	1 Mar., 1894	406	"	38	..	..	..
Woodland, Block IX. ..	2,936	12	284	14 Feb., 1895	3,628	"	538	..	..	..
1896–97.										
Auckland Special Settlement	8,995	78	1665	24 Oct., 1895	3,698	Road-works	899	630	268 6 0	898 0 1
Catlin's, Blocks IV., V., VII., VIII.	8,580	68	1426	12 Sept., "	4,228	"	1,057	317	383 11 11	700 3 1
Gladstone	7,597	24	482	28 Mar., 1894	5,822	"	1,899	534	857 17 2	1,391 14 6
Karioi Parish	550	33	665	3 May, "	206	"	55	..	55 0 0	55 0 0
Mangataniwha No. 2 ..	1,220	47	955	18 June, 1896	487	"	120	..	..	..
Maropiu	5,350	24	667	11 Mar., 1897	2,675	"	535	200	..	200 0 0
Ohinewairua	7,462	11	22	28 Jan., "	7,491	"	1,865	211	1,012 0 3	1,223 8 0
Patua	9,692	24	667	11 Mar., "	6,542	"	1,636	431	1,025 7 9	1,456 5 1
Rawhitiroa	32,746	1	5	7 Jan., "	8,186	"	2,046	4	..	3 11 11
Te Mara	18,700	56	1092	13 July, 1893	1,376	"	218 218	392	18 5 2	410 9 9
Te Ngaue	1,470	54	1106	16 July, 1896	1,286	"	367	200	..	200 0 0
Whenuakura	11,000	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	6,600	"	1,338	..	46 19 1	46 19 1
1897–98.										
Hundalee	38,329	30 97	773 2081	1 April, 1897 18 Nov., "	25,704	Road-works	12,852*	5,996	1,503 14 0	7,500 0 0
Huiarua	7,750	90	1901 1902	21 Oct., "	2,695	"	1,000	..	..	..
Kaiparoro No. 2	400	30	773	1 April, "	150	"	50	50	..	50 0 0
Makahu	6,551	66	1361	27 Aug., 1896	6,180	"	1,648	..	153 4 0	153 4 0
Maungaru	4,368	20	494	24 Mar., 1898	2,184	"	460	..	111 4 8	111 4 8
Moeawatea	11,000	24	668	11 Mar., 1897	6,243	"	1,560	..	..	..
Paekotare	890	20	494	24 Mar., 1898	356	"	80	..	1 3 6	1 3 6
Taumata	3,423	20	495	" "	2,188	"	428	..	..	..
Waikawa, Block II. ..	307	90	1901	21 Oct., 1897	746	"	186	..	..	..
Waikiekie	600	78	1698	15 Oct., 1896	600	"	150	..	..	..
1898–99.										
Awaroa No. 2	4,050	20	495	24 Mar., 1898	2,775	Road-works	400	..	..	..
Hautapu-Ruahine No. 2 ..	17,170	87	1841	28 Nov., 1895	11,382	"	4,292	..	81 3 3	81 3 3
Hauturu	71,953	1	1	5 Jan., 1899	36,000	"	10,000	..	229 0 7	229 0 7
Hurimoana	3,190	79	1774	3 Nov., 1898	2,981	"	797	..	234 10 0	234 10 0
Kaipikari	4,273	"	1775	" "	2,136	"	582	..	..	..
Kauaeranga	3,556	91	2021	20 Dec., "	1,770	"	445	..	..	..
Kawhia	4,927	70	1498	27 Sept., "	2,819	"	616	..	..	..
Kaikokopu	7,397	16	435	23 Feb., 1899	2,774	"	739	..	..	..
Kohuratahi	3,548	79	1774	3 Nov., 1898	3,019	"	738	..	..	..
Kohumaru	4,880	83	1846	17 Nov., "	1,700	"	600	..	..	..
Mamaku	7,684	24	564	7 April, "	3,842	"	700	..	..	..
Mangakahia	10,223	20	495	24 Mar., "	4,548	"	2,000	..	752 5 6	752 5 6
Mareikura No. 1	950	77	1716	27 Oct., "	493	"	120	..	..	..
Mareikura No. 2	584	79	1773	3 Nov., "	292	"	70	..	..	..
Makotuku, Block III. ..	1,550	28	539	31 Mar., 1892	1,768	"	388	..	..	..
Marco	6,467	13	382	16 Feb., 1899	4,040	"	1,027	..	233 14 0	233 14 0
Marton No. 3	8,816	19	340	16 Mar., 1893	7,788	"	2,204	..	..	..
Naseby, Maniototo, and Gimmerburn	5,277	79	1774	3 Nov., 1898	3,677	"	910	..	..	..
Ngapaeruru	37,599	86	1914	1 Dec., "	18,799	"	5,000	..	2,901 5 6	2,901 5 6
Okohiriki	15,500	91	2021	20 Dec., "	6,200	"	1,550	..	..	..
Onslow	2,405	34	640	28 April, 1892	1,327	"	601	..	31 18 5	31 18 5
Otukai	9,600	83	1845	17 Nov., 1898	3,360	"	1,000	..	..	..
Opanake	2,508	24	563	7 April, "	1,254	"	100	..	92 2 11	92 2 11
Opuatea No. 1	5,720	9	254	2 Feb., 1899	2,288	"	858	..	66 19 0	66 19 0
Opuatea No. 2	8,030	83	1847	17 Nov., 1898	2,735	"	1,000	..	29 3 7	29 3 7
Opuatea No. 3	4,337	"	1846	"	1,976	"	600	..	95 1 5	95 1 5
Puhipuhi	24,800	91	2022	20 Dec., "	16,675	"	4,169	..	..	..
Puriri	1,856	"	"	" "	791	"	186	..	..	..
Pukeokahu	11,379	10	283	13 Feb., 1896	11,957	"	2,844	..	300 0 0	300 0 0
Rimuputa	5,609	77	1715	27 Oct., 1898	3,228	"	799	..	..	..
Te Purua	8,600	83	1846	17 Nov., "	3,440	"	1,000	..	..	..
Tokatoka	12,096	28	911	26 May, "	20,825	Drains and roads	3,000	..	..	..
Upper Makohine	14,201	24	564	7 April, "	15,851	Road-works	3,550	..	2,348 17 8	2,348 17 8
Umurua	4,866	24	"	" "	2,433	"	480	..	..	..
Waimatanui	20,000	20	496	24 Mar., "	8,000	"	3,000	..	103 1 0	103 1 0
Waipu	6,350	65	1398	1 Sept., "	2,540	"	790	..	..	..
Totals	1767425	..	..	..	1250509	..	316,059	196631†	16,971 12 3	213,601 17 5

*Since reduced to £7,500. †These figures give the totals to the nearest pound for the year ending 31st March, 1898.

Table 45.—*Summary of the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899.

Vote No.	Item No.	Land Districts.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Auckland	141,323	67,107 1 3	223 45	132 23	79 63	36	3,189	237 53	72 61	832 64	208 23	418,428	
		Hawke's Bay	50,775	29,255 3 0	87 51	39 43¾	78 62¼	5	474	0 52	3 14	209 0	70 0	242,886	
		Taranaki	56,899	34,100 8 10	46 2	29 56	56 50	17	1,211	20 65	3 60	125 30	93 70	173,300	
		Wellington	107,532	61,604 6 9	129 1	28 11	95 20	6	688	32 51	50 78½	295 19	339 54	707,525	
		Nelson	14,027	8,170 8 4	..	5 53½	0 51	..	..	1 15	1 60	111 0	0 23	7,000	
		„ (Mines)	8,853	3,716 14 5	..	..	3 30	4	378½	4 30	..	108 0	..	..	
		Marlborough	24,038	14,861 16 0	..	11 4¾	55 18	4	202	2 37	..	20 0	4 0	205,540	
		„ (Mines)	750	329 14 3	..	0 25	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Westland	15,639	6,585 11 7	10 22	2 22	3 30	1	30	1 69	2 55	44 6	50 5	1,500	
		„ (Mines)	4,400	3,216 18 8	..	1 30	1 20	..	..	..	..	60 31	4 0	..	
		Canterbury	14,948	5,777 16 11	32 9½	6 19¾	3 53	3	1,007	12 51	..	50 0	..	..	
		Otago	47,136	22,421 5 11	28 30	29 79	7 54	1	360	29 45	3 65	44 41	30 33	388,000	
		Southland	39,590	12,627 10 10	17 74	25 4¾	6 33	5	851	5 56	..	3 58	..	199,550	
		„ (Mines)	5,300	1,597 4 6	..	0 40	5 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	61,000	
		General	15,918	10,980 2 9	..	0 25	0 23	14	2,198	..	0 21	105 60	69 0	2,000	
		Amount authorised by the House	547,128	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	410,875	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Grand totals	..	282,352 4 0	574 74½	312 37½	398 72¼	96	10,588½	349 44	139 14½	2,009 63	869 48	2,406,729	

* Details on following pages.

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899.

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remar
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, and Other Works.						Length.						
		Auckland.	£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
91	1	Ahipara–Herekino	200	150 6 8	..	..	0 22	.. ..	1 23	..	30 0	..	..	
	2	Awanui–West Coast	100	75 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	5 0	..	..	..	..	Also repairs to Awanui Bridge. Work done by Mongonui County.
	3	Herekino–Whangape	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	5 0	..	Whangaroa County have work in hand.
	4	Kaeo–Whangaroa	200	175 10 0	..	0 26	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also renewing culverts, &c., by Mongonui County.
	5	Kaitaia–Ahipara	200	125 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	2 0	..	..	..	Mongonui County did work by co-operative labour.
	6	Mangatoetoe	50	50 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	4 40	..	..	..	Work done by Mongonui County.
	7	Mongonui–Taipa–Awanui	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	8	Maungataniwha	400	245 15 0	..	..	1 77	.. ..	..	6 15	..	9 0	4,764	"
	9	Mongonui County roads	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	1 40	..	10 0	..	..	
	10	Mangonui Parish–Awanui (Main Road) ..	800	411 1 3	..	1 20	..	2 60	5 30	..	30 0	..	1,000	Work done by Mongonui County.
	11	Ororu–Hikurangi	91	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	12	Takahue Village–Victoria Valley	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	13	Takahue–Herekino	400	95 15 0	..	0 9	..	1 36	0 54	..	8 0	..	7,296	
	14	Victoria Valley–Main Road	800	504 2 0	5 40	3 75	..	.. ..	1 37	..	6 0	..	300	
	15	Victoria Valley–Kaitaia..	250	150 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	7 0	..	..	..	Mongonui County have also done repairs to bridge and culverts.
	16	Kaeo–Waimate	117	100 0 0	..	0 14	..	1 52	3 62	..	..	..	..	Work done by Whangaroa County.
	17	Kaeo Parish–Mangonui Parish (Main Road) ..	400	299 19 6	..	0 2	..	1 50	4 43	..	20 0	..	..	
	18	Whangaroa Coast Road	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Whangaroa County have work in hand.
	19	Whangaroa–Kaeo (widening, bridging, &c.) ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not issued.
	20	Whangaroa County roads	200	100 0 0	..	0 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also repairs and metaling by Whangaroa County.
	21	Hayter's–Morrow's	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	22	Hukerenui South–Waiotu Valley	200	109 14 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	23	Hukerenui–Kaeo Parish (Main Road) ..	800	588 13 6	..	0 15	..	1 40	9 76	..	25 0	..	..	
	24	Main Road, Lot 2, Block XIV., Hukerenui S.D.	21	21 3 1	1 0	0 18	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	25	Main North Road–Waiotu Block	225	225 8 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bay of Islands County.
	26	Motatau	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised and issued.
	27	Ngatipipo	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	28	Opua–Waimate	240	75 16 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 40	..	9 0	..	
		Carried forward	7,394	3,702 10 6	6 40	6 39	2 19	6 238	33 45	20 15	129 0	23 0	13,360	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued*.

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	7,394	3,702 10 6	6 40	6 39	2 19	6	238	33 45	20 15	129 0	23 0	13,360	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Auckland—continued.													
91	29	Okaihau-Kerikeri	100	100 0 0	..	0 38	..	..	..	0 42	..	..	..	200	Work done by Bay of Islands County.
	30	Ohaeawai-Okaihau	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bay of Islands County.
	31	Ohaeawai-Kaikohe	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	32	Pungaere Settlement-Kerikeri	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	33	Ruapekapeka-Waiotu-Bridge	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	34	Ramarama Valley	200	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 20	2,000	
	35	Road through Native land near Waihou ..	40	40 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Bay of Islands County.
	36	Towai-Ruapekapeka	52	51 14 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	37	Utakura Road deviation	500	27 0 0	4 12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work under action.
	38	Waitangi-Kaikohe	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bay of Islands County.
	39	Kaikohe-Taheke	200	102 2 4	..	0 3	..	..	..	1 28	..	..	..	..	Hokianga County have work in hand.
	40	Auckland Special Settlement-Mangakahia ..	300	238 10 11	24 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,000	
	41	Hokianga County roads	200	200 0 0	..	..	1 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Hokianga County have also metalled Taheke-Rawene Road.
	42	Herd's Point-Takahue	450	295 17 2	..	0 57	1 0	..	..	8 73	..	13 0	9 0	3,000	
	43	Herekino	200	91 9 0	..	..	..	..	..	2 55	..	3 0	..	..	
	44	Kohukohu-Takahue-Herd's Point	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	45	Kohukohu-Rakautapu	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	46	Kohukohu-Motukaraka	200	125 17 3	..	..	0 58	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	Also repairs to bridges.
	47	Marlborough Association	300	227 14 5	0 42	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 2	..	
	48	Manganuiowae	200	74 13 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 7	2,000	Also opening up block by bridle-tracks.
	49	Manganuiowae-Whangape	300	33 9 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7 0	4,000	
	50	Maungaru-Mangakahia	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hokianga County.
	51	Omanaia-Hokianga Heads	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	52	Omanaia-Rawene	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	53	Okaihau-Horeke	45	45 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	47 0	..	..	..	..	Work done by Hokianga County.
	54	Okaihau-Victoria Valley	300	71 16 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 25	..	15 0	..	
	55	Punakitere Settlement roads	400	246 14 10	..	0 43	..	1	32	3 70	..	..	..	..	
	56	Te Awaroa North	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised.
	57	Taheke-Otau	100	93 16 6	1 0	0 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	58	Waimamaku Settlement	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued
	59	Waimamaku	300	191 2 10	..	0 17	..	1	66	..	..	3 0	..	..	
	60	Waimamaku-Pakanae	200	245 7 7	..	0 40	..	..	..	1 9	..	8 0	..	800	
	61	Waimamaku-Punakitere	365	364 10 3	..	1 9	2 33	..	..	..	3 78	..	7 0	2,000	
		Carried forward	14,946	6,572 7 7	36 14	10 56	7 38	8	336	98 76	24 38	156 0	76 29	47,360	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	14,946	6,572 7 7	36 14	10 56	7 38	8 336	98 76	24 38	156 0	76 29	47,360	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	62	Waipoua Survey District, Part Block VII. ..	300	264 7 11	..	..	2 33	.. ...	..	..	..	..	2,000	Whangarei County have this work in hand.
	63	Whangape, Section 55, Block VII.	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	64	Caves–McLaughlin's	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	65	Gile's Corner–Great North Road	70	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, not issued.
	66	Grahamstown–Parua Bay	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	67													
	68	Hikurangi–Jordan	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
		Hikurangi–Otonga	250	250 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	0 73	..	..	..	1,400	Whangarei County have done the work.
	69													
	70	Hukerenui–Waiotu	200	150 11 6	..	1 17	..	1 32	..	..	..	..	800	Ditto.
	71	Hukerenui, Blocks X., XI.	160	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
		Hukerenui, Block II.–Whakapara Railway-station	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	72	Jordan–Hukerenui Station (Bridge Road) ..	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei
	73	Jordan	200	200 0 0	..	..	1 22	.. ..	..	4 60	..	5 0	2,000	County.
	74	Kauaeranga	126	126 0 0	..	..	..	1 30	0 46	..	2 0	..	500	
	75	Kaimamaku	200	200 0 0	..	0 29	2 20	.. ..	0 34	..	..	..	..	
	76	Kauri Mountain–Pataua..	100	100 0 0	..	..	0 63	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	77	Maungakaramea–Tangihua	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	78	Maunu–Maungatapere–Mangakahia ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	79	Maunu–Otuhe	200	199 10 11	..	0 40	..	.. ..	0 15	..	..	..	2,000	
	80	Mangakahia, Block IV.	200	200 0 0	..	2 3	..	1 33	0 3	..	2 0	..	500	
	81	Marsden Point to Waipu..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	82	Maungakaramea–Ruarangi	55	50 15 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Culverts and general repairs.
	83	Mangapai–Waikiekie	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	84	Mangapai	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Whangarei County have done the work.
	85	Mareretu–Finlayson's–Waipu	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grants to Whangarei and Otamatea Counties.
	86	Old North Road	40	40 15 0	..	..	0 4	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	87	Opuawhanga–Otonga East	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	88	Opuawhanga, Blocks XIII., XIV., Whangarei, Blocks III., IV.	300	133 4 0	..	..	3 40	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
		Carried forward	19,747	8,687 12 5	36 14	14 65	17 60	11 431	101 7	29 18	160 0	81 29	58,560	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	19,747	8,687 12 5	36 14	14 65	17 60	11 431	101 7	29 18	160 0	81 29	58,560	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	89	Opuawhanga–Whananaki	160	52 16 7	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	200	Culverts, removal of slips, &c.
	90	Purua–Taheke	100	100 0 0	..	0 44	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	300	Whangarei County have work in hand.
	91	Purua–Ruatangata–Mangakahia	300	200 9 8	..	1 12	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	3,000	Work done by Whangarei County.
	92	Ruatangata	100	100 0 0	..	0 22	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	500	Ditto.
	93	Ruakaka–North River	300	300 0 0	..	3 76	..	.. ..	2 51	..	..	..	500	"
	94	Three-mile Bush (repairing)	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	95	Tangihua No. 2–Tangiteroria	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	96	Tangiteroria–Mangakahia	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	97	Tokatoka–Mangapai	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	98	Waikiekie Parish–Hukerenui (Main Road) ..	400	283 16 11	..	0 1	..	.. ..	7 24	..	22 0	..	..	
	99	Waipu	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; but not issued.
	100	Waipu Road and Wharf	250	200 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	3 7	..	..	..	..	Work done by Whangarei County.
	101	Waipu–Marereteu	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Otamatea County.
	102	Whananaki Wharf	137	129 10 0	..	..	..	1 115*	..	..	..	..	..	* Wharf.
	103	Wharf Extension, Waipu	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	104	Avoca Special Settlement	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	105	Arapohue	150	50 0 0	..	0 25	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Hobson County.
	106	Dargaville–Aratapu	100	50 0 0	..	0 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	107	Dargaville–Kaikohe	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hobson County.
	108	Dargaville–Tangiteroria	300	200 0 0	..	..	..	1 30	1 0	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	109	Mangawhare–Opanaki	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	110	Mangatu Special Settlement *viâ* Mongonui Bluff–West Coast	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	111	Maungarama Special Settlement	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not yet issued.
	112	Mititai–Tokatoka	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hobson County.
	113	Opanaki–Hokianga	1,500	1,022 2 11	..	3 69	..	3 105	..	..	32 0	..	20,000	Ditto.
	114	Opanaki–Mongonui Bluff	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	115	Opanaki–Mongonui Bluff–West Coast ..	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	26,394	11,376 8 6	36 14	25 14	17 60	16 681	115 9	29 18	214 0	81 29	83,060	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, fo the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	26,394	11,376 8 6	36 14	25 14	17 60	16 681	115 9	29 18	214 0	81 29	83,060	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	116	Omu Wharf (Avoca)	75	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	117	Okahu	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Hobson County
	118	Scarrott's Wharf, £1 for £1	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	119	Te Kopuru Wharf, £1 for £1	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	1 58*	..	..	..	..	..	Wharf. Work done by Hobson County.
	120	Te Kopuru–Kaipara Heads	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Hobson County.
	121	Tangihua	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	122	Te Kopuru–Tikinui	200	197 2 0	..	0 47	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	Work done by Hobson County.
	123	Tikinui Roads–Kopuru	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Hobson County.
	124	Hakura–Waikiekie Parish (Main Road) ..	800	397 1 11	..	1 47	..	.. ..	1 55	..	20 0	..	..	Kaiwaka–WaipuGorge.
	125	Hukatere	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	126	Kaiwaka–Mangawai	200	150 0 0	..	0 51	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Otamatea County.
	127	Mareretu	195	95 0 2	..	..	0 77	1 30	..	1 21	..	..	200	Grant to Otamatea County.
	128	Matakohe	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	129	Matakohe–Mongonui	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Matakohe Road Board.
	130	Matakohe–Tokatoka	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Otamatea County.
	131	Paparoa–Maungaturoto	200	..	..	0 2	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Making approaches to two Bridges.
	132	Pahi–Maungaturoto	120	88 16 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Otamatea County.
	133	Pahi–Waikiekie	150	87 17 4	..	1 12	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	134	Raupo Wharf	250	12 0 0	..	..	..	1 *216	..	..	..	..	11,000	* Wharf.
	135	Tokatoka Post-office	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	136	Topini–Maungaturoto	50	7 8 6	..	1 62	..	.. ..	..	..	12 0	..	..	
	137	Valley Road–Paparoa	100	7 5 0	..	6 0	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	138	Ahuroa–Komokoriki	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	139	Dairy Flat–Lucas Creek	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	140	Hoteo–Waiwhiu	16	4 13 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Removal of slips.
	141	Hoteo Valley	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	142	Hoteo Valley–Te Arai	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	143	Kaukapakapa–Port Albert	250	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Rodney County.
	144	Mahurangi Wharf	260	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
		Carried forward ..	31,460	12,623 12 5	36 14	36 75	18 57	19 985	116 64	30 39	246 0	81 29	96,260	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	31,460	12,623 12 5	36 14	36 75	18 57	19 985	116 64	30 39	246 0	81 29	96,260	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	145	Makarau–Railway-station	150	119 15 10	..	..	1 60	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	146	Makarau Bridge–West Coast	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Tender accepted, work begins at an early date.
	147	Matakana–Omaha	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	148	Matakana Ranges–Te Arai	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	149	Matakana Wharf (Mahurangi Heads) ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	150	Matakana Ranges	200	55 3 2	3 0	..	6 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	151	Port Albert–Wellsford Junction ..	100	49 15 5	..	0 6	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	152	Puhoi–Warkworth	50	3 12 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	1 0	..	..	Repairs to Turntable Hill.
	153	Pakiri–Omaha (Warkworth–Pakiri)	300	98 2 5	..	0 26	..	.. ..	..	0 25	..	..	2,000	Work done by Rodney County.
	154	Tauhoa, Blocks X. and XI.	400	156 5 9	5 0	1 1	1 66	.. ..	..	..	3 0	..	2,500	Ditto.
	155	Tauhoa	100	93 0 0	..	0 18	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Authority issued.
	156	Te Arai–Mangawhai	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	157	Waiwera–Hakuru (Main Road)	800	369 8 5	..	1 61	..	.. ..	1 0	..	30 0	..	..	
	158	Warkworth to Kaipara Flats	50	8 0 4	..	..	..	.. ..	0 40	..	..	..	..	
	159	Warkworth–Matakana	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	160	Warkworth–Wellsford	50	22 0 3	..	0 25	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	161	Warkworth Wharf–Courthouse	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	162	Warkworth–Main Road	150	4 7 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	1 0	..	..	Rodney County have work in hand.
	163	Warkworth–Kaipara Flat and Tauhoa ..	300	129 10 4	..	..	..	1 32	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Rodney County.
	164	Helensville–Port Albert	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	165	Kaukapakapa–Port Albert	150	..	..	0 27	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Work done by Rodney County.
	166	Hoteo Valley–Mangawai	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	Grant to Otamatea County.
	167	Great Barrier Island roads	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	168	Great North Road (Cut Hill)	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
	169	Great North Road, from Whau Bridge–Waikomiti Cemetery	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	170	Henderson	150	100 0 0	..	0 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	171	Henderson–West Coast	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
		Carried forward	36,260	13,832 13 11	44 14	41 19	28 23	20 1,017	118 24	30 64	281 0	81 29	106,760	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	36,260	13,832 13 11	44 14	41 19	28 23	20 1,017	118 24	30 64	281 0	81 29	106,760	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	172	Henderson–Swanson (metalling)	150	150 0 0	..	0 60	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	173	Huia–West Coast	250	250 0 0		0 65	..	1 73	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	174	Inland Road–Kaukapakapa	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
	175	Kauri Forest Track, Waitakerei	400	400 0 0	..	..	2 29	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	176	Kumeu Main Road–Rewiti	150	150 0 0	..	2 49	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	177	Lucas Creek Road	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
	178	North Shore–Waiwera (Main Road) ..	800	560 15 3	..	2 37	..	.. ..	0 34	..	28 0	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	179	Rewiti–Parkhurst	150	150 0 0	..	1 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	180	Swanson–West Coast	300	200 0 0	..	0 30	1 40	1 30	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
	181	Upper Waiwera Road extension	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	182	Upper Waiwera–Wade–Wainui	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	183	West Coast Road–Waitangi	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	184	Woodhill–Parkhurst	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	185	Wade Village–Orewa	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	186	Wade–Lucas Creek	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	187	Waiwera Springs	134	101 10 1	..	0 14	..	.. ..	0 31	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	188	Wainui–Kaukapakapa	150	150 0 0	..	2 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitemata County.
	189	Wainui–Kaukapakapa Railway-station ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	190	Waikomiti West	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waitemata County.
	191	Waikomiti–Huia	110	110 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Rangitoto Domain Board.
	192	Rangitoto Mountain, £1 for £1	20	20 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	1 50	..	..	..	Work done by Awhitu Road Board.
	193	Akaaka–Otaua	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; but not issued.
	194	Awhitu Road and Wharf	295	180 11 11	..	1 46	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	600	Ditto.
	195	Hunua Road	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	196	Hunua–Ararimu	258	143 0 10	1 60	0 69	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, and issued.
	197	Hunua–Main Road	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Otahuhu Road Board.
	198	Hunua–Railway-station	400	34 16 0	..	0 10	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	199	Mataitai–Clevedon	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	200	Otahuhu Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	41,827	16,433 8 0	45 74	54 39	32 12	22 1,120	119 9	32 34	309 0	81 29	107,360	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	41,827	16,433 8 0	45 74	54 39	32 12	22	1,120	119 9	32 34	309 0	81 29	107,360	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Auckland—continued.													
91	201	Otahuhu–Bombay (Main Road)	450	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairs to roads, bridges, and culverts.
	202	Otau	500	389 5 7	1 40	..	7 60	..	..	..	..	..	21 0	5,000	See Vote 91, Item 211.
	203	Otau Block	200	6 10 0	..	1 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	204	Patumahoe–West Mauku (metalling) ..	100	50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	205	Panmure Wharf (repairs)	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, and issued.
	206	Pollok to Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	" "
	207	Pollok Settlement Main Road	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	" "
	208	Turanga–Maraetai	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	209	Wairoa River–Otau	315	297 3 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 30	..	7 0	..	Work done by Waiuku Road Board.
	210	Waiuku–Pukekohe	350	80 0 0	..	0 59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	See Vote 91, Item 201.
	211	Great South Road, Otahuhu–Cambridge ..	200	600 12 4	..	..	..	..	..	25 0	..	..	..	..	
	212	Awaroa (Block XI.)	400	114 18 3	..	..	1 32	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	
	213	Aotea Wharf Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Further funds required for this work.
	214	Bregmen's Landing–Tuakau	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not issued.
	215	Bregmen's Landing and Mercer	100	1 1 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	..	
	216	Huntly–Kahuruhuru	200	150 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 44	..	20 0	2,000	Also bridges and culverts repaired.
	217	Lawson's Hill	250	169 0 8	..	0 52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	218	Main Road–Pukekawa	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not issued.
	219	Main Road–West Coast Road through Block VI., Awaroa	250	146 11 2	..	0 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work still in progress.
	220	Main Roads to Blocks VII. and IX., Karioi ..	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 63	..	..	..	6,000	Work done by Raglan County.
	221	Mangapiko–Maire	50	50 0 0	..	0 52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	222	Matakataka Cutting	100	100 0 0	..	0 73	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	223	Ngaruawahia–Huntly West	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	224	Onewhero (Sections 128, 129)	55	50 16 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	225	Otorohea Trig. Road	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	226	Raglan–Ruapuke	200	50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 26	..	..	..	..	Raglan County has work in hand.
	227	Raglan–Waipa	400	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 52	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	228	Rutherford's Hill, Section 90, Block III., Awaroa	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	229	Tuakau–Raglan	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	"
	230	Tuakau–Opuatia–Kahuruhuru	1,200	1,023 19 8	..	3 2	..	..	..	1 40	..	45 0	..	..	Also metalling.
	231	Aotea–Raglan	200	75 3 11	..	0 16	..	..	..	0 23	..	..	..	..	Raglan County has work in hand.
	232	Waingaro–Te Mata	300	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 33	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
		Carried forward	49,647	20,289 10 11	47 34	62 78	41 24	22	1,120	150 6	39 28	354 0	130 29	126,360	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	49,647	20,289 10 11	47 34	62 78	41 24	22	1,120	150 6	39 28	354 0	130 29	126,360	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.* *Auckland*—continued.													
91	233	Waingaro–Ngaruawahia	300	310 12 9	..	..	..	..	..	1 70	..	..	..	8,500	Also metalling.
	234	Waitetuna–Aotea	500	22 18 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	11 0	8,000	Works in progress.
	235	Waitetuna–Waingaro	300	199 7 10	..	..	..	..	..	2 20	..	..	..	..	Also 16 ft. bridge over Parawai Stream.
	236	Waitetuna–Kauri	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,000	Work will soon be started on this road.
	237	Waitetuna–Whatawhata..	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Survey not yet completed.
	238	Blocks X. and XI., Rangiriri S.D.	60	37 17 0	9 0	0 17	..	..	..	..	..	9 0	..	3,000	
	239	Kimihia–Huntly, Education Endowment ..	100	75 0 0	..	..	1 70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Huntly Road Board.
	240	Ohinewai–Matahura	200	98 5 1	..	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,000	Ditto.
	241	Rangiriri–Cambridge (Main Raod)	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	242	Road to Section 485, Whangamarino ..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Huntly Road Board.
	243	University Endowment, Kimihia	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	244	Waerenga Station–Waerenga Settlement ..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not issued.
	245	Waipuna Valley Road and Whangamarino Parish	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	246	Bombay–Rangiriri (Main Road)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	247	Arahiwi and Mamaku Railway-station ..	365	142 13 10	..	2 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	248	Ngongotaha–Bishop's Section	100	99 17 1	..	2 15	..	..	..	0 4	..	..	..	..	
	249	Okoheriki 1D	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Location of roads proceeding.
	250	Rotorua–Ngongotaha Mount	100	34 12 3	..	1 60	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 0	..	
	251	Rotorua Wharf	400	174 8 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 ch. 16 lks. of wharf constructed to date.
	252	Rotorua–Wairoa	300	87 16 9	..	..	..	..	..	0 10	2 61	..	7 0	..	
	253	Rotoiti–Tarawera, *viâ* Okataina	300	47 7 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Contracts will shortly be let.
	254	Taumata Nos. 1A, 2A, 3B East; 3B West No. 1; 3C East; 3G West No. 1	182	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	255	Galatea–Ruatoki	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Waiting further instructions.
	256	Rotorua–Te Teko	1,000	320 1 1	4 13	..	..	..	..	1 8	..	27 0	..	..	About 40 Natives working on Te Teko end of road.
	257	Rotorua–Galatea–Waikaremoana	8,000	12,229 8 6	19 65	19 56	7 33	..	..	11 60	..	75 0	..	11,000	
	258	Ratowhero, *viâ* Waiotapu–Wairakei ..	1,000	436 19 3	..	..	..	..	..	3 67	..	38 0	..	..	Also bridge, 25 ft. span. constructed.
	259	Te Aroha–Rotorua Road, through Okauia Block	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued
	260	Tirau (Oxford)–Rotorua (Main Road) ..	591	244 9 0	..	..	..	..	..	2 39	..	9 0	..	..	Also reconstruction of culverts.
		Carried forward	65,695	34,851 5 3	80 32	89 76	50 47	22	1,120	173 44	42 9	516 0	154 29	165,860	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	65,695	34,851 5 3	80 32	89 76	50 47	22 1,120	173 44	42 9	516 0	154 29	165,860	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Auckland*—continued.												
91	261	Alexandra-Kawhia	450	227 18 11	..	..	..	.. ..	0 30	..	33 0	..	20,000	Works in progress.
	262	Briscoe's Section, Awakino (road to) ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Compensation not yet settled.
	263	Hauturu East	500	495 9 0	24 0	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Road-work not begun.
	264	Kawhia Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nothing yet done, funds hardly sufficient.
	265	Kauroa-Pakoka	200	100 0 0	..	0 43	..	.. ..	1 32	..	..	..	2,000	Work done by Raglan County.
	266	Kawhia-Aotea	110	104 19 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	14 0	..	..	
	267	Mangauika A 1A	280	254 17 11	..	2 37	..	.. ..	..	..	4 33	..	5,000	
	268	Otorohanga-Pirongia	200	200 0 0	11 37	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	Waiting further funds for construction.
	269	Kinohaku East	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Engineering survey in hand.
	270	Pirongia West	1,500	137 10 0	..	0 69	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	
	271	Tokanui-Wharepapa	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	12,000	No work started, so little of the land having been selected.
	272	Te Kuiti-Awakino	6,000	5,546 7 1	7 0	9 2	1 10	1 34	..	..	30 0	..	10,000	
	273	Waitomo Caves	40	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	5 30	..	32,000	
	274	Wharauroa-Ohura	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work not yet commenced.
	275	Paemako-Ohura	400	92 1 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Punt and ferry approaches.
	276	Kihikihi-Otorohanga-Te Kuiti	300	47 12 9	..	2 9	..	.. ..	..	..	16 0	..	3,000	
	277	Ouruwhero No. 2 and Puketarata	38	37 14 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done, and included in last year's report, but not then charged.
	278	Kihikihi-Waotu	200	49 19 6	..	..	..	.. ..	1 63	..	..	..	..	
	279	Wharepuhunga No. 1	745	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Request for roads not yet made.
	280	Ake-ake	75	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority just issued.
	281	Maketu Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	282	Otawa Nos. 1A and 1B	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	No authority issued.
	283	Pye's Pa	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	284	Papamoa Special Settlement	400	175 4 6	..	..	3 40	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Tauranga County has work in hand.
	285	Papamoa No. 1	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	286	Papamoa Nos. 1 and 2	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	287	Tauranga-Cambridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	288	Maketu-Rotorua	600	411 2 8	..	0 42	..	.. ..	7 71	..	22 40	..	..	Dalbeth's Road included.
		Carried forward	79,733	42,832 3 9	122 69	105 38	55 17	23 1,154	185 0	42 9	641 23	154 29	271,860	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	79,733	42,832 3 9	122 69	105 38	55 17	23	1,154	185 0	42 9	641 23	154 29	271,860	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Auckland—continued.													
	289	Pongakawa–Rotorua and Roturoa Road ..	200	72 2 4	5 1	2 12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	290	Tauranga–Runanga	2,000	1,821 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	36 56	..	132 0	..	..	Lichfield–Te Atiamuri Section included.
	291	Ateamuri–Orakei-Korako	450	243 14 0	11 1	2 54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	292	Otarewa–Waipapa Stream (Robison's Road) ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	293	Orakei-Korako (tracks to)	300	233 3 10	10 28	10 28	..	..	..	0 43	..	16 0	..	..	
	294	Tauhara Mountain	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Not being urgent, nothing has yet been done.
	295	Tokaanu–Taupo	700	395 16 7	..	..	..	..	..	6 0	..	36 0	..	..	
	296	Tokaanu Road and Wharf	300	..	0 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Plans approved, work will now go on.
	297	Waihi–Tokaanu	200	172 0 10	1 18	0 31	..	..	..	..	..	0 31	..	..	
	298	Whakatane Wharf (repairs)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Plans submitted for approval.
	299	Galatea–Te Teko	160	159 9 7	..	..	..	1	30	..	..	4 0	..	..	
	300	Matata–Te Teko	200	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Whakatane County have work in hand.
	301	Nukuhou–Maraetotara	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	302	Otara River–Papamoa	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	303	Omarumutu–Te Whaiti	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	304	Opotiki–Otamamaku	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	305	Papamoa–Omarumutu	150	150 0 0	..	0 37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Constructed by Whakatane County.
	306	Rangitaiki–Ruatoki–Waiotahi	430	308 19 4	6 24	1 22	..	..	..	..	5 57	..	30 0	..	
	307	Te Teko–Opotiki	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	308	Waikaremoana–Ruatahuna	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	309	Waimana–Ohiwa	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Whakatane County have work in hand.
	310	Waioeka River–Waiotahi Block	300	..	..	0 36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	311	Waioeka (Blocks II., III., IV.)	750	50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whakatane County.
	312	Waimana	500	14 7 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 60	..	8 0	..	Ditto.
	313	Waiotahi	500	150 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£150 granted to Whakatane County.
	314	Bay of Plenty—Sundry roads	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£50 granted to Whakatane County.
	315	Village Settlements	450	*Cr.* 7 9 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 78	..	..	..	Fern Flat, &c.
	316	Contingencies and Engineering	1,109	936 16 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Rent of office, salary, and travelling expenses, &c., Central District.
	317	Totara Foreshore bridges (renewing) ..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangaroa County.
		Carried forward	91,632	47,639 18 3	156 70	123 18	55 17	24	1,184	228 19	49 44	829 54	192 29	271,860	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	91,632	47,639 18 3	156 70	123 18	55 17	24 1,184	228 19	49 44	829 54	192 29	271,860	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	318	Waikoura Bridge (repairs)	200	100 0 0	..	..	..	1 188	..	..	..	..	..	Being erected by Whangaroa County.
	319	Paeroa Stream Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bay of Islands County.
	320	Waitangi Bridge	200	13 13 0	..	..	..	.. ..	0 9	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	321	Waikerikeri Bridge	160	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	322	Hokianga Bridge	40	40 0 0	..	..	..	1 30	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Hokianga County.
	323	Taheke Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, not issued.
	324	Mangakahia Bridge (to account)	800	384 13 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Under construction.
	325	Wairua River Bridge	77	75 19 0	..	..	..	1 151	..	..	..	..	8,000	
	326	Whangarei Bridge	100	100 0 0	..	..	0 14	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Approaches to bridge, work done by Whangarei County.
	327	Waiotu Bridge (Hutchinson's)	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	328	Wairoa, Tangiteroria Bridge (to account) ..	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	329	Waipu Bridge (damage by floods)	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bridge being repaired by Whangarei County.
	330	Wairoa Bridge (Dargaville)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	331	Hardie's Bridge (repairs)	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	332	Mangawai Bridge (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	333	Hoteo Bridge	160	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	334	Matakana Bridge	125	125 0 0	..	0 20	..	1 34	..	..	..	..	..	Erected by Rodney County.
	335	Makarau Bridge	350	*Cr.* 156 1 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Temporary repairs to bridge, tenders accepted.
	336	Mahurangi Bridge (Warkworth)	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	337	Puhoi Bridge	200	109 10 8	..	..	..	1 58	..	..	..	..	..	Constructed by Rodney County.
	338	Upper Makarau Bridge	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Tenders for erection accepted.
	339	Puhoi–Makarau (repairs, two bridges ..	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Rodney County.
	340	Orakei Bridge (repairs)	500	472 10 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Public Works Department.
	341	Oakley Creek Bridge, £1 for £1	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Avondale Road Board.
		Carried forward	97,244	49,161 4 6	156 70	123 38	55 31	29 1,645	228,28	49 44	829 54	192 29	279,860	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	97,244	49,161 4 6	156 70	123 38	55 31	29 1,645	228 28	49 44	829 54	192 29	279,860	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	342	Mangere Bridge	105	106 5 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Public Works Department.
	343	Mauku Bridge (Drury-Waiuku)	4	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	344	Tamaki Bridge (Panmure)	1,300	269 3 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Partly done by Public Works Department.
	345	Tuakau Bridge (to account)	500	42 19 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Trial borings are being made at proposed site.
	346	Waitetuna Bridge	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised to Raglan County.
	347	Waipa Bridge (Ngaruawahia)	1,582	912 17 6	..	..	..	1 480	..	..	..	..	8,500	Waipa County has work in hand.
	348	Cambridge Bridge (repairs) £1 for £1 ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Small repairs and expenses in inspecting bridge.
	349	Whatiwhatihoe Bridge	100	13 14 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	General repairs, screwing up trusses, paint- and tarring,
	350	Puniu Bridge	100	43 1 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised to Tauranga County.
	351	Kaiti Bridge	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Tauranga County.
	352	Kaituna Stream Bridge	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Not yet authorised.
	353	Ruahihi Bridge (Tauranga-Cambridge) ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work will be started shortly
	354	Morea Bridge	900	7 2 7	0 4	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Partly constructed.
	355	Waikato Bridge (Waiotapu) (to account) ..	1,500	817 0 10	..	..	..	1 240	..	..	..	..	..	Government subsidised Whakatane County £1 for £1.
	356	Otara Bridge	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	1 360	..	..	..	..	..	Whakatane County has work in hand.
	357	Whakatane County Bridge, £1 for £1 ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Government subsidised County £1 for £1.
	358	Whakatane County Bridge (repairing and constructing)	500	500 0 0	..	..	..	2 392	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	359	Awatuna Improved-farm Settlement ..	512	94 14 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	360	Katui Improved-farm Settlement	600	439 17 5	2 60	0 68	..	.. ..	..	7 16	..	..	..	" "
	361	Mangatu Improved-farm Settlement ..	300	281 1 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	362	Rangatira (Opanaki-Hokianga) Improved-farm Settlement	980	168 14 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	107377	52,957 16 8	159 54	124 26	55 31	34 3,117	228 28	56 60	829 54	192 29	288,360	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	107377	52,957 16 8	159 54	124 26	55 31	34 3,117	228 28	56 60	829 54	192 29	288,360	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
91	363	Paemako (Karu-o-te-Whenua) Improved-farm Settlement	1,150	310 1 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	126 acres sown in grass.
	364	Terauamoa Improved-farm Settlement ..	600	545 1 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	131 acres of bush felled, 298 acres sown in grass.
	365	Ngunguru Ferry	100	89 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whangarei County.
	366	Waipu River, £1 for £1 (deepening)	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	367	Tokatoka Swamp (drainage, road, and tramway)	3,000	2,668 3 5	5 71	2 73	2 27	.. ..	7 17	..	..	10 0	6,000	
	368	Aka-aka Swamp (drainage and road) ..	150	50 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	20 ch. drains constructed by the Aka-aka Drainage Board.
	369	Otaua Swamp (drainage and road)	100	50 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2m. 16 ch. river cleared by Waipipi Road Board.
	370	Maioro Swamp (drainage and road)	23	23 2 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 36	..	..	3,000	
	371	Churchhill Punt on Waikato	200	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairs to punt on Waikato River by Raglan County.
	372	Mercer Punt	200	80 2 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Placing punt on Waikato River.
	373	Whatawhata Swamp (drainage and road) ..	100	75 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	1 4	..	..	..	..	
	374	Te Aroha Sanatorium, Hot Springs, and Domain	1,600	1,372 17 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Public Works Department.
	375	Te Aroha and Waitoa drains	243	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	376	Taupo Domain (plantation, paths, &c.) ..	400	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Planting, ploughing, and generally improving Domain Grounds.
	377	Tokaanu Baths and Water-supply	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work authorised.
	378	Tauranga County, flood-damages	10	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Tauranga County.
	379	Rotorua (works at) (to account)	7,000	5,567 6 7	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	General maintenance to all Government buildings, baths, and public property, fencing, sinking wells, supplying tanks, cutting and planting willows, &c.
	380	Rotorua Water-supply	500	244 4 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	General maintenance to all pipe-services, making additions, &c.
	381	Waiotapu Springs (improvement)	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	382	Whakarewarewa (baths, paths, and supervision)	200	167 13 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 74	1 23	0 74	..	Waiting settlement with the Natives.
		Amount authorised by the House (Auckland) ..	124053	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	90,080	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	64,236 18 4	165 45	127 19	57 58	34 3,117	236 49	58 10	830 77	203 23	297,360	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		HAWKE'S BAY.													
91	383	Opotiki–East Cape	500	200 0 0	..	..	1 15	..	..	..	..	60 0	..	..	Work done by the Waiapu and Whakatane Counties.
	384	Ahomatariki	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Waiapu County.
	385	Awanui–Tikitiki	300	300 0 0	..	1 60	..	..	..	0 20	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waiapu County.
	386	Kawakawa–Hick's Bay	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Waiapu County.
	387	Mata Valley	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	388	Pukeamaru	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	389	Tauwharaeparae to Crown lands	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Waiapu County.
	390	Tauwhareparae–Tokamaru	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	391	Waihuka	243	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Wairoa and Cook Counties.
	392	Waipiro Hot Springs–Tokomaru	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Waiapu County.
	393	Waipiro–Te Puia–Hikiwai	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	394	Waipiro Hot Springs–Tologa Bay	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	395	Waipiro–Mata	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	396	Whakaangiangi	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Waiapu County.
	397	Whareponga–Reporua	300	300 0 0	..	..	4 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Cook County.
	398	Gisborne–Waimata (metalling)	275	275 0 0	..	0 40½	..	..	..	0 32	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
	399	Hangaroa–Tiniroto	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	400	Motu	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	401	Motu Road (widening)	1,000	559 19 11	3 40	2 49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40,000	
	402	Muriwai–Mahia	425	125 5 0	..	0 68	1 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Cook County.
	403	Pakarae Road and Punt	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	404	Puatai Hill	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
		Carried forward	7,133	1,760 4 11	3 40	5 57½	6 70	..	..	0 52	..	60 0	..	40,000	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	7,133	1,760 4 11	3 40	5 57½	6 70	.. ..	0 52	..	60 0	..	40,000	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Hawke's Bay—continued.												
91	405	Tatapouri Hill	300	300 0 0	..	0 67¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Cook County.
	406	Tauwhareparae-Arakihi	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
	407	Te Arai	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Te Arai Road Board.
	408	Tologa-Anaura	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
	409	Tologa-Arakihi	231	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Partly issued to Cook County.
	410	Tologa Hill	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised to Cook County.
	411	Waiapu Inland	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	412	Waikohu-Motu	1,750	1,192 19 1	..	3 32	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also forty-seven culverts, 742 ft., and bridge, 24 ft.; work done by Cook County.
	413	Waimata-Tauwhareparae	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
	414	Wainui	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	415	Gisborne-Opotiki	800	598 10 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	16 0	50 0	..	Also £50 granted to Whakatane County.
	416	Gisborne-Rotorua Stock	1,500	945 3 2	51 0	..	15 37¾	.. ..	..	..	..	..	64,000	
	417	Gisborne, *via* Tologa Bay-Hicks Bay ..	800	200 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook and Waiapu Counties.
	418	Gisborne-Waikaremoana	6,000	5,959 11 0	..	..	25 58½	.. ..	..	..	40 0	..	54,000	Also two bridges, each 28 ft., 7,116 ft. timber sawn, and 2,700 shingles split.
	419	Nuhaka No. 1	400	95 6 6	3 58	..	1 77	.. ..	..	..	..	..	10,500	
	420	Nuhaka-Gisborne	2,000	1,263 9 3	7 33	6 1¼	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	10,500	Also 985 ft. culverts.
	421	Wairoa-Gisborne	500	309 15 0	..	0 16½	..	.. ..	..	..	39 0	..	..	Cook County has work in hand.
	422	Frasertown-Waikaremoana	500	..	..	1 51	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	10,000	Not yet paid for.
	423	Nuhaka Springs	500	5 11 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	424	Runanga-Pohue	3,500	1,631 18 4	..	0 48	..	.. ..	..	..	39 0	..	..	Also one bridge, 16 ft.; five culverts, 118 ft.; and 448 cubic yards stone quarried and broken.
		Carried forward	27,714	14,262 9 1	65 51	18 34	50 3¼	.. ..	0 52	..	194 0	50 0	189,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	27,714	14,262 9 1	65 51	18 34	50 3¼	..	..	0 52	..	194 0	50 0	189,000	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*													
		Hawke's Bay—continued.													
91	425	Upper and Lower Mohaka	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	426	Napier–Wairoa	5,000	5,576 8 11	18 0	12 14	..	2	64	..	..	15 0	..	..	Also 1,538 ft. culverts built, 21 stone crossings made, and 67 ch. metalling.
	427	Puketitiri	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Hawke's Bay County.
	428	Dannevirke–Tamaki	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Dannevirke Road Board.
	429	Dannevirke–Tiratu	500	626 10 9	..	2 57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 235 ft. culverts, and 16 ch. metalling.
	430	Holder's	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Kumeroa Road Board.
	431	Norsewood–Apiti (see also Wellington District)	350	111 12 10	4 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	See also Vote 91, Item 580.
	432	Oporae	600	613 0 4	..	..	1 53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, and slips cleared.
	433	Ormondville–Waikopiro	800	534 3 0	..	0 25	..	1	72	..	..	..	..	1,700	Ormondville Town and Road Boards have work in hand.
	434	Ruahine	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Worked in conjunction with Ruahine Block Approach.
	435	Ruahine Block (approach)	700	447 13 2	..	0 47	..	1	58	..	..	..	..	2,400	Also 98 ft. culverts.
	436	Takapau–Kopua, £1 for £1	147	147 2 6	..	3 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Also five bridges, 145 ft., and 60 ch. forest-clearing included, work done by the Takapau Road Board.
	437	Waikopiro	800	1,006 4 9	..	..	4 33	..	..	..	3 14	..	20 0	1,746	Also twenty-two bridges, 388 ft., and forty-seven culverts, 744 ft., built.
	438	Whakarara Road and Bridge	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	439	Dannevirke–Weber–Wimbledon	300	125 18 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Weber Road Board.
	440	Elthorpe roads	250	..	..	0 17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Oero Road Board have work in hand.
	441	Contingencies and Engineering	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	442	Waimata Bridge (Ackroyd's)	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
		Carried forward	38,411	23,451 4 1	87 51	38 9	56 9¼	4	194	0 52	3 14	209 0	70 0	194,846	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. / Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	38,411	23,451 4 1	87 51	38 9	56 9¼	4 / 194	0 52	3 14	209 0	70 0	194,846	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Hawke's Bay—continued.												
91	443	Turehau Bridge	300	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Cook County.
	444	Waimoko Bridge	500	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	445	Opoiti Bridge (to account)	1,000	1,500 0 0	..	..	..	1 / 280	..	..	..	..	..	Wairoa County did construction.
	446	Makaroro Bridge and approaches	400	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Waipawa County.
	447	Nuhaka Bridge (to account)	600	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued to Wairoa County.
	448	Te Reinga Falls Bridge	300	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Tender accepted, foundations started, and material on the ground.
	449	Mohaka Bridge (to account)	2,500	45 10 0	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Tender accepted, the piers and truss-work in progress.
	450	Manawatu Bridge (Waikopiro)	1,500	610 10 4	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	451	Waikopiro Improved-farm Settlement ..	1,000	441 13 6	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Hawke's Bay)	46,511	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	33,773	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	26,048 17 11	87 51	38 9	56 9¼	5 / 474	0 52	3 14	209 0	70 0	194,846	
		TARANAKI.												
91	452	Junction Road–Purangi (£1 for £1)	750	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress by Clifton County.
	453	Junction Road (widening)	800	800 0 0	2 31	2 41	..	.. / ..	0 45	..	6 0	..	1,500	Specifications being prepared to let work the co-operative system.
	454	Kaipikari deviation	250	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	455	Milsom	150	150 0 0	0 40	..	0 59	1 / 46	..	0 60	2 0	7 0	1,000	
	456	Milsom and Tanner	230	215 9 7	2 19	1 75	0 63	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	457	Mimi–Mangaroa Road, metalling (£1 for £1) ..	750	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress by Clifton County.
	458	Moanatairi Special Settlement	260	52 4 7	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	3 0	..	..	..	Spent with Vote 91, Item 465
	459	Mokau	300	809 8 3	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	No work has yet been done.
	460	Mokau River Bridle-track	100	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	461	Moki Junction–Block II., Upper Waitara ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	Timber being cut for 70 ft. bridge.
	462	Moki Road	400	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	10,000	Work being proceeded with.
	463	Ngatoto	100	..	..	..	..	.. / ..	..	..	..	..	2,500	
		Carried forward	4,190	2,027 2 5	5 10	4 36	1 42	1 / 46	0 45	3 60	8 0	7 0	18,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	4,190	2,027 2 5	5 10	4 36	1 42	1	46	0 45	3 60	8 0	7 0	18,000	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Taranaki—continued.													
91	464	Okoke Road	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work being done partly by Clifton County and partly by Co-operative labour.
	465	Pukearuhe inland to Mohakatino (Mimi) ..	2,500	2,799 0 0	..	2 59	..	2	97	5 30	..	21 0	..	..	
	466	Putiki	700	430 8 7	2 20	1 77	..	..	..	..	..	1 70	..	2,500	
	467	Upper Waitara–Mangaere	53	44 7 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 0	..	Also removal of slips.
	468	Ureti Township	107	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done.
	469	Egmont (metalling), £1 for £1	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by the local body.
	470	Kent Road	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Contracts for culverts and earthworks in progress.
	471	Koru–New Plymouth, £1 for £1	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Oakura Road Board have work in hand.
	472	Maude Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Contract laid off and in progress.
	473	Newall and Tohu Roads	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done this year.
	474	Waiweranui	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	475	Tracks and huts, Mount Egmont	300	158 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	7 0	..	..	10 0	..	
	476	Akama	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	To be used in draining and forming swampy part of road.
	477	Gatton Special Settlement	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nothing done this year.
	478	Huiroa	36	31 16 8	..	0 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	479	Kohuratahi–Tangarakau	1,000	523 0 5	..	..	2 42	1	45	..	..	..	4 0	5,000	
	480	Mangaehu and Llewellyn Special-settlements ..	300	146 5 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	See also Vote 91, Item 486.
	481	Mangaotuku	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done, but preliminaries arranged.
	482	Mohakau	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by Stratford County.
	483	Ohura (contribution)	4,000	1,118 16 11	..	..	..	..	..	5 0	..	2 0	..	..	Metalling.
	484	Pembroke	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work should be completed in May.
	485	Puniwhakau	200	165 14 11	8 20	..	7 5	4	159	..	..	..	6 40	5,000	
	486	Putikituna	1,500	1,497 4 0	4 0	1 34	3 20	..	..	..	..	..	3 40	3,000	
	487	Stratford–Ongaruhe	12,000	12,613 15 7	..	3 46	4 0	3	283	..	..	68 40	..	33,000	Also approaches and timber for Mangaroa Bridge.
		Carried forward	29,336	21,555 14 9	19 50	14 17	18 29	11	630	17 75	3 60	101 30	41 0	68,500	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	29,336	21,555 14 9	19 50	14 17	18 29	11	630	17 75	3 60	101 30	41 0	68,500	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Taranaki*—continued.													
91	488	Taihore (widening), £1 for £1 (to account) ..	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Stratford County will do this work.
	489	Terrace End	1,000	946 4 11	9 30	0 12	1 31	1	44	..	..	..	7 60	2,500	
	490	Wingrove	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work not yet in hand.
	491	Mangamingi Township	60	9 7 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Felling strip of bush near Rawhitiroa Rd.
	492	Ngaire	300	299 3 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Deepening and clearing drain.
	493	Rawhitiroa Road	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Mileage included in Item 504.
	494	Tangahoe Valley	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Hawera County arranging for road through private lands.
	495	Ball Road (Blocks IX., X., XIII., XIV., Carlyle and Opaku S.D.), contribution	985	981 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 70	..	..	..	6,000	Metal.
	496	Central Patea Valley	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	For felling and forming road up Patea River.
	497	Kaitangiwhenua No. 2	98	129 2 4	..	..	2 79	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,000	
	498	Mataimoana	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	To continue work already in hand.
	499	Motoroa	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done this year.
	500	Nukuhau	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	501	Okahutiria	33	15 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 50	..	Removal of slips and maintenance.
	502	Okotuku	200	109 7 8	..	..	0 64	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,800	6 ft. formation.
	503	Waitotara Valley	2,100	1,720 14 3	4 40	3 79	..	..	..	2 0	..	9 0	..	20,000	
	504	Eltham–Waitotara	300	1,270 17 1	6 22	6 29	..	..	..	..	..	9 0	7 20	8,000	
	505	Eltham–Waitotara, £1 for £1	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Hawera County has work in hand.
	506	Makuri and Akaka, £1 for £1	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	To assist Stratford County in improving these roads.
	507	Contingencies and Engineering	300	213 11 8	2 0	..	1 57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	508	Mohakatino Bridge	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Requires painting, &c.
	509	Purangi Bridge (to account)	1,500	555 7 10	..	..	..	1	244	..	..	..	10 0	2,500	Not completed.
	510	Tongaporutu Bridge (to account)	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Insufficient funds, no work done.
	511	Waitara River Bridge (to account), £1 for £1 ..	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	To assist Waitara Harbour Board in renewing the bridge.
	512	Manganui Bridge	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	1	94	..	..	..	..	..	
	513	Patea River Bridge (to account)	500	498 14 8	..	..	..	1	125	..	..	..	..	20,000	
		Carried forward	40,850	28,505 5 11	41 62	24 57	25 20	15	1,137	20 65	3 60	119 30	72 50	137,800	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	40,850	28,505 5 11	41 62	24 57	25 20	15	1,137	20 65	3 60	119 30	72 50	137,800	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Taranaki*—continued.													
91	514	Punehu Bridge	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Waimate Road Board have charge of this work.
	515	Patea River Bridge (Ball Road) (to account), £1 for £1	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Patea County will contribute half cost, and carry out the work.
	516	Tawai Improved-farm Settlement	226	68 6 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 acres bush felled, 23 acres sown, and house erected.
	517	Burfoot (Mangapoua) Improved-farm Settlement	350	180 15 4	..	0 24	0 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Houses, road-felling, bush-felling, &c.
	518	Derwent Improved-farm Settlement ..	400	237 15 3	..	0 26	0 20	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	51 acres bush felled, and two houses erected.
	519	Greenlands Improved-farm Settlement ..	500	374 4 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Three houses, bush-felling, culverts, &c., and 115 acres grass sown.
	520	Mangatawa Improved-farm Settlement ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cancelled as an improved-farm settlement.
	521	Okau Improved-farm Settlement	285	30 18 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	Bush-felling, grassing, &c.
	522	Ratatomokia Improved-farm Settlement ..	178	43 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	523	Tongaporutu Improved-farm Settlement ..	500	96 0 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Part of Putiki Road charged to this. Bush-felling, grassing, &c.
	524	Uruti Improved-farm Settlement	260	7 18 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 70	..	
	525	Huiroa Improved-farm Settlement	200	124 15 1	..	0 23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, 14 acres.
	526	Mangaere Improved-farm Settlement ..	199	10 8 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	527	Whangamomona Improved-farm Settlement ..	800	941 2 4	..	..	1 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	425 ft. culverts, 460 acres felled, 614 acres sown.
	528	Maata Improved-farm Settlement	143	20 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Erection of house.
	529	Ngaere Improved-farm Settlement	300	45 1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Erection of house, grassing, &c.
	530	Poti Improved-farm Settlement	100	56 10 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Erection of two houses, &c.
		Carried forward	46,231	30,742 17 1	41 62	25 50	27 45	15	1 137	20 65	3 60	119 30	79 40	137,800	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	46,231	30,742 17 1	41 62	25 50	27 45	15 1,137	20 65	3 60	119 30	79 40	137,800	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Taranaki—continued.												
91	531	Taumatatahi (Waitotara) Improved-farm Settlement	150	43 16 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	0 30	..	Erection of house.
	532	Tongaporutu Ferry	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	See also Item 510.
	533	Tangarakau River (clearing), to account ..	200	75 10 3	..	4 0	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Clearing steamer channel.
	534	Patea River (snagging)	60	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	No expenditure will be incurred until eel-weir is removed.
		Amount authorised by the House (Taranaki) ..	46,891	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	34,049	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	30,862 3 7	41 62	29 50	27 45	15 1,137	20 65	3 60	119 30	79 70	137,800	
		WELLINGTON.												
	535	Rotoaira–Tokaanu	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nothing done this year.
	536	Moruroa	175	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	537	Clifton	200	206 2 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress on the Makaranui Road.
	538	Flood-damages, Makohine Village Settlement, Clifton Block	200	115 10 0	..	..	0 40	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	Repairs to Makara Bridge, &c.
	539	Hautapu–Main Road	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work will be started in May.
	540	Huikumu	250	220 11 7	1 28	..	1 33	.. ..	..	..	0 20	1 68	2,000	
	541	Hunterville I., II., III.	1,300	1,257 1 11	5 28	..	8 12	.. ..	..	..	..	20 18	5,000	15 lineal ft. of culverts.
	542	Mangawhero–Murimotu	350	151 17 8	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	40 0	20,000	
	543	Okahukura SM	112	88 12 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	6 0	10,000	20 lineal ft. bridges and 100 lineal ft. culverts.
	544	Otaranoho	200	22 13 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,300	Contract in hand.
	545	Pipiriki–Waiouru	3,000	2,183 2 8	0 9	0 9	..	.. ..	2 37	41 40	..	..	50,000	
	546	Raetihi–Ohura	600	149 10 3	..	..	..	.. ..	1 20	..	8 30	0 10	50,000	
	547	Raetihi–Parapara	600	38 13 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	2 74	10 30	20,000	
	548	Raetihi Township roads	100	5 5 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	3	Road lines.
	549	Rangiwaea	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work to be started in May.
	550	Retaruke Valley	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work to be started in April,
	551	Ruanui 2A and 3A	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nothing done this year.
	552	Turakina Valley	800	662 13 6	3 21	0 9	2 24	.. ..	..	..	4 73	8 0	5,000	48 lin. ft. of culverts.
	553	Waimarino	500	316 8 8	3 50	1 61	0 32	.. ..	..	..	4 61	16 32	20,000	104 lin. ft. of culverts.
	554	Wanganui	400	400 0 0	4 20	..	3 34	.. ..	..	..	..	3 34	5,000	388 lin. ft. of culverts.
	555	Moawhanga–Te Horo	250	47 19 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	5 40	..	10,000	
	556	Rotoaira–Waimarino	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	18 0	..	20,000	Now under repair.
	557	Taumaranui–Ohakune	841	811 12 6	3 46	0 16	2 61	.. ..	..	..	6 0	42 30	20,000	183 lin. ft. of culverts, 42 lin. ft. of bridges.
		Carried forward	11,128	6,677 14 10	21 42	2 15	18 76	.. ..	57	41 40	50 58	148 62	239,303	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	11,128	6,677 14 10	21 42	2 15	18 76	..	..	3 57	41 40	50 58	148 62	239,303	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Wellington—continued.													
558		Taurewa–Okahukura	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done this year.
559		Awarua	3,000	1 880 9 3	6 18	0 57	5 30	..	..	..	..	3 56	19 21	50,000	80 lin. ft. of culverts, felling, clearing slips, grassing, &c.
560		Gorge–Ohutu Improved-farm settlement ..	200	131 10 2	..	0 28	..	..	..	..	..	0 28	..	..	44 lin. ft. of culverts.
561		Horouta	500	494 10 0	..	2 10	0 7	..	..	..	..	2 10	0 7	..	88 lin. ft. of culverts.
562		Kakariki Bridge (approaches)	1,400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued for work.
563		Makohine Valley	500	143 17 0	1 79	..	0 40	..	..	..	..	..	0 40	5,000	
564		Murray's Track	400	400 5 0	..	..	2 70	..	..	..	..	..	2 70	5,000	170 lin. ft. of culverts.
565		Taihape–Paengaroa	400	397 14 2	1 77	1 1	..	..	..	..	..	3 1	3 20	5,000	24 lin. ft. of bridge and 250 lin. ft. of culverts.
566		Taihape Township roads	200	1 6 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
567		Tekapua	700	685 10 0	2 61	..	5 0	..	..	..	..	..	27 0	5,000	193 lin. ft. of culverts.
568		Watershed Road	300	36 14 3	..	0 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
569		Ohingaiti–Tokaanu	2,000	2,225 12 2	..	..	..	1	60	3 0	..	93 10	..	100,000	Remetalled.
570		Pahiatua–Palmerston (to account)	800	142 5 6	6 72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
571		Main Road, Mangoira–Coal Creek	486	486 7 0	1 15	..	..	..	..	..	1 12	..	2	3,000	Slips cleared.
572		Malton	400	148 6 8	..	..	1 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,200	Culverts, slips, &c., scrubfelling and clearing.
573		Pohangina	242	235 17 5	..	..	0 3	..	..	0 30	..	..	..	1,500	Metalling culverts, slips, &c.
574		Pohangina Valley Forest Reserve	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Pohangina County Council, work done last year.
575		Salisbury and Delaware	200	194 7 0	..	..	1 15	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	200	Culverts, slips, &c.
576		Totara Reserve (road deviation)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
577		Tunipo Road–Apiti, Norsewood	135	132 17 6	..	..	0 5	..	..	..	..	..	3 25	..	Slips, &c.
578		Umutoi–Table Flat	100	72 6 0	0 49	..	1 0	..	..	0 26	..	..	3 46	1,150	Slips cleared.
579		Upper Pohangina Valley	402	400 0 2	..	..	1 52	..	..	..	..	..	2 12	..	Slips, &c.
580		Norsewood–Apiti (see also Hawke's Bay District)	1,115	1,099 18 7	1 45	..	..	..	..	..	2 16*	2 0	..	..	Bushfelling and clearing, slips, &c. *Metalling 7 ch.
581		Auputa Road and Bridge	300	..	0 7	..	0 37	..	..	1 8*	..	..	4 0	..	*Metalling 11 ch. Culverts, slips, &c.
582		Conspicuous Road	701	698 17 1	0 33	..	0 33	..	..	..	0 4	..	..	1,800	Slips cleared, &c.
583		Hautapu	300	176 11 8	0 42	..	0 42	..	..	..	..	..	2 40	6,300	Scrubfelling and clearing, culverts, &c.
584		Hautapu No. 2	500	136 17 6	1 30	..	1 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,900	Bushfelling and clearing, slips.
		Carried forward	27,059	16,999 14 11	47 10	6 34	41 0	1	60	8 41	44 72	155 3	220 23	431,353	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued*.

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	27,059	16,999 14 11	47 10	6 34	41 0	1	60	8 41	4 72	155 3	220 23	431,353	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Wellington—continued.													
585		Hautapu–Ruahine	1,000	1,013 7 2	1 50	0 10	4 51	..	..	2 38	..	..	14 0	20,000	Bushfelling and clearing culverts, slips.
586		Kawatau Valley Road	2,750	1,678 14 9	2 43	..	..	1	80	0 10*		2 40	..	..	Bushfelling and clearing, slips, &c. *Metalling 10 ch.
587		Kelpie	100	17 8 10	1 28	0 23	..	..	..	..	*0 60	..	1 20	..	*Metalling 10 ch. Slips, &c.
588		Kew	50	..	..	..	0 13	..	..	..	..	..	1 48	..	Slips.
589		Kimbolton	820	553 10 11	..	..	..	..	..	1 46*	..	..	..	..	* Metalling 30 ch.
590		Mangawhararíki	1,500	916 0 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 29½	7 0	..	..	Widening 1½ ch., metalling 1 m. 28 ch., and slips.
591		Marton, 1 and 2	350	259 0 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in Hautapu–Ruahine, 91/585.
592		Ngaio	129	127 3 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in Awarua, 91/559.
593		Onslow	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling and clearing.
594		Pemberton–Wairaki (Pukerimu)	70	32 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	..	Culverts, slips, &c.
595		Umutoi	53	53 5 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 0	2,200	Slips cleared.
596		Ballance–Manawatu Gorge	500	144 17 3	..	0 15	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	..	Scrubfelling and clearing, slips, bridge.
597		Bridge Road to Makakahi	404	403 14 4	..	..	..	..	..	0 10*	..	10	..	..	* Metalling, bridges, fascining, &c.
598		Coonoor Farm-homestead Association ..	200	..	1 19	..	..	..	..	4 50	..	..	..	..	Slips, &c.
599		Hall Special Settlement	800	185 18 0	..	..	0 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,175	Scrubfelling and clearing; road grassed.
600		Kaitawa Ridge Road	700	212 3 11	..	..	1 2	..	..	..	..	..	5 0	..	Slips, &c.
601		Makuri, Section 12, Block X.	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work authorised (*vide* 91/642).
602		Makuri Township	60	13 8 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairs and fencing in Government paddock.
603		Makairo	300	330 18 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 30*	..	..	* Metalling 23 ch., widening 7 ch. Slips.
604		Makairo–Kumeroa	600	257 11 9	..	1 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Scrubfelling, slips.
605		Mangatoro Valley	300	256 18 0	..	0 2	..	..	..	0 41*	..	7 0	..	..	* Widening. Slips, fencing.
		Carried forward	37,895	23,455 19 5	53 70	8 5	47 31	2	140	17 76	47 62½	180 3	244 11	456,728	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch	Acres.	
		Brought forward	37,895	23,455 19 5	53 70	8 5	47 31	2	140	17 76	47 62½	180 3	244 11	456,728	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Wellington*—continued.													
91	606	McKenzie Special Settlement Block (Tutaekara Railway-station)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	607	Ngaturi–Aohanga	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	608	Nikau–Omata	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	609	Ohinereiata Road	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work authorised.
	610	Pahiatua–Railway-station (repairs), £1 for £1 ..	300	96 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by Pahiatua County Council; repairs to Station Road.
	611	Tautaekara–Nikau	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	612	Thompson's	196	362 6 4	..	0 51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bridges, &c.
	613	Tiraumea Valley	400	125 2 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 0	..	..	Slips.
	614	Toritea–Makuri	300	206 3 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7 45*	..	..	* Metalling 10 ch., repairs 5 ch.; also, slips.
	615	Towai	100	99 0 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 40	..	6,700	Slips.
	616	Upper Makuri Valley	200	117 9 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	..	Slips.
	617	Upper Tiraumea Valley	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	618	Waewaepa (£1 for £1)	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued (*vide* detailed reports).
	619	Woodville–Aohanga	800	564 6 1	..	..	1 57	..	..	..	..	4 0	4 0	..	Bushfelling slips, &c.
	620	Mukuri–Aohanga (Rakanui)	1,401	1,382 15 5	6 35	0 52	..	..	..	2 76*	..	6 40	..	..	* Widening. Bushfelling, slips, tunnelling, &c.
	621	Makuri–Pongaroa	3,000	3,210 4 9	..	..	..	..	..	7 27	..	..	..	4,700	Metalling 1 m. 20 ch. Widening, bush and scrub felling, slips, road grassed.
	622	Waiwera	240	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	623	Road through Ihakara's Reserve (Levin) ..	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	624	Waikanae–Te Horo	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Horowhenua County Council; authority not yet received.
	625	Mount Holdsworth Tracks	600	233 18 5	..	..	..	1	75	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi–Carterton Road Board.
		Carried forward	47,082	29,853 6 4	60 25	9 27	49 8	3	215	28 19	47 62½	211 48	248 11	468,128	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	47,082	29,853 6 4	60 25	9 27	49 8	3 215	28 19	47 62½	211 48	248 11	468,128	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
91	626	Alfredton–Tenui (contribution)	180	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wairarapa North County Council; authority just issued.
	627	Aohanga–Gorge	1,400	1,217 16 11	..	2 1	..	.. ..	..	..	2 0	..	..	Scrub-felling and clearing, also slips, sawing timber, tunnelling, &c.
	628	Aohanga–Waiowaka	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	629	Barton's Road	97	96 19 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bridge (24 ft.) erected.
	630	Barton's Road–Mangamahoe Junction ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	631	Barton's Road–McQuarrie's Boundary ..	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	632	Barton's Road–Wairere	50	50 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Mauriceville Road Board; work done last year.
	633	Bideford Road, *vid* Mangapeka, £1 for £1 ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Castlepoint Road Board; authority just issued.
	634	Bowen's–Hastwell	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	635	Burling's–Mecalickstone	750	742 3 3	8 18	0 71	..	.. ..	..	..	2 0	..	..	Supply of timber, slips, &c.
	636	Christchurch Association	750	221 9 10	0 64	..	0 53	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,400	Bushfelling and clearing, and slips.
	637	Craigie Lee (Douglas Road)	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi–Carterton Road Board: work in abeyance pending consent of settlers to land being taken for road.
	638	Driscoll's Road	100	100 0 0	..	1 30	..	.. ..	..	0 45*	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi–Carterton Road Board. *Widening.
	639	Eketahuna–Alfredton	100	50 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wairarapa North County Council; authority for £50 issued; metalling 112 cubic yards.
	640	Flat Bush	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
		Carried forward	51,709	32,331 15 6	69 27	13 49	49 61	3 215	28 19	48 27½	215 48	248 11	473,528	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	51,709	32,331 15 6	69 27	13 49	49 61	3 215	28 19	48 27½	215 48	248 11	473,528	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Wellington*—continued.												
91	641	Huia	328	268 11 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	3 70	..	Slips, &c.
	642	Hukunui–Masterton Special Settlement ..	300	297 6 1	1 55	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling and clearing.
	643	Kakaamu	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	644	Kaiparoro	300	217 7 9	0 35	..	0 32	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	Bush- and scrubfelling and clearing.
	645	Kaiwhata–Rewa	50	33 13 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 3*	..	..	7,100	*Widening. Also fencing removed.
	646	Kaiwhata Run 49	200	4 3 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued; engineering being proceeded with.
	647	Kuware	130	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	648	Kakariki Special Settlement	400	287 2 3	..	0 78	..	.. ..	0 25*	..	..	..	4,800	*Metalling. Bushfelling and clearing, &c.
	649	Kaikoura Farm Homestead Settlement Roads..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	650	Lang's Section, Wairere (Dagg's Road), £1 for £1	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Upper Taueru Road Board; authority just issued.
	651	Mangamahoe-Panemango	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	652	Mangaone (Norling's)	61	61 6 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Eketahuna Road Board; work done last year.
	653	Mangaoronga	71	5 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work authorised; authority not yet issued.
	654	Mangaparapara, £1 for £1	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Castlepoint Road Board; authority not yet received.
	655	Mangatainoko Valley	400	397 11 0	0 2	0 22	..	.. ..	0 23*	..	..	..	..	*Metalling 23 ch. Bushfelling, slips, &c.
	656	Masterton Reform Association	500	284 19 6	3 30	..	1 11	.. ..	..	..	..	..	10,000	Bushfelling and clearing, slips.
	657	Mecalickstone	500	299 1 3	..	..	0 60	.. ..	..	..	..	..	6,100	Slips.
	658	Mount Baker (Tawataia tollgate), Mangamahoe	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
		Carried forward	56,049	34,487 18 1	74 69	14 69	52 4	3 215	28 67	48 30½	215 48	252 1	503,528	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	56,049	34,487 18 1	74 69	14 69	52 4	3 215	28 67	48 30½	215 48	252 1	503,528	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
91	659	Newman–Stirling	300	300 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Eketahuna Road Board. Work done last year: final payment this period.
	660	Pahiatua No. 1	500	498 6 11	0 42	..	1 3	.. ..	..	0 36*	..	3 0	..	*Widening. Slips, &c.
	661	Pahiatua No. 2	600	597 0 5	..	..	2 32	.. ..	..	..	..	5 40	..	Bushfelling and clearing, also stumping 40 ch.
	662	Pahiatua No. 3	651	651 6 4	..	..	4 40	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	663	Pahiatua No. 4	300	242 3 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	1 45	..	Slips, small bridge, and 9,627 ft. timber sawn.
	664	Pongaroa School Road (metalling)	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	665	Parkville–Mangatainoka	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Waiting for local body to arrange for right-of-way.
	666	Pa Valley Road	400	28 17 0	1 20	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	667	Puketoi–Aohanga	116	50 15 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	0 60	..	..	Removal of fencing.
	668	Rising Sun Association	800	778 19 11	0 36	..	3 0	.. ..	..	..	..	4 40	8,400	Bushfelling, clearing, slips, 4 small bridges.
	669	Road to Native land, K. No. 2	150	56 13 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/642.
	670	Section 183, Block IV., Aohanga–Aohanga Valley	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	671	Small-grazing Run 51, Rewa Survey District ..	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	672	Tawatahia Road	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	673	Te Mara	400	..	..	..	0 3	1* 132	..	..	..	..	..	* Wire suspension.
	674	Ti-nui Valley	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	675	Uruti–Castlepoint	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued. Work to be done by Wairarapa N. Co. Council.
	676	Waihi	300	267 15 6	..	..	0 52	.. ..	..	0 3*	..	6 0	..	* Widening. Slips.
	677	Waihi–Akitio	200	24 1 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	4 40	..	Slips. Road grassed 71 chains.
	678	Waiowaka Road extension	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	679	Waihoki Valley	150	..	5 18	..	0 32	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Scrubfelling and clearing, slips.
	680	Waipatukaka, near Pongaroa	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*Vide* 91/660.
	681	West Road	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*Vide* 91/648.
		Carried forward	62,966	37,983 17 4	82 25	14 69	64 6	4 347	28 67	48 69½	216 28	277 6	511,928	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	62,966	37,983 17 4	82 25	14 69	64 6	4	347	28 67	48 69½	216 28	277 6	511,928	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*													
		Wellington —continued.													
91	682	Wingate Road	380	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wairarapa N. Co. Council. Work completed last year, awaiting final inspection.
	683	Alfredton–Weber	3,000	3,051 2 3	0 8	0 52	..	..	..	..	0 43	35 23	..	10,000	Widening, metalling. 22,351 cubic yd. slips. 200 ch. road grassed. One bridge 30 ft. span. One land span 20 ft.
	684	Kaiwhata Valley	500	437 0 10	2 0	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	..	Grant to Taratahi-Carterton Road Board.
	685	Cameron's–Pahaoa	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	686	Flat Point Road	250	250 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20 0	..	..	Grant to Taratahi-Carterton Road Board. 2,600 cubic yd. slips.
	687	Gladstone–Flat Point	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	688	Kaitangata (Mangaterere and Waiohine) ..	700	464 1 9	1 50	..	0 55	..	..	..	0 40*	..	..	4,800	Road grassed 120 ch. * Widening. Bush and scrub clearing, slips. Ten small bridges.
	689	Mangatarere	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	690	Range	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Featherston Road Board. Authority just issued.
	691	Rocky Hill–Wainuioru	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi-Carterton Road Board. Authority just issued.
	692	Turner's Road–Wainuioru	220	50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi-Carterton Road Board. *Vide* 91/638. Authority just received.
	693	Waiohine	300	119 16 11	2 40	..	0 41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Slips, road grassed, bushfelling and clearing.
	694	Wharau–Kawhata	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
		Carried forward	69,466	42,355 19 1	88 43	16 41	65 22	4	347	28 67	49 72½	274 51	277 6	526,728	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	69,466	42,355 19 1	88 43	16 41	65 22	4 347	28 67	49 72½	274 51	277 6	526,728	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
91	695	Akatarawa–Waikanae	150	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 10*	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council. Bridge 22 ft. *Widening.
	696	Belmont S.D. to Sections 233, 237, Block X ..	50	..	0 67	0 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council.
	697	Korokoro Settlement Roads	400	..	2 22	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	698	Mungaroa Valley	200	..	0 57	0 20	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council.
	699	Moonshine	100	..	0 48	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council.
	700	Ngahauranga–Horokiwi	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 73*	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council. *Widening, 73 ch. metalling.
	701	Paekakariki–Waikanae–Hadfield	500	500 0 0	..	1 72	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council. Work done last year: Three small bridges.
	702	Paekakariki–Paraparamu (to account) ..	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council. 75 ch. drains.
	703	Paparangi Estate Road	36	..	1 69	0 10	..	.. ..	1 70	..	2 0	..	..	Slips cleared; kerbing footpaths.
	704	Sections 48 and 56, Block V., Rimutaka ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	705	Whiteman's Valley	100	100 0 0	..	1 0	..	.. ..	..	0 3*	..	..	..	Grant to Hutt County Council. *Metalling.
	706	Chatham Islands Roads	100	1 10 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Outside district.
	707	Village Settlements	650	561 12 0	0 6	..	0 30	.. ..	..	..	..	1 50	..	Grant to Pahiatua County Council.
	708	Contingencies and Engineering	830	150 13 7	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Equipment allowance; travelling expenses, &c.
	709	Waitotara River Suspension Bridge ..	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Section of site taken, and drawings for bridge made.
	710	Mangawhero Low-level Bridge (Aberfeldie) ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	High-level suspension now proposed.
	711	Upper Wangaehu Bridge	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done last year.
	712	Moawhango Bridge (Horouta)	1,000	435 0 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	Works now in hand; timber, ironwork, scaffolding for 121 ft. span.
		Carried forward	74,882	44,304 15 1	94 72	20 23	65 52	4 347	30 37	50 73½	276 51	278 56	546,728	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	74,882	44,304 15 1	94 72	20 23	65 52	4 347	30 57	50 78½	276 51	278 56	546,728	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
91	713	Onepuehu Railway Bridge, approaches (to account)	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	No work done this year.
	714	Wangaehu River Bridge, £1 for £1	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	715	Rangitikei River Bridge (Mangaweka) ..	500	452 13 5	..	..	..	1 192	..	..	..	..	50,000	
	716	Rangitikei Bridge (Otara), £1 for £1 (to account)	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in charge of Kiwitea County.
	717	Rangitikei Bridge (Vinegar Hill), £1 for £1 (to account)	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	718	Fitzherbert, £1 for £1 (to account)	1,000	1,000 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Palmerston North Borough Council.
	719	Lower Gorge (to account of contribution) ..	1,500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	720	Apiti	275	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Pohanguia County Council. No work done.
	721	Manawatu, Wirokino, £1 for £1 (to account) ..	1,500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Foxton Borough Council. Authority just received.
	722	Otaki Bridge (to account)	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	723	Ballance (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	724	Ohau Low Level	70	70 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Horowhenua County Council.
	725	Tokomaru, Ohau, Horowhenua, Waikawa, and Otaki (construction), (to account)	550	280 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	726	Mangatainoka (Tutaekara Crossing), £1 for £1 ..	300	3 12 0	0 6	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	727	Mangatainoka River (Hamua), (to account) ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	728	Mangatainoka River (Newman-Stirling), (to account)	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	729	Mikimiki	500	353 8 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Masterton Road Board. Work done last year.
	730	Makuri-Pongaroa Bridges (to account) ..	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	731	Smith's Footbridge, Totara Reserve	100	92 19 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wairarapa North County Council. Work done last year.
		Carried forward	86,877	46,557 8 2	94 78	20 23	65 52	5 539	30 57	50 78½	276 51	278 56	596,728	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	86,877	46,557 8 2	94 78	20 23	65 52	5 539	30 57	50 78½	276 51	278 56	596,728	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
91	732	Taueru (Masterton, East Coast), £1 for £1 (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Taratahi-Carterton Road Board. Work to commence shortly.
	733	Tenui Bridge and Road (contribution) ..	450	..	..	0 6	..	1 149	0 6	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wairarapa North County Council.
	734	Tiraumea No. 1 (Edward's Crossing) ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	735	Waipoua River	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	736	Jackson's Creek Bridge, East Coast, Main Road	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	737	Ruamahanga (£1 for £1), Masterton-Gladstone Road	500	500 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Masterton Road Board. Work done last year.
	738	Sutherland's Bridge (subsidy)	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	739	Horopito Improved-farm Settlement ..	250	32 16 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	1 38	97	Bush-felling.
	740	Hautapu Improved-farm Settlement ..	300	307 15 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	2 35	2 15	..	84 acres bushfelling.
	741	Mangaweka	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	742	Masterton-Tenui Improved-farm Settlement ..	300	154 16 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	1 27	..	27 acres bushfelling.
	743	Ohutu Improved-farm Settlement	960	972 0 9	..	1 2	1 28	.. ..	..	..	3 68	3 35	..	149 acres bushfelling, 280 lin. ft. culverts.
	744	Otuarei Improved-farm Settlement	520	213 2 6	3 13	..	1 9	.. ..	..	..	..	1 9	..	35 acres bushfelling.
	745	Rongoiti Improved-farm Settlement ..	400	380 1 9	1 30	1 5	..	.. ..	..	..	1 45	..	..	24 lin. ft. bridge, 94 lin. ft. culverts, 18 acres bushfelling.
	746	Taihape Improved-farm Settlement ..	500	891 3 6	5 0	0 20	0 31	.. ..	..	..	1 65	0 31	..	645 acres sown, 23½ acres bushfelling.
	747	Kawatau	245	12 14 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,700	Sowing grass-seed on section.
	748	Pemberton	400	310 10 4	1 56	1 57	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17 acres bushfelling, four plain bridges.
	749	Mangatiti	500	1,166 12 4	0 11	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	158 ch. bushfelling on roads, 474 acres felled on farm.
	750	Akitio	600	1,776 17 1	..	..	2 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	427 acres bush felled on farm.
	751	Lands and Survey Office, Wanganui ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Drawings in hand.
	752	Wanganui River Trust	1,000	1,000 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	See special report by Mr. J. T. Stewart.
	753	Tongariro National Park	200	326 5 5	2 53	..	2 53	.. ..	..	..	..	9 53	..	
	754	Mangaweka Township (drainage)	50	0 7 8	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Proposed to be expended on suburban roads.
	755	Shipping-shed, Aohanga, East Coast ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet received.
		Wanganui River Steamer Subsidy	..	*Cr.* 87 10 0*	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Wellington) ..	96,402	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	70,002	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	54,515 2 0	109 1	24 33	73 13	6 688	30 63	50 78½	286 24	298 24	602,525	

* Omitted to be transferred to Vote 71.

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		NELSON.													
91	756	Clifton–Pohara Beach	100	59 9 6	..	0 61	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Collingwood County.
	757	Mount Arthur tracks	110	101 3 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done last year.
	758	Pakawau–Tamatea	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Collingwood County.
	759	Takaka roads and bridges	53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	760	Takaka–Riwaka	75	75 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 40	..	2,000	
	761	Aniseed Valley	200	142 3 9	..	0 8½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	762	Brooklyn Valley	50	19 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 60	1 60	..	..	..	Riwaka Road Board has work in hand.
	763	Little Sydney and branch track	10	9 3 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Balance on work returned last year.
	764	Maitai Road (subsidy)	300	100 1 0	..	0 47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	765	Motueka–Waiwhero Valley	74	73 18 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	This was expended in purchase of land required for line of road.
	766	Nelson–Blenheinm (Nelson end)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waimea County.
	767	Neudorf–Dovedale	50	..	..	0 45	..	..	..	..	..	1 6	..	..	Work being carried out by Road Board.
	768	Norris's Gully to Stewart's	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waimea County.
	769	Quail Valley	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	770	Rawson's Creek (Riwaka)	50	25 7 0	..	..	0 51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Riwaka Road Board have this in hand.
	771	Riwaka–Sandy Bay–Marahau	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	772	Riwaka Valley	100	80 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 35	..	0 34	..	2,000	
	773	School Hill–Ngatimoti	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Waimea County have this in hand.
	774	Tadmor–Motupiko	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	775	Tadmor Valley	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	776	Upper Moutere roads	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Upper Moutere Road Board.
	777	Wairoa Gorge	100	50 0 0	..	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by Local Body.
	778	Wakefield–Stanley Brook	100	100 0 0	..	1 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 23	1,000	Work done by Waimea County.
	779	Wangamoa	100	85 15 11	..	1 52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	780	Belgrove–Tophouse–Tarndale	400	164 4 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Protecting road round Slips and diverting Buller River.
		Carried forward	3,572	1,086 8 6	..	5 18½	0 51	..	..	1 15	1 60	3 0	0 23	7,000	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	3,572	1,086 8 6	..	5 18½	0 51	.. ..	1 15	1 60	3 0	0 23	7,000	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Nelson—continued.												
91	781	Riwaka–Takaka Hill	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waimea County.
	782	Belgrove–Westport–Reefton	3,500	4,533 6 7	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	108 0	..	..	See also Vote 92, Item 139.
	783	Croixelles–Elaine Bay	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	784	French Pass, Admiralty Bay, and Croixelles tracks	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	785	Lyell Cemetery Road	75	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not yet issued.
	786	Torea southwards	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	787	Hampden Cemetery–Murchison	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	788	Slips Road	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued, no work done.
	789	Culverden–Hanmer Plains	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	790	Tophouse–Wairau Gorge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nothing done.
	791	Waiau River Road (round south side) £1 for £1	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	792	Ahaura–Haupiri	200	175 10 0	..	0 35	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Grey County.
	793	Village Settlements	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	794	Contingencies and Engineering	170	62 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Purchase of land.
	795	Motupipi River Bridge	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Collingwood County.
	796	Maitai Valley Bridge	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	797	Wairoa, Brightwater Bridge	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waimea County.
	798	Wairoa River Bridge, £1 for £1	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	799	Lower Waiau Bridge, repairs (to account) ..	1,500	1,000 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress by Amuri County.
	800	Blackball Cemetery (clearing and fencing) ..	60	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	801	Takaka River protective works	500	500 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Three groins erected; 27 ch. of strong embankment made, and 16 ch. facines constructed, &c.
	802	Motueka River protection	200	85 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	See report on Roads.
	803	Hanmer: new bath and other buildings; improvement and maintenance of bath-houses and grounds	2,000	728 3 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Nelson) ..	14,027	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	10,185	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	8,170 8 4	..	5 53½	0 51	.. ..	1 15	1 60	111 0	0 23	7,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued*.

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch	M. ch.	No.	Length Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued*.													
		MARLBOROUGH.													
91	804	Arapawa–Te Awaiti	160	96 13 3	..	..	3 52½	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,000	
	805	Anakoa–Manaroa	200	175 9 3	..	..	3 19½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	806	Beatrice Bay–Kenny's Isle	150	116 16 6	..	..	3 77	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	807	Crail Bay–Homewood	200	33 5 0	..	..	1 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,000	
	808	Crail Bay Track	300	117 3 3	..	..	2 70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	809	Fairy Bay–North-west Bay	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	810	Harvey's Bay–Pelorus Sound	150	138 14 10	..	..	2 75½	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,000	
	811	Hakahaka–Opihi	100	56 2 0	..	..	2 66	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,800	
	812	Kenepuru–Anakoa	400	365 2 10	..	..	2 59½	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	813	Kenepuru–Endeavour Inlet	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	340	Authority issued.
	814	Kenepuru Sound	200	124 18 0	..	..	1 41½	1	46	..	..	..	..	..	
	815	Manaroa–Hopai	50	1 11 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	816	Manaroa–Okoha	400	344 5 0	..	..	6 26¾	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	817	Okoha–Titirangi	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	818	Ohinetaha–Te Mehia	50	33 2 0	..	..	0 8	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	
	819	Onahau Bay–Kenepuru Sound	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	820	Piripaua Neck Cutting	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cutting through ridge 80 ft. high; work in progress.
	821	Robin Hood Bay–Ocean Bay	200	107 9 3	..	..	5 4½	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	822	Tennyson Inlet	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	823	Te Mehia Bay–Portage Bay	300	217 7 10	..	..	6 32½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Removing slips and making gates.
	824	Torea Neck	50	14 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	General repairs and removal of slips.
	825	Torea Bay Wharf and Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	826	Tracks, Queen Charlotte Sound	200	3 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	600	Ironwork for gates.
	827	Tory Heads–Whatamonga–Picton	400	302 6 9	..	..	9 44½	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	Also providing gates and tools.
	828	Waitaria–Te Mauhau-a-maiu	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	829	Wet Inlet–Crail Bay	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	500	Settlers object to road.
	830	Whatamonga–Port Underwood Track ..	100	14 7 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	Repairs to bridge.
	831	White's Bay–Port Underwood	150	0 14 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	Contract let for general repairs.
	832	Nydia Bay–Havelock	300	28 2 0	..	..	0 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	New work now in hand.
	833	Picton–Waikawa	100	97 6 0	..	..	..	1	64	0 37	..	..	..	..	Work done by Picton Road Board.
	834	Tawhiunui–Rai	200	40 1 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	
	835	Anakiwi–Grove	200	68 9 3	..	..	2 18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 22 culverts and 2 gates constructed.
		Carried forward	5,730	2,497 4 8	..	..	55 11¾	2	110	0 37	..	..	4 0	30,740	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	5,730	2,497 4 8	..	..	55 11¾	2	110	0 37	..	..	4 0	30,740	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Marlborough—continued.													
91	836	Awatere River (Taylor–Redwood Pass) ..	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Omaka Road Board, cutting on Awater River Road.
	837	Blind River Road	300	439 8 0	..	0 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	838	Bluff Cove and Port Underwood	100	24 16 2	..	..	0 6¼	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	839	Double Bay	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	840	Grove wharf and shed	12	0 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	841	Havelock–Blenheim	200	190 13 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Spring Creek Road Board. Repairs to Wairau River Bridge
	842	Maddocks and Hodder Cutting	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	843	Mahakipawa–Moetapu	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	844	Molesworth–Jollie's Pass	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,000	"
	845	North Bank	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30,000	Work about to be commenced.
	846	Pember's Road–Pukaka	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work proceeding.
	847	Picton–Blenheim (Mudford Flat)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	848	Picton–Queen Charlotte Sound	300	173 1 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	600	Removal of slips, &c.
	849	Redwood Pass	300	300 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	2 0	..	..	..	..	Omaka Road Board, cutting on Awatere River Road.
	850	River-conservation, Omaka Ford	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work to be started shortly.
	851	Ronga Valley	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Work to be started at once.
	852	Saltwater Creek–Fulton's Gate	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	853	Saxton Pass	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,000	Work proceeding.
	854	Starborough	400	284 5 8	..	5 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	855	Tophouse Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,000	Work proceeding.
	856	Three Bridges Flat–Kekerangu (to account) ..	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,000	Awatere Road Board. Forming road, building four culverts, erecting bridge.
	857	Tuamarina–Boulder Bank	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work proceeding.
	858	Tuamarina–Kaituna	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,000	"
	859	Waihopai River protection	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Omaka Road Board has work in hand.
	860	Okiwi–Ronga	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,000	Work to be started at once.
	861	Blenheim–Kaikoura–Waiau	1,500	522 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	..	
	862	Nelson–Havelock (and bridges)	500	425 15 6	..	0 5	..	1	46	..	..	..	..	500	
		Carried forward	11,802	4,958 4 5	..	6 6	55 18	3	156	2 37	..	4 0	4 0	152,840	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	11,802	4,958 4 5	..	6 6	55 18	3 156	2 37	..	4 0	4 0	152,840	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Marlborough*—continued.												
91	863	Conway Reserve Accommodation-house Road ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	864	Cribb Creek	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	865	Hapuka and Puhipuhi Rivers	350	350 18 5	..	1 22	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	
	866	Kahautara–Conway (Hundalee)	5,550	7,381 1 4	..	3 48	..	1 46	..	..	16 0	..	35,000	
	867	Road through Reserve "A"	270	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,700	Included with Item 866.
	868	Reserve west of Kahautara	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	869	Contingencies and engineering	200	40 19 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	870	Awatere Bridge, Limestone Gorge (to account)..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Under consideration.
	871	Awatere Railway and Traffic Bridge (Lands contribution, to account)	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Contract let.
	872	Havelock–Mudflat Bridge	55	55 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	Bridge repairs, Pelorus Road Board.
	873	Maher's Flat Bridge and Road	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work to be started at once.
	874	Omaka Bridge (contribution)	133	33 5 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Omaka Road Board; erecting 5 ch. stop-bank, Omaka River–Renwick Town.
	875	Omaka–Tyntesfield Bridge, £1 for £1 ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	876	Okaramio Creek Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Amount voted insufficient.
	877	Rocky Creek Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	878	Wairau River Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Authority issued.
	879	Wakamarina and Kaituna Bridge	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairing bridge at Wakamarina. Pelorus Road Board has work in hand.
	880	Clarence Bridge	200	70 15 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Protective-works.
	881	Drain, Wairau River–Gravel-pit	100	39 13 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Cutting drain 40 ch. in length, 9 ft. x 3 ft.
	882	Wairau River overflow subsidy, £1 for £1 ..	1,000	400 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Clearing 170 acres, stumping 40 acres, banking 24,966 yds.; work done by Lower Wairau River Board.
		Amount authorised by the House (Marlborough)	21,610	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	15,692	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	13,329 18 3	..	10 76	55 18	4 202	2 37	..	20 0	4 0	205,540	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		WESTLAND.													
91	883	Clarke River Road	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	884	Greenstone-Teremakau	131	11 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Travelling-expenses, &c.
	885	Block 112, Kokatahi (Cropp's Road)	170	148 2 6	..	..	..	1	30	..	..	..	..	..	
	886	Cook's Valley-Karangahua	500	*Cr.* 0 12 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Contracts will be let soon.
	887	Cook's River (Upper)	150	138 11 3	..	..	0 20	..	..	..	2 40	..	..	500	
	888	Dawson's Road	51	0 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	889	Franz Josef Glacier	340	77 19 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 40	..	
	890	Great South Road	2,700	1,597 2 7	..	..	..	..	..	0 29	..	..	..	..	
	891	Hokitika Flat	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority recently received.
	892	Hunt's Beach-Makawhio	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 35	..	
	893	Haast-Blue River	110	9 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 10	..	
	894	Haast Pass Track	500	345 0 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 15	..	40 0	..	
	895	Kanieri Forks-Kanieri Lake	60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	896	Okuru Cemetery Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Westland County.
	897	Paringa River Road	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	898	Stafford-Waimea	400	66 5 1	..	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	899	Turnbull River Road	300	157 11 9	..	..	..	..	..	0 60	..	..	..	500	
	900	Tracks to Fox Glacier	360	267 3 6	..	..	3 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	500	
	901	Wahapo Lake-Waitangi River (widening) ..	300	299 10 9	..	..	..	..	..	0 60	..	..	..	..	Work done by Westland County.
	902	Whitcombe Valley Track (Kokatahi) ..	800	282 3 10	8 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	
	903	Woodstock-Mahinapua	200	90 16 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 40	..	..	
	904	Waitaha-Kakapotahi	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Waiting completion of survey.
	905	Hokitika-Christchurch	5,000	*2,238 5 1	1 62	..	..	..	..	..	..	42 0	..	..	
	906	Contingencies and engineering	100	34 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 40	1 0	..	Expended on Arawata-Jackson's Valley and Makawhio-Mahitahi Roads.
	907	Greenstone Bridge	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Brunner Boro'.
	908	Stillwater Bridge	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Westland County did this work.
	909	Hungerford's Bridge (repairs)	350	350 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	910	Lower Arahura Bridge	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Not yet taken in hand.
	911	Little Waitaha Bridge	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	912	Otira River (wire footbridge)	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	913	Waitaha bridges	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Expenditure held over pending survey.
	914	Teremakau Traffic Bridge	151	5 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work being done by Westland County.
	915	Waitaha, Wanganui, &c. (stock-drivers' huts) ..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	916	Westland ferry service	150	150 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Assistance to Westland County; over 175 miles of road.
		Amount authorised by the House (Westland ..	15,328	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	11,127	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Tota	..	†6,269 6 7	10 22	0 30	3 30	1	30	1 69	2 55	44 0	50 5	1,500	

* See also Vote 91, Item 905, Canterbury, and Vote 92, Item 19 † Portion of Item 905 in Canterbury District.

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, &c.—*continued.*	£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		CANTERBURY.													
		Hokitika–Christchurch	..	2,414 8 10*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50 0	..	..	
91	917	Oxford Bush Road Extension	300	166 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Construction of 4 concrete culverts by the Oxford Road Board.
	918	Waipara–Cheviot	250	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 15	..	..	..	..	Omihi Valley, portion of road.
	919	Foster's Cutting, Greta, Cheviot	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waipara Road Board.
	920	Ashburton Reserve 1496	55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	921	Highbank	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 2	..	..	..	..	Water-courses constructed and shingle spread.
	922	Arowhenua Native Road	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	923	Tengawai, £1 for £1	70	25 0 0	..	0 20	..	..	..	0 11	..	..	..	..	Work on Fraser's Road by Mackenzie County.
	924	Camp Valley	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Mackenzie County.
	925	Fairlie–Pukaki	400	205 14 4	..	..	..	..	..	3 0	..	..	..	..	Also removing boulders and shingling.
	926	Pukaki–Omarama	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitaki County.
	927	Pukaki–Mount Cook	800	458 7 1	..	0 20	..	..	..	0 33	..	..	..	..	Also culverts and drains.
	928	Mount Cook and glaciers (tracks)	450	223 13 6	..	..	3 53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	929	Mount Cook Hermitage Road	500	22 18 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	930	Clement's Road	250	..	..	0 49½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waimate County.
	931	Kapua Village Settlement drain	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	932	Nukuroa–Studholme Junction	188	91 12 2	..	0 3	..	..	..	1 10	..	..	..	..	
	933	Nukuroa (railway-gates)	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Railway Department.
	934	Village Settlements	50	*Cr.* 50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	935	Contingencies and engineering	200	82 8 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	936	Miscellaneous roads and bridges	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	937	Ashley Bridge protective works	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	938	Waimakariri Bridge (Kaiapoi)	275	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Kaiapoi Borough Council.
	939	Rangitata Light-traffic Bridge (to account) ..	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	940	Opihi Bridge (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
		Carried forward	6,426	3,740 18 7	..	1 12½	3 53	..	..	5 71	..	50 0	..	..	

* See also Vote 91, Item 905, and Vote 92, Item 195, Westland.

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward..	5,426	3,740 18 7	..	1 12½	3 53	.. ..	5 71	..	50 0	..	..	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Canterbury—continued.												
91	941	Forks River Bridge (Mount Cook Road) (to account)	600	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, not issued.
	942	Hooker Bridge	120	113 6 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairs only.
	943	Rocky Gully Bridge £1 for £1	50	47 10 0	..	..	..	1 150	..	..	..	..	..	Work being done by Railway Department and Mackenzie County.
	944	Tengawai Stock Bridge £1 for £1	80	28 17 6	..	..	..	1 154	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	945	Canal Bridge, Ellesmere	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	946	Kowai Bridge, £1 for £1 (to account)	600	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Selwyn County.
	947	Selwyn Bridge (construction), £1 for £1 ..	1,500	500 0 0	..	..	..	1 703	..	..	..	..	..	Constructed by Selwyn County.
	948	Ashley Gorge drain	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	949	Waimakariri–Ashley irrigation (Moeraki Downs Sub-district	1,189	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	950	Waimakariri–Ashley irrigation	500	463 7 6	32 9½	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Water-races constructed by local body.
	951	Canterbury Colliery Tramway	1,200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	952	Ruapuna water-supply	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	953	Rangitata River-mouth protective works (Reserve 100)	55	70 9 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Willow-stakes and wire fencing put in.
	954	Port Robinson (groins)	200	4 2 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant, Cheviot County.
	955	Roimata Settlement drains	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	956	Arundel water-supply	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	957	Orari Domain	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Orari Domain Board.
	958	Orari River protective works	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Geraldine County.
	959	Opihi River protective works	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	960	Lake Pukaki (planting)	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to McKenzie County.
	961	Mount Cook Road (stable and shelter-shed) ..	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised.
	962	Kapua (Waimate Gorge drain)	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	963	Studholme Junction cattle-stops	38	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
		Amount authorised by the House (Canterbury)..	13,908	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to	10,099	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	5,068 12 2	32 9½	1 12½	3 53	3 1,007	5 71	..	50 0	..	..	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlemtnt Roads, Bridges, &c.—*continued.*												
		OTAGO.												
91	964	Herbert, main road, £1 for £1	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitaki County.
	965	Kartigi Road	300	145 4 0	..	1 5	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	966	Maruwhenua, Section 4, Block VIII.	8	6 9 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	967	Port Road–Beach, Moeraki	300	200 0 0	..	1 18	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	968	Upper Waitaki (Ahuriri or Otematata Pass) (to account)	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	969	Waianakarua Slate-quarry (road to)	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	970	Livingstone–Kyeburn	150	35 18 0	..	..	..	.. ..	1 5	..	..	..	10,000	
	971	Dunback–Swinburn	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work not commenced.
	972	Komaka Township	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	973	Kyeburn–Naseby	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Maniototo County; no work done.
	974	Maniototo, Block XI.	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	975	Maniototo, Block XVI.	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	976	Run 219	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	977	Runs 225E and 225T to 225Z	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	978	Run 206F, Maniototo	80	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Maniototo County; balance still standing.
	979	Runs 204, 204A, Upper Taieri and Rock and Pillar (to account)	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Maniototo County; no work done.
	980	Run 206A, Naseby	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	981	Ranfurly Township	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	982	Upper Taieri Rock and Pillar	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Maniototo County.
	983	Blueskin, £1 10s. for £1	105	105 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	0 40	..	..	Removing slips, &c., and metalling.
	984	Brinn's Point, Cemetery Road	25	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waikouaiti County.
	985	Corner Bush–Merton	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	986	Lower Harbour Road	150	150 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	1 40	..	..	..	..	17½ chains sea-wall built, and two pipe-culverts put in.
	987	Normanby–Mount Cargill	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	1 40	..	..	..	..	Also 120 chains protective fences erected.
	988	North Harbour and Blueskin, Block XI. ..	50	..	..	0 15	..	.. ..	..	..	0 15	..	..	Work done by Maori Hill Borough.
		Carried forward	4,418	742 11 3	..	2 38	..	.. ..	4 5	..	0 55	..	10,000	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
								No.	Length. Ft.						
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward..	4,418	742 11 3	..	2 38	..	..	..	4 5	..	0 55	..	10,000	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*													
		Otago—continued.													
91	989	Pine Hill	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to North-east Valley Borough.
	990	Puketiraki Station–Beach	40	50 0 0	..	0 19	..	..	..	0 66	..	..	..	..	Also one stone culvert built.
	991	Ravensbourne	80	75 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 25	..	..	Work done by Borough Council.
	992	Seacliff Asylum Reserve–Native Reserve ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waikouaiti County; plans approved.
	993	Waitati–Waikari	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 64	..	1 8	..	..	Ditto.
	994	Waitati–Waikari (Waitati end)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	995	Bendigo–Matakanui..	600	88 6 7	25 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100,000	Grant to Vincent County.
	996	Chatto Creek–Tinker's	300	300 0 0	..	1 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,000	Work done by Vincent County.
	997	Oromwell–Hawea–Lindis Pass	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	998	Galloway Station–Ida Valley	800	500 0 0	..	3 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50,000	Also ten stone culverts built, work being done by Vincent County.
	999	Lauder District, Blocks III., IV., V., and VI. ..	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Vincent County.
	1000	McCabe's Coalpit–Gibbston	50	50 0 0	..	0 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Vincent County.
	1001	Makarora–Haast Valley	350	201 11 0	..	..	1 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	100,000	Grant to Vincent County.
	1002	Tracks, &c., Hawea Lake	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Lake County.
	1003	Tracks, head of Lake Wakatipu	405	150 0 0	..	..	0 16	..	..	..	..	..	4 33	20,000	Also four stone culverts.
	1004	Albert Burn Track	200	175 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 37	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1005	Ben Lomond Run	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Lake County.
	1006	Hollyford Valley	41	41 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 0	..	Also erection of two iron huts. In charge of C. S. Southland.
	1007	Lake Te Anau–Sutherland Falls	250	166 11 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 0	10,000	
	1008	Martin's Bay–Lake Wakatipu	160	65 0 0	..	..	2 22	..	..	..	..	..	..	50,000	Also eight stone culverts.
	1009	Pembroke–Matukituki	300	100 0 0	..	1 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in charge of C. S. Southland.
	1010	Tracks to Western Sounds	3,395	2,664 2 10	3 0	..	4 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	13,139	5,569 3 0	28 30	9 10	7 54	..	..	6 55	0 37	2 8	30 33	375,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	13,139	5,569 3 0	28 30	9 10	7 54	..	..	6 55	0 37	2 8	30 33	375,000	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, &c.—*continued.*													
		Otago.—continued.													
91	1011	Lake Te Anau–Wakatipu	1,000	599 13 9	..	0 72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in charge of C.S., Southland.
	1012	Anderson's Bay Road	200	175 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 50	..	..	Metalling by local bodies.
	1013	Otago Peninsula (B. II., from Section 60, through 71, &c.	365	348 3 10	..	..	..	..	..	0 79	..	0 79	..	..	Also 965 cubic yards rock and metal spread.
	1014	Peninsula Beach Road, Portobello	380	188 4 3	..	..	..	..	..	0 25	..	0 25	..	..	Also 25 ch. of sea-wall built. Work done by Portobello Road Board.
	1015	Peninsular Beach Road (prison labour) ..	221	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1016	Blair Taieri	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	1 35	..	..	..	..	Work done by Taieri County.
	1017	Maungatua and Waipori	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1018	Taieri Bridge–Pukekura	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1019	Beaumont and Rankleburn	800	223 6 7	..	0 77	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 20 ch. clearing and ditching, and 38 lineal yards stone culverts, work done by Tuapeka County.
	1020	Glenkenich	230	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Tuapeka County.
	1021	Rankleburn, Block III.	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1022	Waitahuna–Lawrence	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1023	Waitahuna–Waipori	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1024	Taieri Beach, V.S. Roads	150	..	..	0 39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 22 ch. bush-clearing, work done by Bruce County.
	1025	Barr's Road	300	118 18 11	..	1 26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1026	Catlin's Roads	100	43 4 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Spent with balance of Item 1030.
	1027	Catlin's, Block I.	600	14 7 5	..	..	..	..	..	0 12	..	..	..	..	
	1028	Catlin's, Blocks I., II., IV.	200	200 0 0	..	1 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1029	Catlin's Block IV.	90	90 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 29	..	..	Metalling, work done by Clutha County.
	1030	Catlin's, Block VIII.	247	215 10 10	..	0 70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	See also item 1026.
	1031	Catlin's and Tautuku	80	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Clutha County.
		Carried forward	19,302	7,885 13 5	28 30	14 64	7 54	..	..	9 46	0 37	4 31	30 33	375,000	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	19,302	7,885 13 5	28 30	14 64	7 54	..	..	9 46	0 37	4 31	30 33	375,000	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*													
		Otago.—continued.													
91	1032	Catherwood's	188	188 1 10	..	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1033	Glenomaru	245	224 11 2	..	1 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1034	Glenomaru, Block IV.	500	93 12 7	..	0 29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1035	Glenomaru, Blocks III., IV.. V., VII., X. ..	400	176 11 2	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	..	..	..	..	
	1036	Hunt's Road	200	87 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 0	..	..	
	1037	Kaitia Dairy Factory, Owaka	85	84 12 5	..	0 60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1038	Kaler's Road (felling)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1039	Manuka Island–Balclutha	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bruce County.
	1040	Mouat's Saddle	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1041	Owaka–Catlin's Lake	160	160 0 0	..	0 46	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1042	Pomahaka–Clutha	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Clutha County.
	1043	Purakauiti Stream	56	35 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 59	..	..	..	
	1044	Rimu, Block XIV.	500	149 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 49	..	..	..	
	1045	Rimu, Block XIII.	200	200 5 9	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	..	..	..	..	
	1046	Ratanui–Whitehead	300	152 18 11	..	0 64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1047	Tahaukupu	400	396 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	0 43	..	3 40	..	..	
	1048	Tautuku	600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1049	Tautuku, Block VIII.	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1050	Woodlands–Tahakopu	100	46 5 4	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	..	..	..	..	
	1051	Woodlands	500	396 2 2	..	0 72	..	..	..	1 26	..	..	..	..	
	1052	Warnock's Road	44	27 2 1	..	..	..	..	..	0 50	..	..	..	..	
	1053	Balclutha–Pukepito, £1 for £1 (along Clutha River)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1054	Leithen Bush Track	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1055	Waikawa–Catlin's	3,000	2,670 0 7	..	..	..	..	..	8 28	..	30 0	..	..	Metalling, also 73 ft. culverts, and 7 ch. logging and 3 ch. fascening.
	1056	Village Settlements	250	182 6 3	..	0 42	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1057	Contingencies and Engineering	540	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority partly issued.
	1058	Kakanui, Bridge £1 for £1	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Waitaki County.
	1059	Maerewhenua Bridge (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1060	Taieri River Bridge (Kokonga), to account ..	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Maniototo County.
		Carried forward	29,920	13,557 15 8	28 30	20 17	7 54	..	..	23 33	3 65	41 71	30 33	375,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	29,920	13,557 15 8	28 30	20 17	7 54	.. ..	23 33	3 65	41 71	30 33	375,000	
91		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Otago—continued.												
	1061	Kyeburn Bridge (to account)	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1062	Taieri River Bridge (Hyde)	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1063	Bridge over Tahakopa, Block XIII., Rimu ..	400	4 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1064	Matau Bridge (contribution)	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Bruce County.
	1065	Matau Bridge (Kaitangata), £1 for £1 (to account)	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1066	Pomahaka Bridge (Clydevale)	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised but not issued.
	1067	Waipahi Bridge (Pomahaka Road)	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Clutha County.
	1068	Waiwera Bridge (subsidy) (Dunedin–Invercargill), £1 for £1	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1069	Heathfield (Chasland's) Improved-farm Settlement	650	521 6 6	..	..	..	.. ..	0 60	..	..	..	..	Also 113 acres bush-felling.
	1070	Rimu Improved-farm Settlement	700	857 11 3	..	0 25	..	.. ..	3 28	..	..	..	..	
	1071	Woodlands (Purakauiti No. 1) Improved-farm Settlement	1,223	382 11 8	..	1 23	..	.. ..	0 45	..	2 50	..	..	
	1072	Woodlands B 2 Improved-farm Settlement ..	1,100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1073	Waipati Improved-farm Settlement	913	1,075 17 4	..	0 74	..	.. ..	0 29	..	..	..	..	
	1074	Water of Leith protective-works	295	150 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	3 chains solid masonry wall built, and removing boulders from bed of creek in dangerous places. Work done by Maori Hill Borough.
	1075	Ophir District water-supply	300	300 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Concrete tank built, pipes laid and windmill erected by Vincent County.
	1076	Queenstown Breakwater (repairs) (to account)	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Queenstown Borough.
	1077	Matau River protective works (Inch-Clutha) ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Inch Clutha River and Road Board.
		Amount authorised by the House (Otago) ..	38,251	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to	27,776	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	16,849 2 5	28 30	22 59	7 54	..	28 35	3 65	44 41	30 33	375,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		SOUTHLAND.													
91	1078	Ackers Village Road	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1079	Baird's Road, Block IX., Waikawa	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1080	Bluff Road	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1081	Bluff Road–Campbelltown	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Campbelltown Borough.
	1082	Boxall Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1083	Compbelltown	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Campbelltown Borough.
	1084	Campbelltown Hundred, Block VIII.	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	1085	Campbelltown Point	250	246 18 6	0 75	0 35	..	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	..	Campbelltown Borough have work in hand.
	1086	Centre Bush	100	..	..	0 31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by Southland County.
	1087	Centre Bush–Otapiri	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1088	Centre Bush Village	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1089	Clark's Road, Greenhills	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	"
	1090	Clifton–Tisbury	100	55 19 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	36½ ch. bushfelling, logging up, fascining, blinding, and 14 ch. drains.
	1091	Devereaux–East Winton	50	..	..	0 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	Southland County have work in hand.
	1092	Dipton–Balfour	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Ditto.
	1093	Forest Hill	500	300 0 0	..	3 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	"
	1094	Forest Hill–McDonald	997	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Public Works Department have charge of this work.
	1095	Fortrose–Tokanui Gorge	300	..	..	0 70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,000	Southland County have work in hand.
	1096	Gore–Pukerau	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1097	Graham Road	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised but not issued.
	1098	Hokonui, Section 795	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County
	1099	Hokonui–Forest Hill	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
		Carried forward	4,431	802 17 7	0 75	5 3	..	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	20,400	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued*.

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	4,431	802 17 7	0 75	5 3	..	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	20,400	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.* *Southland*—continued.													
91	1100	Hokonui–Henderson's Road ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1101	Invercargill Hundred	50	50 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1102	Invercargill Hundred, Blocks IX., X. ..	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	240	Authority issued.
	1103	Invercargill Hundred, Blocks XIV., XV. ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1104	Invercargill Hundred, Block XV.	100	99 15 0	..	0 71½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	Work done by Southland County.
	1105	Invercargill Hundred, Blocks XVII., XX. ..	200	144 19 9	..	0 16½	0 28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84 chains bushfall in 71 chains fascines, 10½ chains ditch.
	1106	Invercargill Hundred, Block XXII.	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	Authorised, but not issued.
	1107	Invercargill Hundred, Block XXIII.	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	400	Ditto.
	1108	Kent Road	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1109	Kingswell Creek	200	97 9 2	0 68	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 chains drain, including road partly formed.
	1110	Kingswell Creek–Seaward Bush, £1 for £1 ..	300	190 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	This is amalgamated with Item No. 1109.
	1111	Kingswell Creek–Seaward Bush	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1112	Lind's Bridge to Railway-station	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1113	Longbush, Makarewa, Myross, and Wallacetown Township, £1 for £1	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1114	Mabel District	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	"
	1115	Maclean's Road–Seaward Bush	70	0 3 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1116	Main North Road, £1 for £1	600	..	..	0 58	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1117	Main North Road, Winton	300	..	..	2 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1118	Makarewa–Grove Bush	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	"
	1119	Mataura Island Dairy Factory–Pine Bush Railway-station	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1120	Mataura–Winton and Channel	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1121	Mill and Flora Road	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1122	Mill Road–Makarewa (Block X., Sections 32, 33)	200	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1123	Mokoreta, Blocks VIII. and IX., £1 for £1 ..	100	..	..	1 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Grant to Southland County.
	1124	Mokoreta, Block XIV.	150	116 18 1	..	0 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	130 ch. chipping, culverts, &c.
		Carried forward	9,551	1,902 6 7	1 63	11 34	0 28	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	23,300	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	9,551	1,902 6 7	1 63	11 34	0 28	.. ..	0 1	..	..	..	23,300	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.*												
		Southland.—continued.												
91	1125	Moturimu	80	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	200	Authority issued.
	1126	Murphy's Road, £1 for £1	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1127	Myross Bush	100	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1128	Naigara Bridge Road (Block VII.), Waikawa ..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1129	Neil's Road to termination of Seaward Bush Railway	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1130	Otapiri Bridge–Forest Hill District	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1131	Oteramika	300	44 15 10	..	0 1	0 45	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,500	Corduroying and culverts.
	1132	Otatara	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1133	Seaward Bush	250	246 14 11	..	0 33¼	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	100	Bushfelling and logging up.
	1134	Seaward Bush Township, McQuarrie Road ..	200	33 11 0	0 35	0 24	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1135	Seaward Downs	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	.	..	500	Authority issued.
	1136	Toetoes, Block X.	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1137	Tramway Road	150	150 0 0	..	0 35	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1138	Waikawa District	1,800	476 13 4	..	1 18	..	.. ..	..	..	1 58	..	2,000	Bushfelling, &c., grant to Southland County.
	1139	Waikawa, Block VII.	210	116 3 11	..	0 27¼	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, ditching, &c.
	1140	Waikawa, Block VIII.	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	Authorised, but not issued.
	1141	Waikawa, Blocks X.. XI, XII, XIII, ...	600	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	10,000	Ditto.
	1142	Waikawa–Otara	800	267 10 1	..	..	..	.. ..	5 40	..	..	..	5,000	
	1143	Waikawa–Wyndham Valley	1,000	843 0 10	5 0	2 63	..	.. ..	..	..	2 0	..	2,000	
	1144	Waikiwi	20	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1145	Waimahaka–Block VII., Mokoreta	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1146	Waimatuku Bush	150	100 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1147	Winton Hundred, Block VIII.	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	4,000	Authorised, but not issued.
	1148	Wendon District, Section 80, Block I., and Main Road, Blocks VIII., IX. and XIV.	150	..	..	0 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1149	Wyndham Valley (Carie to Bews)	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1150	Heddon Bush–Centre Bush	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
		Carried forward	17,311	4,280 16 6	7 18	16 35½	0 73	.. ..	5 41	..	3 58	..	50,600	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
								No.	Length. Ft.						
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	..	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	17,311	4,280 16 6	7 18	16 35½	0 73	..	..	5 41	..	3 58	..	50,600	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Southland—continued.													
91	1151	Line of Hundreds	350	..	..	0 71	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Wallace and Southland counties have work in hand.
	1152	Wallacetown–Spar Bush and Waimatuku Flat..	300	200 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Southland County.
	1153	Avondale Saddle	100	100 0 0	..	0 31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Wallace County.
	1154	Clifden Bridge–Papatotara	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1155	Clifden–Redcliffe Creek	400	59 10 0	..	0 63	..	..	..	0 15	..	..	..	..	Chipping, drains, &c., Wallace County have Work in hand.
	1156	Clifden–Otautau (Main Road)	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Wallace County.
	1157	Dipton–Hamilton Burn	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1158	Forde's Road (Groper's Bush)	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1159	Heddon Bush Road	150	..	..	0 73	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1160	Lillburn	69	47 11 5	..	..	..	1	30	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1161	Longwood (XVI. and I.)	450	61 15 4	..	0 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, logging-up and stumping.
	1162	Longwood (XV., XVI., XVII.)	600	399 6 0	..	1 29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	Bushfelling, logging-up and stumping. Wallace County have work in hand.
	1163	Longwood (XVIII.)	200	1 6 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,800	82 ch. bushfelling, logging-up and stumping.
	1164	Manapouri–Te Anau	220	165 13 0	..	0 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	1165	Manapouri–Flaxy Creek	200	..	0 61	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Authority issued.
	1166	Mossburn–Te Anau	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,000	Grant to Wallace County.
	1167	Orawia–Clifden	600	172 12 0	2 50	0 42½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,900	123 ch. bushfelling, logging-up and stumping.
	1168	Orepuki–Waiau	500	74 3 6	..	0 45½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1169	Orepuki–Wairaurahiri	700	334 13 7	..	0 74	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1170	Redcliff–Manapouri	250	5 8 0	0 17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1171	Riverton–Colac	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Wallace County have work in hand.
		Carried forward	23,700	5,902 15 10	10 66	24 40½	0 73	1	30	5 56	..	3 58	..	77,300	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.				Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.		Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
								No.	Length. Ft.						
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No.	Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	23,700	5,902 15 10	10 66	24 40½	0 73	1	30	5 56	..	3 58	..	77,300	
91		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*													
		Southland—continued.													
	1172	Small grazing-run 23..	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	Wallace County have work in hand.
	1173	Sunnyside–Woodlands Sheep-track	60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1174	Te Anau–George Sound	500	335 16 9	..	..	5 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Foot-tracks.
	1175	Waiau District, Blocks VIII. and X.	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority issued.
	1176	Manapouri–Dusky Sound	760	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100,000	"
	1177	Half-moon Bay Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Stewart Island County.
	1178	Stewart Island Wharf	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1179	Village Settlements	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised and partly issued.
	1180	Contingencies and Engineering	300	106 10 4	1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54 chains, Section 15, Block VII., Waikawa; 32 chains, Section 1, Block XVII., Waikawa.
	1181	Argyle Bridge	125	..	..	..	..	1	120	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1182	Balfour Bridge (over Mataura River) (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1183	Evans' Bridge (Otapiri)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Duplicate vote not authorised.
	1184	Eyre Creek Bridge	300	300 0 0	..	..	..	1	280	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County
	1185	Garvie Burn Bridge (Hickey's Ford)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1186	Hedgehope, Titipua, and Dunsdale bridges ..	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1187	Laura Creek Bridge	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1188	Makarewa Bridge	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1189	Mimihau Bridge (near Wyndham)	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1190	Oreti Bridge (Wray's Bush Road) (to account) ..	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1191	Otapiri Bridge (Evans's)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	"
	1192	Otapiri Bridge (Forest Hill)	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1193	Waikaia River Bridge, £1 for £3	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised but not issued.
	1194	Waikawa Bridge	250	250 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	600	Work done last year by Southland County.
	1195	Winton Creek, S. 9, Bridge (Winton Hundred) ..	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1196	Winton Creek Bridge	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
		Carried forward	29,195	6,895 2 11	11 72	24 40½	6 33	3	430	5 56	..	3 58	..	178,100	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	29,195	6,895 2 11	11 72	24 40½	6 33	3 430	5 56	..	3 58	..	178,100	
		Settlement Roads, Bridges, etc.—*continued.*												
		Southland—continued.												
91	1197	Black Creek Bridge and Road	200	122 10 0	..	0 2½	..	1 55	..	..	..	..	..	Work in hand by Wallace County.
	1198	Fairfax Bridge (to account)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	1199	Mararoa Bridge	250	2 6 0	0 17	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1200	Otautau Stream Bridge	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	1201	Waiau Bridge (Clifden) (to account)	3,000	3,673 17 3	..	..	..	1 366	..	..	..	..	6,000	Special report.
	1202	Haldane Improved-farm Settlement	1,800	1,247 5 1	0 73	0 32¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	227 acres bushfelling, £115 for buildings, £88 10s. for fencing-wire.
	1203	Waikawa Improved-farm Settlement	700	341 6 8	0 32	0 9	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	97½ acres bushfelling, buildings, and fencing-wire.
	1204	Moturimu Improved-farm Settlement	400	128 18 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	30 acres bushfelling, and buildings.
	1205	Papatotara (Waiau River) Improved-farm Settlement.	400	63 10 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	28¼ acres bushfelling.
	1206	Makarewa–Hedgehope Flood-channel ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Makarewa River Board.
	1207	Outfall drain, Block VIII., Campbelltown Hundred.	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, but not issued.
	1208	Outfall drainage, Otatara	250	74 3 6	4 40	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Trial levels, bushfelling, logging, stumping, fascining and ditching.
	1209	Aparima protective works, £1 for £1	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Southland County.
	1210	Lower Waiau Ferry	200	53 18 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised, and partly issued.
		Amount authorised by the House (Southland) ..	37,345	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to	27,118	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	12,602 18 7	17 74	25 4¾	6 33	5 851	5 56	..	3 58	..	184,100	
		GENERAL.												
	1211	Advances to co-operative workmen for dwelling-houses.	240	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1212	Co-operative work for unemployed—viz., roads, drains, passages, tools, stores, tents, &c.	1,168	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	1,408	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
								Length.						
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	1,408	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		SETTLEMENT ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—*continued.* *General*—continued.												
91	1213	Flood-damages to roads and bridges (to account)	8,000	9,544 3 6	..	..	..	13 2,138	..	..	70 0	10 0	..	Blue River and Turnbull River track, £80; and other work done by Westland, Marlborough, Nelson, Wellington, and Hawke's Bay Counties.
	1214	Improved farms not specifically appropriated—viz., for felling, clearing, building, fencing, grassing, tools, explosives, &c.	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	30 0	10 0	..	
	1215	Miscellaneous roads and bridges in Native districts	200	163 5 3	..	0 25	..	.. ..	..	..	..	34 0	2,000	Also culverts 3′ by 5′ made.
	1216	Miscellaneous roads and material	600	79 3 10	..	..	0 23	.. ..	..	0 21	..	..	..	Erection of stable between Paringa and Haast; also grant to Pohingina County.
	1217	Purchase of land for roads	1,580	691 9 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Land purchases in Auckland, Hawke's Bay, Nelson, Canterbury and Southland districts.
	1218	Roads to new purchases (Native lands) ..	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work will shortly be started.
	1219	Schools in outlying districts	150	25 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1220	Village settlements: Roads, buildings, fencing, felling, clearing, &c.	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1221	Works not specifically appropriated—viz., roads, bridges, and drains	580	480 9 0	..	..	..	1 60	..	..	5 60	15 0	..	Mahitahi–Paringa Road, Westland County; Black Bridge, Brunner Borough Council; and grants to Mongonui and Whangarei Counties.
	1222	Wire rope for bridges	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1223	Advances to improved-farm settlers for buildings, gardens, fences, &c.	1,200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Refund of Revenue credited to Vote 91 in error.	..	*Cr.* 3 8 0										
		Amount authorised by the House (General) ..	15,918	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to	11,559	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	10,980 2 9	..	0 25	0 23	14 2,198	..	0 21	105 60	69 0	2,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
		Government Loans to Local Bodies.—Roads etc., to open up Crown Lands.	£	£ . d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		AUCKLAND.												
113	1	Kohumaru Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	2	Maungataniwha Block	16	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	3	Maungataniwha (II., III.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	4	Maungataniwha (VI.) Block	120	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	5	Otukai Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	6	Rangaunu (XII., XIII.); Takahue (III., IV.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	7	Takahue Block	184	24 3 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 26	..	..	2,000	
	8	Takahue (IX., X., XIV.) Block	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	12,000	
	9	Takahue-Whangape Block	295	224 18 10	..	..	..	1 42	..	3 17	..	..	12,000	Connects Herekino and Takahue Village Settlements.
	10	Punakitere (XIV., XV.) Block; Tutamoe (I., II.) Block	500	103 1 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	
	11	Tutamoe (V.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	12	Waipoua Block	5	4 1 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	1 0	..	3,000	
	13	Waipoua (VII.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	14	Hukerenui (I., II.); Kawakawa (XIII.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	15	Ruapekapeka Block	68	42 13 6	..	..	1 2	.. ..	..	2 40	..	..	3,000	
	16	Kauaeranga Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	17	Mangaru (IV., VIII.) Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	18	Motatau Block	4	2 9 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 10	..	..	3,000	
	19	Mangakahia (XI., XII., XV., XVI.) Block	2,000	752 5 6	..	1 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	3,500	Bridge being erected.
	20	Ngunguru Block	110	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	21	Opuawhanga (XIII., XIV.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	22	Opuawhanga-Whangarei No. 1 Block	24	..	3 0	0 13	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	23	Opuawhanga (No. 1) Block	235	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	24	Waipu (VI., X.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	25	Waipu (VI., VII.) Block	300	..	..	..	1 40	.. ..	..	3 0	..	..	6,350	Work done by co-operative contracts.
	26	Auckland Special Settlement Block	269	268 6 0	..	0 40	..	.. ..	0 58	..	..	5 0	2,000	
	27	Mangakahia (XIII.); Mangaru (I.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	3,000	
	28	Maropiu (Block III., Kaihu) Block	335	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,350	
	29	Maungaru (VII., VIII.) Block	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	30	Maungaru Block	460	111 4 8	7 77	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	4,368	
	31	Mareikura (I.) Block	120	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	32	Mareikura (II.) Block	70	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	8,215	1,533 3 0	10 77	2 13	2 42	1 42	0 58	9 13	1 0	5 0	81,568	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
								Length.						
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	8,215	1,533 3 0	10 77	2 13	2 42	1 42	0 58	9 13	1 0	5 0	81,568	
		Government Loans to Local Bodies.—Roads, etc., to open up Crown Lands.—*contd.* *Auckland*—continued.												
113	33	Opanake Block	100	92 2 11	..	..	..	.. ..	..	0 38	..	..	2,500	
	34	Putamoe (XIII., XIV.); Kaitiri (III., VII.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	35	Tokatoka Swamp Block	3	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	36	Tokatoka Swamp (No. 2) Block	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	37	Ahuroa Block	68	65 2 0	..	..	0 70	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	38	Tauhoa Block	69	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	39	Awaroa (No. 2) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	40	Koburumuru Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	41	Karioi Block	55	55 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	0 26	..	..	..	..	Work done by Raglan County.
	42	Newcastle (IX., X., XI.) Block)	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	43	Opuatia (No. 1) Block	300	66 19 0	10 0	..	8 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,700	
	44	Opuatia (No. 2) Block	300	29 3 7	4 0	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	8,000	
	45	Opuatia (No. 3) Block	200	95 1 5	10 0	..	8 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	4,300	
	46	Onewhero (XII., XVI.); Maramarua (IX., XIII.) Block	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	47	Onewhero (X., XIII., XIV.) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	48	Pirongia (III., IV., VI., VII., VIII.) Block ..	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	49	Paekotare Block	80	1 3 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
	50	Rangiriri (IX., X.) Block	180	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	51	Te Purua Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	52	Waipa (Sections 33 to 122) Block	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	53	Puriri Block	190	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	54	Taupiri Block	420	330 0 0	..	..	3 20	.. ..	..	5 0	..	..	5,000	
	55	Tahora Block..	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; not yet issued.
	56	Waiawa Block	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Grant to Whakatane County.
	57	Mamaku Block	200	..	..	0 67	..	.. ..	..	..	0 67	..	..	
	58	Okohiriki Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authority not issued.
	59	Taumata Block	578	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Authorised; work will be started shortly.
	60	Umurua Block	280	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bush being cleared and roads laid off.
	61	Kaikokupu Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	62	Hauturu and part Kinohaku Blocks ..	500	229 0 7	23 3	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	Road works will be started shortly.
		Carried forward	15,738	2,496 16 0	58 0	3 0	22 52	1 42	1 4	14 51	1 67	5 0	131,068	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	15,738	2,496 16 0	58 0	3 0	22 52	1 42	1 4	14 51	1 67	5 0	131,068	
		Government Loans to Local Bodies.—Roads, etc., to open up Crown Lands—*continued.*												
		Auckland—continued.												
113	63	Kinohaku Block	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Road works will be started shortly.
	64	Pirongia (IV., VIII.) Block	100	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	65	Puketarata Block	259	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
	66	Whangaingatakapu Blocks	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
		Total, Auckland	16,897	2,496 16 0	58 0	3 0	22 52	1 42	1 4	14 51	1 67	5 0	131,068	
		HAWKE'S BAY.												
	67	Hikurangi Block	24	0 5 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	68	Huirarua Block	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	69	Waikohu-Matawai and Motu Block ..	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	70	Ruakituri Block	10	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	71	Waiau Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	72	Ruahine Block	18	2 6 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*See* Vote 91, Item 434.
	73	Umutaoroa Block	72	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	74	Whakarara Block	38	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	75	Ngapaeruru Block	2,000	2,901 5 6	..	..	22 53	.. ..	..	..	..	..	48,040	
		Total, Hawke's Bay	3,962	2,903 17 4	..	..	22 53	.. ..	..	..	..	..	48,040	
		TARANAKI.												
	76	Kaipikari Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	77	Lepperton Block	67	67 0 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	6 0	..	..	
	78	Mokau Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*See* Vote 91, Item 465.
	79	Moanatairi Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	80	Okoke Block	500	9 9 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	3 0	..	
	81	Oxford Association Block	387	333 6 6	..	..	1 49	2 74	..	..	..	..	1,500	
	82	Ohura South (K, No. 5, and L) Block ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	83	Tauranga (No. 1 and C) Block	1,000	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	84	Waikiekie Block	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	85	Maraekowhai Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	86	Autawa Block	206	2 19 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	3 0	..	
	87	Hurimoana Block	300	234 10 0	4 20	..	4 20	.. ..	..	..	..	..	4,500	
	88	Kohurutahi Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	89	Lewellyn Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	4,610	647 5 5	4 20	..	5 69	2 74	..	..	6 0	6 0	6,000	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	4,610	647 5 5	4 20	..	5 69	2 74	..	..	6 0	6 0	6,000	
		GOVERNMENT LOANS TO LOCAL BODIES.—ROADS ETC., TO OPEN UP CROWN LANDS—*contd.*												
		Taranaki—continued.												
90		Makahu Block	500	153 4 0	..	..	3 2	.. ..	..	..	..	..	3,000	
91		Marco Block	300	233 14 0	..	..	3 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,500	
92		Mangaotuku Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
93		Puniwhakau Block	995	995 13 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*See* Vote 91, Item 485.
94		Ross Block	57	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	1 30	..	
95		Rimuputa Block	300	..	..	..	3 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	
96		Egmont (VI.) Block	118	5 19 4	..	0 6	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
97		Patua (Egmont V., VII., XI.) Block ..	705	1,025 7 9	..	..	14 14	.. ..	..	..	..	..	8,000	
98		Kaupokonui Block	23	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
99		Moeawatea Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
100		Opaku-Kapara Block	200	130 2 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	6 50	8,500	
101		Rangiwhakaoma Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
102		Rawhitiroa Block	800	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
103		Whenuakura Block	500	46 19 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,500	Work shown under Vote 91, Item 497.
		Total, Taranaki	10,008	3,238 5 3	4 20	0 6	29 5	2 74	..	..	6 0	14 0	35,500	
		WELLINGTON.												
104		Momahaki Village Settlement Block ..	50	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	0 57	..	..	
105		Te Ngaue Block	167	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
106		Te Ngaue (No. 2) Block	286	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
107		Clifton (No. 2) Block	186	..	..	0 10	..	.. ..	..	..	2 50	4 30	5,000	24 lin. feet bridge.
108		Gladstone Block	866	857 17 2	..	..	3 27	.. ..	..	..	..	10 77	..	148 lin. feet of culverts.
109		Kaitieke Block	700	109 16 0	4 0	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	9 49	30,000	
110		Manganui and Ruapehu Block	300	276 3 7	..	1 41	..	.. ..	..	..	2 2	..	..	100 lin. feet of culverts.
111		Marton (No. 3) Block	800	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
112		Waimarino (No. 2) Block	28	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
113		Wanganui Block	167	167 10 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
114		Hautapu (Blocks I., V., VI., IX., X.); and Tiriraukawa (Blocks IV., VIII.)	2,400	2,348 17 8	9 71	..	9 64	.. ..	..	..	..	8 57	60,000	40 lin. feet of culverts.
115		Hautapu (Block VIII.); and Ruahine (Blocks V., IX., X.)	300	81 3 3	..	..	1 0	.. ..	..	..	..	1 0	..	Bushfelling & clearing.
116		Ohinewairua Block	1,489	1,012 0 3	2 29	1 56	0 45	.. ..	..	..	3 30	0 61	5,000	264 lin. feet of culverts.
117		Pukeokahu Block	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
118		Pukeokahu (Blocks X., XIII.); Ohinewairua (Block XVI.); Hautapu (Block IV.); Ruahine (Block I.)	300	300 0 0	2 30	0 16	4 76	.. ..	..	..	0 16	4 76	5,000	
		Carried forward	8,439	5,153 8 9	18 50	3 48	19 52	.. ..	..	..	8 75	40 30	105,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	8,439	5,153 8 9	18 50	3 48	19 52	.. ..	..	..	8 75	40 30	105,000	
		GOVERNMENT LOANS TO LOCAL BODIES.—ROADS, ETC., TO OPEN UP CROWN LANDS—*contd.*												
		Wellington—continued.												
113	119	Tiriraukawa Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling & clearing.
	120	Hautapu (No. 2) Block	19	19 7 3	1 30	..	1 35	.. ..	..	..	..	1 0	..	Ditto. Slips.
	121	Hautapu-Ruahine Block	163	152 15 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/585.
	122	Kawatau Block	564	400 10 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/586.
	123	Onslow Block	200	31 18 5	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	7 acres bushfelling on road-line.
	124	Dannevirke-Centennial Block	365	181 8 6	..	..	1 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Scrubfelling and clearing. Slips.
	125	Kaiparoro Block	7	7 6 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/644.
	126	Puketoi-Aohanga Block	14	8 12 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/635.
	127	Te Mara Block	43	18 5 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Included in 91/673.
		Total, Wellington	10,014	5,973 12 8	20 0	3 48	22 7	.. ..	..	..	8 75	41 30	105,000	
		MARLBOROUGH.												
	128	Pine Valley Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	129	Hundalee Block	1,500	1,503 14 0	..	0 8¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also Vote 91, Item 866.
	130	Kaitao Block	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	131	Puhipuhi Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total, Marlborough	2,400	1,503 14 0	..	0 8¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		CANTERBURY.												
	132	Broomfield Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	133	Ruapuna Block	31	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total, Canterbury	331	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		OTAGO.												
	134	Blackstone-Gimmerburn Block	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	135	Gimmerburn Block	350	350 0 0	..	3 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Also a 15 ft. bridge on ironbark piles.
	136	Lauder-Blackstone Block	76	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	137	Maniototo (No. 2) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	138	Maniototo (No. 3) Block	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	139	Naseby (No. 2) Block	313	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Carried forward	1,439	350 0 0	..	3 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Brought forward	1,439	350 0 0	..	3 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	
		Government Loans to Local Bodies.—Roads, etc., to open up Crown Lands—*contd.*												
		Otago—continued.												
113	140	Naseby (Blocks I., VI., VII., VIII.); Maniototo (Blocks I., XVIII.); Gimmerburn (Block I.); Block	400	..	.	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	141	Swinburn Farm Homestead Block	88	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	142	Catlin's Blocks (IV., V., VII., VIII.) ..	740	383 11 11	..	1 0	..	.. ..	1 10	..	..	..	3,000	Work done on Block 7, Catlin's.
	143	Glenomaru (III., IV., V., VII., X.) ..	48	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	144	Beaumont Block	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	145	Teviot Block	166	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	146	Lauder-Tiger Hill Block	700	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	147	Tiger Hill Block	65	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	148	Lower Wanaka Block	101	101 0 0	..	0 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	Work done by Vincent County.
		Total, Otago	4,147	834 11 11	..	5 0	..	.. ..	1 10	..	..	..	13,000	
		SOUTHLAND.												
	149	Hokonui and Forest Hill Block	524	6 12 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2,000	
	150	Invercargill Hundred (XXIII.) Block ..	92	14 2 3	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	
	151	Mokoreta Block	1,075	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	7,400	
	152	Oteramika Block	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	
	153	Waikawa (II.) Block	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	50	
		Total, Southland	2,241	20 15 1	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	15,450	
		Total, Vote 113	50,000	16,971 12 3	82 20	11 62¾	95 70	3 116	2 14	14 51	16 62	60 30	348,058	
		Land for Settlements.												
		Auckland—												
		Okauia Settlement	..	336 18 5	..	1 71	..	1 30	..	..	..	..	..	
		Rangiatea Settlement	..	36 8 6	..	0 13	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 2 cattle-stops on Railway.
		Total, Auckland	373	373 6 11	..	2 4	..	1 30	..	..	..	..	..	
		Hawkes Bay—												
		Raureka Settlement	..	0 10 7	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Elsthorpe Settlement	..	201 17 2	..	0 17	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 3ch. embankment, 1 stone crossing, and 64 ft. culverts.
		Waimarie Settlement	..	100 0 0	..	1 17¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Also 2,150 c. yds. gravel, 2 box-culverts, and grubbing 40 stumps.
		Total, Hawkes Bay	302	302 7 9	..	1 34¾	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Wellington—												
		Paparangi Settlement	..	1,115 12 1	..	0 10	..	.. ..	1 68	..	..	..	..	Metalling; also 1,600 c. yds. rock excavated, and 104 c. yds. slips removed.
		Total, Wellington	1,116	1,115 12 1	..	0 10	..	.. ..	1 68	..	..	..	..	
		Marlborough—												
		Omaka Settlement	..	28 3 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work in progress.
		Total, Marlborough	28	28 3 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Westland—												
		Poerua Settlement	..	316 5 0	..	1 72	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Including heavy side-drains, bush-clearing, and metalling.
		Total, Westland	316	316 5 0	..	1 72	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Canterbury—												
		Studholme Junction Settlement	..	0 8 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Highbank Settlement	..	4 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Cutting drains.
		Albury Settlement	..	180 2 3	..	2 42	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Otarakara Settlement	..	2 7 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Drainage.
		Wharenui Settlement	..	40 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Two houses constructed.
		Hekeao Settlement	..	476 7 0	..	2 30	..	.. ..	6 60	..	..	..	..	
		Pawaho Settlement	..	6 0 0	..	0 15¼	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total, Canterbury	709	709 4 9	..	5 7¼	..	.. ..	6 60	..	..	..	..	
		Otago—												
		Makareao Settlement	..	4,663 2 1	..	*2 20	..	1 360	..	..	..	..	..	*Railway; work done by Public Works Department.
		Tokorahi Settlement	..	34 9 6	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Inspection and advertising.
		Momona Settlement	..	40 0 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 ch. of drainage-works planked and slabbed, &c.
		Total, Otago	4,738	4,737 11 7	..	2 20	..	1 360	..	..	..	..	..	
		Southland—												
		Otahu Settlement	..	3 17 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Drainage-works.
		Total, Southland	4	3 17 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total, Land for Settlements Account ..	7,586	7,586 9 0	..	12 68	..	2 390	8 48	..	..	..	..	

Table 45.—Statement showing the Expenditure and Work done on Roads, &c., under the Control of the Department of Lands and Survey, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
		Work done for Mines Department— Roads, and other Works, on Goldfields and Mineral Lands—	£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		Marlborough—												
92	74	Picton–Grove	750	329 14 3	..	0 25	1 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 ft. wide in solid rock; also 9 culverts built.
		Amount authorised by the House (Marlborough)	750	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	459	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	329 14 3	..	0 25	1 0	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Nelson—												
	94	Tableland Horse-track	22	21 13 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done last year.
	104	Wangapeka–Wanganui	450	492 9 3	..	..	3 30	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	127	Karamea, Mud flat Road	250	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	128	Mokihinui–Little River Road	500	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	131	Bridge, Landing Creek	300	289 16 6	..	..	..	1 90	..	..	..	..	..	And approaches.
	132	Bridge, Walker's Creek	200	214 12 2	..	..	..	1 60	..	..	..	..	..	"
	133	Improving Ford or Bridge, Granity Creek ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	134	Bridge, Dee Creek	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	135	Mangles Bridge	3,300	811 7 9	..	..	..	1 173½	..	..	..	..	..	And approaches, in course of construction.
	139	Belgrove–Westport–Reefton	1,500	1,464 6 9	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	108 0	..	..	*See* also Vote 91, Item 782.
	149	Bridge, Glenroy–Matakitaki Gorge ..	300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	151	Larry's Creek Bridge Extension ..	350	101 11 1	..	..	..	1 55	..	..	..	..	..	Additional span, with approaches and protective works.
	169	Greenstone–Teremakau	81	121 7 9	..	..	..	..	3 20	..	..	..	..	
	170	Bell Hill Road	200	199 9 4	..	..	..	..	1 10	..	..	..	..	
	173	Bridge, Coal Creek	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	180	Ahaura–Haupiri	400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Nelson) ..	8,853	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	5,425	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	3,716 14 5	..	..	3 30	4 378½	4 30	..	108 0	..	..	
		Westland—												
92	181	Reefton–Hokitika–Ross	2,500	2,262 19 4	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	38 31	..	..	
	187	Karangarua Bridge Approaches ..	450	346 1 6	..	..	1 20	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	189	New Road, Stafford–Awatuna	300	201 0 10	..	1 30	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	191	Widening Cook's River-flat Road ..	250	3 4 0	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	4 0	..	
	192	Construction Okuru River Ford Track ..	100	1 2 2	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	195	Hokitika–Jackson's	500	402 10 10	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	22 0	..	..	
	203	Gillespie's Bluff Track	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	204	Galway Bluff Track	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Westland) ..	4,400	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	2,696	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	3,216 18 8	..	1 30	1 20	.. ..	..	..	60 31	4 0	..	

Table 45.—STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE and WORK DONE on ROADS, &c., under the Control of the DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, for the Twelve Months ended the 31st March, 1899—*continued.*

Vote No.	Item No.	Name of Work according to Item on Appropriations.	Amount voted.	Expenditure from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, charged to Authorities issued out of the Item named.	Engineering Surveys made from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.	Roads constructed.			Improved.		Maintained.		Area of Crown Land rendered more accessible.	Remarks.
						Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Bridges constructed over 30 ft. Span.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.	Dray-road.	Bridle-track.		
			£	£ s. d.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	No. Length. Ft.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	
		WORK DONE FOR MINES DEPARTMENT—*contd.* ROADS AND OTHER WORKS ON GOLDFIELDS, ETC—*continued.*												
		Southland—												
92	224	Orepuki, Block I., Longwood	250	*250 0 0	..	0 40	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	Work done by Wallace County.
	225	Roads, Preservation Inlet	500	239 15 8	..	..	2 56	.. ..	..	..	..	..	1,000	Work partly done by Alpha Gold-mining Company.
	226	Orepuki–Preservation Inlet	2,000	778 1 2	..	..	0 79	.. ..	..	..	..	..	60,000	Also 35 m. 12 ch. foot-track.
	227	Tracks, Cromarty	400	207 5 0	..	..	1 70	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	228	Alpha Track	200	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	229	Roads, Stewart Island	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	230	Stewart Island, road to mines	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
	233	Clifden Bridge	1,500	122 2 8	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*See* also Vote 91.
	236	Mason's Bay Track	150	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Amount authorised by the House (Southland) ..	5,300	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	3,248	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total	..	1,597 4 6	..	0 40	5 45	.. ..	..	..	..	..	61,000	
		Amount authorised by the House	19,303	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Expenditure limited by the House to ..	11,828	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	
		Total, Works done for Mines Department out of Vote 92	..	8,860 11 10	..	2 15	11 15	4 378½	4 30	..	168 31	4 0	61,000	

* Paid direct to Wallace County through Mines Department.

Table 46.—Summary of Statement showing Contracts completed under the Co-operative System from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, in the several Land Districts.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.				Average Earning per Working Day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.			Payments to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
Auckland—			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Chief Surveyor	354	2·5	32 1	22 77	..	7 51·25	0 5 10½	8·1	13,127 9 11	1,229 5 9	14,356 15 8
C. W. Hursthouse	75	3·06	13 41	1 26	16 26	..	0 6 2½	7·0	3,753 16 8	661 16 4	4,415 13 0
R. H. Reaney	125	3·3	43 61	..	7 74	..	0 8 0	8·1	5,048 10 4	993 16 1	6,042 6 5
Taranaki—											
Chief Surveyor	351	3·1	28 25	34 5	65 39	5 0	0 6 6½	8·2	24,301 0 3	1,494 12 4	25,795 12 7
Hawke's Bay—											
Chief Surveyor	213	4·97	22 0·8	76 72·4	92 13·3	1 48·5	0 7 9¼	7·3	18,902 18 3	2,617 2 9	21,520 1 0
Wellington—											
Chief Surveyor	334	3·06	9 55	43 70	23 62·5	5 65	0 7 4¾	7·1	17,435 18 7	1,823 0 11	19,258 19 6
Ditto (improved-farm settlements) ..	67	2·5	1 50	0 23	1 59·5	..	0 6 3¼	7·4	1,627 17 5	162 15 9	1,790 13 2
G. T. Murray	294	2·4	12 69	51 56	*	5 37	0 8 5½	7·1	12,854 0 2	1,792 7 3	14,646 7 5
Marlborough—											
Chief Surveyor	127	16·8	9 79·55	64 5·41	..	..	0 7 3½	8·0	9,008 6 10	1,660 1 4	10,668 8 2
Nelson—											
Chief Surveyor	13	4·3	0 55·5	2 13	2 13	..	0 7 11	8·0	297 12 5	59 11 6	357 3 11
Westland—											
Chief Surveyor	7	4·1	0 26	1 9	1 34·25	1 11·25	0 10 2½	6·4	598 19 6	169 9 8	768 9 2
Otago—											
Chief Surveyor	140	3·7	10 43	..	13 9	1 19	0 6 5½	7·0	4,503 12 2	450 7 2	4,953 19 4
Southland—											
Chief Surveyor	53	3·96	4 63	11 32	39 78·5	..	0 6 10	7·2	4,596 4 7	1,350 17 2	5,947 1 9
Ditto (improved-farm settlements) ..	10	6·4	0 41·75	..	0 55	..	0 5 9½	6·1	856 15 0	726 12 4	1,583 7 4
Totals and averages ..	2,163	3·96	190 51·6	309 68·81	264 64·05	27 72	0 6 10¾	7·6	116,913 2 1	15,191 16 4	132,104 18 5

* 362·2 acres.

Note.—For other work see detailed statements concerning each district.
The rates of earning are calculated at per working day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Table 46.—Statement showing Contracts completed under Co-operative System from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.

Note.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
						AUCKLAND.						
Chief Surveyor—			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Waiwera–Hakuru (main road)	9	2	1 61	..	..	0 34	1 30	0 6 1	8	298 14 0	6 2 1	304 16 1
Kaeo Parish–Mongonui (main road)	10	2	..	..	..	0 2	4 45	0 6 0½	8	273 18 6	37 11 0	311 9 6
Waikiekie Parish–Hukerenui (main road)	11	2	..	..	..	0 10	7 25	0 6 1	8	259 6 1	19 6 4	278 12 5
Hukerenui–Kaeo Parish (main road)	7	3	0 15	..	..	0 15½	9 76	0 5 11	8	519 18 7	110 17 10	630 16 5
Mongonui Parish–Awanui (main road)	11	3	1 20	..	..	0 4	5 30	0 4 11¼	10	397 13 10	101 10 3	499 4 1
Kaiwaka–Waipu Gorge (main road)	16	2	1 47	..	..	0 29	1 55	0 6 3½	8	337 0 1	24 18 6	361 18 7
Waingaro–Ngaruawahia	13	3	..	..	..	0 76	1 70	0 5 0	8	273 9 9	34 16 0	308 5 9
Maioro Swamp	1	2	..	0 36	..	..	..	0 6 0	8	20 10 6	2 11 6	23 2 0
Victoria Valley Main Road	12	4	3 75	..	..	..	6 77	0 6 0½	8	480 18 3	47 13 0	528 11 3
Herd's Point–Takahue	18	2	0 57	1 0	..	..	8 73	0 5 0	8	257 11 10	19 6 10	276 18 8
Maungataniwha district	7	2	..	1 77	..	..	6 15	0 5 10½	8	209 14 6	15 6 6	225 1 0
Takahue Block	1	2	..	..	..	..	0 26	0 6 0	8	26 3 6	..	26 3 6
Ruapekapeka	1	6	..	1 2	..	..	2 40	0 6 0	8	39 2 2	3 11 4	42 13 6
Waimamaku–Pakanae	25	1·5	0 40	..	..	0 40	1 9	0 5 6	8	235 8 2	9 19 5	245 7 7
Katui	11	2	..	..	..	1 0	8 16	0 6 0	8	513 14 10	14 7 7	528 2 5
Paparoa–Maungaturoto	1	2	0 2	..	..	..	..	0 6 0	8	13 0 0	..	13 0 0
Opua–Waimate	3	3	..	..	..	..	0 40	0 6 0	8	69 6 6	..	69 6 6
Takahue–Herekino	2	3	0 9	..	..	0 0½	0 54	0 6 0	8	106 15 0	12 0 0	118 15 0
Block XI., Awaroa	4	4	..	1 32	..	..	..	0 5 6	8	107 11 7	9 4 2	116 15 9
Kaueranga	3	3	0 46	..	..	..	2 0	0 5 10½	8	120 5 8	5 14 4	126 0 0
Taupiri Block	6	4	..	3 20	..	..	5 0	0 6 6½	9	346 3 3	20 17 10	367 1 1
Auckland Special Settlement	2	5	0 40	..	..	0 2½	0 58	0 6 0	8	235 16 6	4 14 10	240 11 4
Village Settlement	4	1·5	..	..	..	..	0 78	0 5 6	8	32 3 6	..	32 3 6
Marlborough	2	4	0 30	..	..	..	0 42	0 5 8	8	94 2 5	..	94 2 5
Lawson's Hill	4	3	0 52	..	..	0 17	..	0 5 10	8	166 2 8	4 19 9	171 2 5
Mangapiko–Maire	1	5	0 52	..	..	..	..	0 6 0	8	50 0 0	..	50 0 0
Main road, Lot 2, Block XIV., Hukerenui	1	4	0 18	..	..	..	1 0	0 6 0	8	19 13 7	1 9 6	21 3 1
Ahipara–Herekino	16	1·5	0 12	..	..	0 12	1 23	0 5 3	8	131 11 8	6 0 0	137 11 8
Hunua–Railway-station	1	4	0 10	..	..	..	..	0 5 8	8	16 15 6	1 16 6	18 12 0
Tokatoka Swamp	30	5	2 72	2 27	..	..	13 8	0 7 0½	8	2,587 12 9	303 15 8	2,282 8 5
Opanake–Hokianga	10	3	3 69	..	..	0 78	Bridging, 105 ft.	0 6 8	8	904 18 2	175 18 11	1,080 17 1
Herekino	16	1·5	..	..	..	0 2	2 m. 55 ch.	0 5 4½	8	91 9 0	..	91 9 0
Block VII., Waipoua Survey District	16	2	..	2 33	..	..	..	0 5 10	8	264 14 11	4 7 6	269 2 5
Point Albert–Welsford Junction	2	3	..	..	..	0 6	Bridge	0 6 0	8	49 15 5	..	49 15 5
Blocks XIII. and XIV., Opuawhanga; Blocks III. and IV., Whangarei	11	4	..	3 40	..	..	..	0 6 0	8	252 19 0	16 16 3	269 15 3

Table 46.—STATEMENT showing CONTRACTS COMPLETED under CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.—*ctd.*

NOTE.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
AUCKLAND—*continued.*												
Chief Surveyor—			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Block IV., Maungakahia	5	4	2 3	..	..	0 3	3 ch.	0 5 8	8	185 16 0	14 4 0	200 0 0
Taheke-Otaua	2	5	0 20	..	..	0 20	1 m.	0 6 0	8	93 16 6	..	93 16 6
Great South Road	9	4	..	..	..	0 57	..	0 6 11	8	535 14 1	54 7 7	590 1 8
Waimamaku-Punakitere	17	1·5	1 9	2 33	..	0 62½	3 m. 78 ch.	0 5 9	8	340 16 9	23 13 6	364 10 3
Tuakau-Opuatia-Kahuhuru	12	4	3 2	..	..	0 40	1 m. 40 ch.	0 5 8	8	893 15 11	100 5 1	994 1 0
Blocks XI., XII., XV., and XVI., Maungakahia ..	4	4	1 40	..	..	..	..	0 5 10	8	84 12 9	7 10 0	92 2 9
Takahue-Whangape	2	2	..	3 17	..	..	Bridge	0 6 0	8	129 8 0	..	129 8 0
Kohukohu-Motukaraka	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	0 6 2	8	131 6 6	..	131 6 6
Punakitere Settlement	2	5	1 43	..	..	..	3 m. 70 ch.	0 5 7	8	314 3 4	3 1 6	317 4 10
North Shore-Waiwera	9	3	2 37	..	..	0 20½	34 ch.	0 5 9	8	532 18 5	10 10 8	543 9 1
Totals and averages	354	2·5	32 1	22 77	..	7 51¼	..	0 5 10¼	8·1	13,127 9 11	1,229 5 9	14,356 15 8
C. W. Hursthouse—												
Waitetuna-Waingaro	5	3·2	..	..	..	..	Widening, 2 m. 28 ch.	0 4 3¼	6·7	114 1 2	4 5 6	118 6 8
Alexandra-Kawhia	4	2·75	..	..	Clearing 7 36	..	..	0 5 3	7·8	70 13 3	2 13 5	73 6 8
Briscoe's Road ("thirds")	1	3	..	0 6	..	..	..	0 5 5⅓	7·6	14 0 0	2 0 0	16 0 0
Manganuka A 1A	3	4	2 72	..	..	..	..	0 5 2⅓	7·3	132 11 10	10 8 3	143 0 1
Te Kuiti-Awakino	40	3·6	8 50	..	3 68	..	Logging, 1 m.	0 7 5	7	2,810 15 7	587 17 6	3,398 13 1
Kihikihi-Otorohanga-Te Kuiti	1	4	1 79	..	..	..	..	0 6 7¾	7·3	87 3 10	2 18 9	90 2 7
Te Rauamoa Improved-farm Settlement	10	1	..	..	..	..	Felling, 131½ acres	0 4 7½	7·2	180 9 2	22 2 4	202 11 6
Stratford-Ongaruhe	2	4	..	..	1 2	..	..	0 5 8½	7·7	167 5 8	19 16 7	187 2 3
Manganui Road ("thirds")	8	2·5	..	0 50	4 0	..	..	0 4 9	5·4	134 7 0	6 8 0	140 15 0
Harihari-Kawhia ("thirds")	1	2	..	0 50	..	..	..	0 7 0	6·9	42 9 2	3 6 0	45 15 2
Totals and averages	75	3·6	13 41	1 26	16 26	..	..	0 6 2½	7	3,753 16 8	661 16 4	4,415 13 0
R. H. Reaney—												
Rotorua-Galatea-Waikaremoana—												
Europeans	35	3	19 56	..	7 46	..	..	0 8 0½	8·2	4,220 7 3	897 2 8	5,117 9 11
Natives	62	3										
Te Papa Road—												
Natives	4	..	..	10ft. track to bush	..	..	17 ch.	..	..	43 6 8	..	43 6 8
Rangitaiki-Ruatoki-Waiotahi—												
Natives	4	..	1 22	..	..	..	..	..	..	124 10 5	29 5 0	153 15 5

Arahiwi–Mamaku—																		
Europeans	5	4	2 10	..	0 28	..	..	0	6	3	8	226	0	9	0	8	11	226	9	8
Mamaku–Rotorua–Oxford—																				
Europeans	3	4	0 67	..	..	..	..	0	5	3	8	103	3	4	..			103	3	4
Matata–Te Teko—																				
Natives	3	5	6 64	..	..	..	..		..		..	61	11	10	6	5	4	67	17	2
Orakeikorako—																				
Natives	6	5	10 28	..	..	..	..		..		..	136	14	6	37	12	0	174	6	6
Atiamuri–Orakeikorako—																				
Natives	3	6	2 54	..	..	..	..		..		..	132	15	7	23	2	2	155	17	9
Totals and averages	125	3·3	43 61	..	7 74	..	..	0	8	0	8·1	5,048	10	4	993	16	1	6,042	6	5
TARANAKI.																				
Junction Road	18	4	2 41	..	..	..	Culverts, 742 ft.	0	6	5½	9	767	0	3	32	19	9	800	0	0
Milsom	7	2·5	..	0 59	..	..	Bridge, 46 ft.; culverts, 322 ft.	0	6	6	8	138	14	6	11	5	6	150	0	0
Milsom and Tanner	4	4	1 75	..	0 63	..	Culverts, 47 ft.	0	6	10½	8·5	192	17	3	22	12	4	215	9	7
Mokau	11	3	1 62	..	0 14	..	Drains, 12 ch.; culverts, 1,065 ft.	0	6	5½	8·25	743	11	7	80	17	9	824	9	4
Pukearuhe inland to Mohakatino	39	2·8	3 54	..	0 51	..	1 m. 57 ch.; culverts, 1,827 ft.; two bridges.	0	6	6	8	2,605	18	5	196	3	3	2,802	1	8
Putiki	11	2·72	1 77	..	..	..	77 ch.; culverts, 762 ft.	0	6	3½	8	441	15	9	46	7	0	488	2	9
Puniwhakau	18	3	..	7 5	8 18	..	Culverts, 1,304 ft.; four bridges	0	6	6	8	1,009	17	6	40	19	10	1,050	17	4
Putikituna	11	4	1 34	3 20	2 20	..	Culverts and tunnels, 280 ft.	0	6	4	8	1,433	16	10	63	7	2	1,497	4	0
Stratford–Ongaruhe	39	5	3 41	6 0	4 0	5 0	Tracks, 14 m.; culverts, 4,500 ft.; two bridges	0	6	2	8	8,509	11	6	313	1	4	8,822	12	10
Terrace End	25	2·5	0 12	1 31	8 65	..	Culverts, 586 ft.; one bridge	0	6	2	8	851	0	11	60	13	0	911	13	11
Mangamingi Township	1	2	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, 11¼ acres	0	6	9	8	9	7	5	..			9	7	5
Ngaire	4	1	..	..	..	..	Drains, 6 m. 55 ch.	0	6	9	8	226	17	4	20	5	0	247	2	4
Kaitangiwhenua No. 2	4	2	..	2 79	3 46	..	..	0	6	0	8·6	100	13	0	15	3	4	115	16	4
Okotuku	2	3	..	0 64	..	..	Culverts, 72 ft.	0	6	0	7·75	93	15	8	15	12	0	109	7	8
Waitotara Valley	36	2·5	3 79	..	..	..	Drains, 6 ch.; culverts, 841 ft.	0	6	3¼	8·25	1,710	11	5	116	15	2	1,827	6	7
Eltham–Waitotara	26	2·48	6 29	..	0 52	..	22 ch.; culverts, 876 ft.	0	6	1	7·9	1,221	0	6	49	16	7	1,270	17	1
Tawai Improved-farm Settlement	2	1	0 24	..	..	..	Bushfelling, 3 acres; two houses erected	0	5	6	8	77	6	7	1	0	0	78	6	7
Burfoot	2	2·5	..	0 45	1 6	..	Two houses erected	0	5	8	8	170	12	9	19	4	0	189	16	9
Derwent	11	1	..	..	..	..	36 acres; two houses erected	0	6	2	8	146	5	2	37	2	6	183	7	8
Greenlands	4	2	..	..	2 47	..	6½ acres; three houses erected	0	6	1	8	375	19	10	23	9	4	399	9	2
Okau	1	1	..	..	..	..	15 acres; grassing last year's clearings	0	6	3¼	7	30	18	0	..			30	18	0
Ratatomokia	2	2	..	..	..	..	28 acres	0	6	4	8·5	43	16	0	..			43	16	0
Tongaporutu	2	3	0 33	0 22	0 42	..	Removal of slips	0	6	3	8	72	16	3	16	4	0	89	0	3
Huiroa	3	2	0 18	0 18	..	..	14 acres	0	6	3	8	77	11	1	17	4	0	94	15	1
Whangamomona	28	2	..	1 40	..	..	460 acres; also sowing last year's clearings	0	6	4	8	1,013	4	7	64	4	0	1,077	8	7
Oxford Association Block	6	2·5	..	1 49	2 26	..	Culverts, 229 ft.; two bridges	0	6	4½	8·5	311	1	8	22	4	10	333	6	6
Hurimoana Block	10	4	..	4 20	6 20	..	..	0	6	3	8	425	16	1	29	4	3	455	0	4
Makahu Block	3	6	..	3 0	3 2	..	..	0	6	8	8	143	19	1	9	1	3	153	0	4
Marco Block	3	5	..	..	3 0	..	..	0	6	1	8	219	12	0	19	6	0	238	18	0
Rimuputa Block	3	6	..	..	3 0	..	..	0	6	3	8	112	18	6	14	2	0	127	0	6
Egmont Block VI.	1	2	0 6	..	..	..	..	0	5	7	8	5	19	4	1	0	0	6	19	4
Patua Block	22	3·5	..	..	14 14	..	..	0	6	2	8	873	16	0	121	11	9	995	7	9
Opaku–Kapara	2	2	..	0 33	0 33	..	Removal of slips, &c.	0	6	9	8	142	17	6	13	15	5	156	12	11
Totals and averages	351	3·1	28 25	34 5	65 39	5 0	..	0	6	6½	8·2	24,301	0	3	1,494	12	4	25,795	12	7

Table 46.—STATEMENT showing CONTRACTS COMPLETED under CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.—*ctd.*

NOTE.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
HAWKE'S BAY.												
Chief Surveyor—			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rotorua–Galatea–Waikaremoana	16	5·7	..	9 73	12 37	..	Four bridges, 63ft.; thirteen culverts, 268 ft.; 3,500 shingles; 70,773 sq. ft. of timber sawn; ten fords constructed	0 7 2½	7·38	4,284 12 2	388 17 1	4,673 9 3
Gisborne–Waikaremoana	39	4·95	..	28 41·5	28 61·33	..	Pack-track, 6m.; bridges, 78 ft.; culverts, 806 ft.; twenty-eight stone crossings; fascining, 36 ft.; 7,116 sq. ft. timber sawn; 2,700 shingles split	0 8 10½	7·28	4,552 5 2	469 2 11	5,021 8 1
Runanga–Pohui	3	4	0 23	..	..	0 24·5	One bridge, 16 ft.; five culverts, 118 ft.; metalling, 448 c. yd. of stone	0 7 7½	7·6	154 6 7	20 5 0	174 11 7
Napier–Wairoa	49	5	12 20·3	..	2 61	0 67	Two bridges, 32 ft.; eighty-five culverts, 1,538 ft.; twenty-one open stone crossings; removing 8,655 c. yd. of slips and 700 c. yd. of rock	0 8 5	7·44	3,591 17 10	528 11 3	4,120 9 1
Dannevirke–Tiratu	9	6·8	1 10	..	3 66	0 18	Thirteen culverts, 235ft.; 3·65ch. embankments, with ditches	0 5 9½	7·24	501 18 10	111 5 9	613 4 7
Ruahine Block and Ruahine approach	4	5·75	0 47	..	0 58·5	0 19	One bridge, 58 ft.; four culverts, 98 ft.; metalling, 342 c. yd. of quarried stone.	0 5 11	6·76	295 7 8	42 17 3	338 4 11
Waikopiro	14	3·3	..	9 9·5	1 52·6	..	Twenty-two bridges, 388 ft.; forty-seven culverts, 744 ft.	0 6 8¾	7·07	587 13 8	138 14 4	726 8 0
Waikopiro Improved-farm Settlement	13	1·08	..	..	176·4 ac.	..	..	0 7 4½	6·72	235 17 1	49 11 11	285 9 0
Elsthorpe	2	2·5	0 17	..	..	..	One culvert, 20 ft. by 12 in. by 12 in.; two culverts, 44 ft. by 24 in. by 24 in.	0 9 0	6·56	36 19 6	7 18 9	44 18 3
Ngapaeruru	35	6·25	..	19 73·75	21 20·18	..	..	0 6 6½	7·75	2,460 15 5	254 9 3	2,715 4 8
Motu Road (widening)	4	5·7	2 8·5	..	2 8·5	..	Culverts, 698 ft.; slips, 511 c. yd.; and engineering survey	0 8 7½	7·3	402 1 11	69 9 5	471 11 4
Nuhaka No. 1	1	4	..	..	3 58·5	..	Engineering survey included ..	0 5 11	8·1	93 11 6	9 14 6	103 6 0
Nuhaka–Gisborne	13	5·4	5 35	..	5 35	..	Slips removed, 421 c. yd.; culverts, 898 ft.; and engineering survey	0 8 1½	7·3	852 12 5	170 7 5	1,022 19 10
Gisborne–Rotorua (stock-track)	11	5·3	..	9 34·7	9 34·7	..	Pack-track, 3 m.; formation, 34 ch.; culverts, 41 ft.; bush felled 66 ft. wide, stumped and cleared 33 ft. wide; and survey	0 8 8	7·7	852 18 6	355 17 11	1,208 16 5
Totals and averages	213	4·97	22 0·8	76 72·4	92 13·3	1 48·5	..	0 7 9¼	7·3	18,902 18 3	2,617 2 9	21,520 1 0

Chief Surveyor—																		
Waihi–Tokaanu	9	4	0 31	..	..	..	..	0 6 9½	6·25	141 16 6	14 10 7	156 7 1
Tokaanu Township	19	3·47	1 12	..	..	..	..	0 6 4½	7	309 9 4	38 5 0	347 14 4
Potaka	15	2·25	..	2 14	2 47	..	Rock excavated, 1,835 c. yd.	0 7 2½	7·33	434 14 3	47 19 9	482 14 0
Upper Kawatau	3	3	0 11	0 22	..	..	Rock excavated, 4,680 c. yd.	0 6 10½	7·20	221 16 5	46 19 11	268 16 4
Kawatau Valley	14	2·33	..	..	0 1½	0 10	Rock excavated, 9,360 c. yd.	0 8 4	7·16	723 11 0	78 15 1	802 6 1
Titirangi	4	3	..	0 56	1 31	..	Rock excavated, 2,360 c. yd.; widening, 61 ch.	0 6 3¼	7·33	126 19 6	18 16 6	145 16 0
Titirangi–Kew	1	2	..	0 13	..	..	Rock excavated, 708 c. yd.	0 8 0	7·33	17 14 0	1 15 5	19 9 5
Kelpie	7	2	0 23	..	..	0 10	Rock excavated, 1,860 c. yd.; drains cut, 69 ch.	0 7 0¾	6·60	123 6 5	12 17 10	136 4 3
Kaheke	3	5	..	0 61	..	..	..	0 8 1½	7	112 10 6	11 10 0	124 0 6
Lagoon	5	2	..	2 23	..	..	Rock excavated, 3,469 c. yd.; widening, 58 ch.	0 6 8	7·20	116 10 3	11 13 0	128 3 3
Auputa	10	2	..	0 37	..	0 11	Rock excavated, 1,140 c. yd.; widening, 1 m. 3 ch.	0 6 2½	7·20	209 3 5	22 6 3	231 9 8
Main South	2	2	0 10	..	..	..	Rock excavated, 1,770 c. yd.	0 7 5½	6·50	38 3 3	3 16 3	41 19 6
West Mangahuia	4	2	..	1 43	1 37	..	Rock excavated, 1,780 c. yd.	0 6 10½	7·33	183 11 10	19 17 2	203 9 0
Mangawhahariki	2	2	..	..	..	1 28	..	0 7 4	5·25	69 5 2	12 9 6	81 14 8
Watershed	4	3	..	0 42	0 42	..	Rock excavated, 1,963 c. yd.	0 7 4¾	7	71 6 8	12 12 10	83 19 6
Mania	1	1	..	0 44	0 6	..	..	0 6 0	8	4 4 0	0 8 5	4 12 5
Cross (Hall Block)	2	4	..	1 35	0 44	..	Rock excavated, 2,860 c. yd.	0 7 5½	7·81	181 19 4	18 3 11	200 3 3
Peka	5	2·25	..	0 53	0 70	..	..	0 6 9½	7·25	131 6 1	14 19 11	146 6 0
Conspicuous	2	2	..	..	..	..	Rock excavated, 5,740 c. yd.	0 8 8¾	7	82 1 2	8 4 1	90 5 3
Oroua Main	5	3·25	..	..	..	..	Rock excavated, 3,438 c. yd.; widening, 1 m. 25 ch.	0 7 9½	6·50	329 16 1	32 19 7	362 15 8
Table Flat	4	3	..	1 0	..	0 26	Rock excavated, 600 c. yd.	0 8 4	6·50	112 10 6 73 14 11	18 12 6	204 17 11
Apiti–Norsewood	15	2·25	..	..	0 5	0 7	Rock excavated, 11,522 c. yd...	0 9 3¼	6·75	590 14 5	59 1 5	649 15 10
Tunipo	1	2	..	0 5	..	..	..	0 7 9½	7·50	71 14 9	7 6 0	79 0 9
Takapari	3	2 50	..	1 15	..	..	..	0 7 4¾	6	120 3 5	12 4 3	132 7 8
Upper Pohangina Valley	2	2·50	..	1 52	..	..	..	0 6 8	7	42 10 4	8 5 1	50 15 5
Umutoi (Pohangina)	1	2	..	0 3	..	0 5	..	0 7 6½	6	57 16 8	6 3 7	64 0 3
Oparae	2	3·50	..	1 33	0 18	..	Rock excavated, 358 c. yd.	0 8 0	7·74	341 7 2	34 2 9	375 9 11
Towai	4	3·75	..	3 0	0 28	..	..	0 7 4	7·41	362 9 6	42 3 2	404 12 8
Alfredton–Weber	12	2·73	0 51	..	..	0 35	Rock excavated, 22,851 c. yd...	0 8 4	7·62	704 17 5	70 8 11	775 6 4
Waihi Falls	1	2	..	0 63	..	..	..	0 8 7	8	51 15 11	5 1 9	56 17 8
Akitio	5	2·40	..	2 5	0 1	..	..	0 8 0	7·65	315 11 10	31 11 1	347 2 11
Pukewhinau	1	2	..	..	0 44	..	..	0 8 0	7·74	36 6 0	3 12 6	39 18 6
Mount Arthur	7	2·28	..	1 3	0 34	..	Two bridges widened	0 10 4	7·64	266 1 7	26 13 1	292 14 8
Kawakawa	2	2·50	..	0 65	0 47	..	..	0 7 11¼	7·53	125 1 6	12 10 1	137 11 7
Waihora	3	2	..	..	2 39	..	..	0 7 11½	7·55	156 6 3	15 13 0	171 19 3
Kaituna	4	4	..	2 32	0 2	..	Stumping, 40 ch.	0 7 6½	6·79	287 4 8	28 14 6	315 19 2
Akaroa	1	4	..	..	0 78	..	..	0 8 8	8	60 12 1	6 7 1	66 19 2
Manuharahara	2	5	..	1 3	..	..	Widening, 36 ch.	0 6 7	8	169 8 9	16 18 9	186 7 6
Waihi Valley	8	3	..	4 42	0 31	..	Stumping, 1 m. 64 ch.	0 7 11¼	7·53	499 15 7	49 18 7	549 14 2
Waihi	1	5	..	0 51	..	..	..	0 6 11	8	175 1 8	17 10 1	192 11 9
Range (Masterton Reform)	3	3	..	1 11	0 79	..	..	0 6 10½	7·27	244 6 11	24 8 7	268 15 6
Makuri–Pongaroa	20	4·53	..	..	0 10	0 22	Widening, 6 m. 7 ch...	0 6 3½	7·40	1,870 11 5	187 1 1	2,057 12 6
Mangatiti	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	0 8 2	5·54	195 18 2	19 11 9	215 9 11
Makuri–Aohanga	10	4·50	0 52	..	0 11	..	Widening, 2 m. 76 ch.	0 7 0½	7	1,053 1 0	105 6 1	1,158 7 1
Rakaunui Village Settlement	1	3	..	0 30	..	..	..	0 7 10½	6	47 14 6	4 15 6	52 10 0
Pongaroa Township	1	2	..	..	..	..	Bushfelling, 10½ acres on sections	0 6 0	7·42	15 15 0	1 11 6	17 6 6

Table 46.—Statement showing Contracts completed under Co-operative System from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.—*ctd.*

Note.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
							WELLINGTON—*continued.*					
Chief Surveyor—*continued.*			M. ch.	M. ch.	Acres.	M. ch.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aohanga-Gorge	12	3·87	2 1	..	..	..	14,420 ft. timber hauled	0 10 8¾	7·51	951 7 2	95 2 8	1,046 9 10
Waihoki Valley	1	5	..	0 32	..	..	..	0 5 4	6·19	72 7 8	7 4 9	79 12 5
Waiowaka	1	5	..	1 0	..	..	..	0 6 0¾	6	83 1 9	9 6 2	92 7 11
Waikereru	2	5	..	0 60	..	..	..	0 6 3¼	7·35	121 18 7	12 3 3	134 1 10
Burling's-Mecalickstone	10	3·75	0 71	..	..	..	Widening, 1 m. 4 ch.; timber supplied for bridge, 21,077 ft.	0 9 4¾	6·63	690 16 2	69 1 7	759 17 9
Puketoi	2	4	..	0 53	0 42	..	..	0 6 6½	7	127 2 10	12 14 3	139 17 1
Makairo	1	3	..	..	..	0 23	..	0 6 5½	7·88	27 13 5	2 15 4	30 8 9
Makairo-Kumeroa	3	3	1 1	..	..	..	..	0 7 10½	7·80	235 5 6	23 8 6	258 14 0
Thompson's	3	3	0 51	..	..	..	..	0 9 2¼	7·62	204 10 9	20 9 1	224 19 10
Woodville-Ashhurst	2	5	..	1 35	..	..	Scrubfelling, &c., 1 m. 35 ch.	0 7 2	7·44	120 9 11	12 1 0	132 10 11
Ballance-Manawatu Gorge	1	2	0 15	..	..	..	..	0 7 7¼	7·52	36 5 6	3 12 7	39 18 1
Woodville-Aohanga	6	5	..	2 27	1 66	..	..	0 8 0½	7	423 14 9	42 7 6	466 2 3
Kaitawa Ridge	2	4	..	0 76	0 76	..	..	0 6 11¼	6·44	131 11 0	13 3 1	144 14 1
Bridge Road to Makakahi	3	5	..	..	..	0 10	Four small bridges erected	0 7 3¼	5·83	310 0 8	31 0 1	341 0 9
Hukanui-Masterton Special Settlement	2	5	..	..	1 54	..	..	0 7 0	7	290 12 0	29 1 2	319 13 2
Mangatainoka Valley	5	3	0 21	..	0 23	0 23	..	0 6 10½	7·25	184 1 6	18 2 2	202 3 8
Hukanui-Kakariki	2	5	0 78	..	..	0 25	Scrubfelling, &c., 78 chains	0 8 0	7·55	219 3 6	21 18 4	241 1 10
West	2	3	..	..	0 55	..	..	0 5 9½	5·76	50 4 6	5 0 5	55 4 11
Barton's	3	2	0 8	..	..	..	5,890 ft. timber sawn	0 7 8	6·25	74 3 9	7 8 4	81 12 1
Dalefield	1	2	0 9	..	..	..	..	0 6 4	7·25	5 0 0	0 10 0	5 10 0
Makakahi Valley	5	3	..	0 32	1 10	..	..	0 7 6½	7	203 14 8	20 7 5	224 2 1
Mangatariri	12	2	..	0 55	1 18	..	Widening, 40 ch.	0 6 8¾	6·80	379 0 11	39 18 1	418 19 0
Waingawa	2	2	..	0 3	..	..	Wire suspension-bridge, 132 ft., erected.	0 7 10½	7	17 5 0	1 14 6	18 19 6
Waiohine	4	3	..	0 41	0 53	..	..	0 6 6½	7·25	254 19 4	25 9 11	280 9 3
Aurora (Paparangi)	13	2	0 10	..	..	1 70	..	0 6 6½	7·50	543 10 8	54 7 1	597 17 9
Totals and averages	334	3·06	9 55	43 70	23 62½	5 65	..	0 7 4¾	7·1	17,435 18 7	1,823 0 11	19,258 19 6
Akitio Improved-farm Settlement	29	1·93	..	0 23	0 1½	..	Bush felled, 427 acres; rock excavated, 248 c. yd.	0 5 10½	7·80	615 5 8	61 10 7	676 16 3
Mangatiti Improved-farm Settlement	28	3	..	..	1 58	..	Bush felled, 465 acres	0 6 6⅓	7·21	801 11 2	80 3 1	881 14 3
Pemberton Improved-farm Settlement	10	3	1 50	..	..	..	Bush felled, 17 acres; rock excavated, 196 c. yd.	0 6 5½	6·87	211 0 7	21 2 1	232 2 8
Totals and averages	67	2·5	1 50	0 23	1 59½	..	..	0 6 3¼	7·4	1,627 17 5	162 15 9	1,790 13 2
Totals and averages	401	3·06	11 25	44 13	25 42	5 65	..	0 7 2½	7·14	19,063 16 0	1,985 16 8	21,049 12 8

G. T. Murray—																		
Flood-damages, Makohine Village Settlement and Clifton Block	1	2	..	0 40	..	..	..	0	8	2½	6·7	40	0	0	..		40	0	0
Huikumu	3	2	..	1 33	..	..	..	0	7	3	7	159	10	3	20	5	0	179	15	3
Hunterville, 1, 2, 3	18	3·8	..	8 12	..	..	..	0	6	10½	7·5	1,007	15	10	47	14	2	1,055	10	0
Pipiriki–Waiouru	9	3·2	0 9	..	10 acres	..	Shell-rock, 2,384 c. y stripping, 6,227 c. yd.	0	8	2½	6·8	645	7	5	112	1	0	757	8	5
Raetihi–Ohura	4	1·5	..	..	3	..	Horse-bridge, 30 ft.	0	5	9½	7	17	19	3	4	10	9	22	10	0
Raetihi Township	1	2	..	..	3	..	..	0	8	4	7·2	14	5	5	..			14	5	5
Turakina Valley	7	3·7	0 9	2 24	..	..	Culverts, 98 lin. ft.	0	7	7½	7·4	349	6	3	87	11	0	436	17	3
Waimarino	4	2·2	1 61	0 32	..	..	Culverts, 104 lin. ft.	0	8	9½	7·1	146	2	9	35	6	6	181	9	3
Wanganui	12	2·3	..	3 34	..	..	Culverts, 388 lin. ft.; bridges, 74 lin. ft.	0	7	4½	6·7	586	5	0	109	0	6	695	5	6
Taumarunui–Ohakune	8	2·8	0 16	2 61	..	..	Culverts, 183 lin. ft.; bridges, 42 lin. ft.	0	6	9½	7·1	479	6	11	47	6	7	526	13	6
Awarua	25	2·1	0 41	2 63	..	..	Culverts, 80 lin. ft.	0	5	11½	7·6	766	13	4	134	2	6	900	15	10
Gorge–Ohutu Improved-farm Settlement	1	2	0 28	..	..	..	Culverts, 44 lin. ft.	0	8	3½	7·2	36	18	8	..			36	18	8
Horouta	8	3·9	2 10	0 7	..	..	Culverts, 88 lin. ft.	0	6	6¾	7·3	442	5	2	67	14	7	509	19	9
Makohine Valley	1	3	..	0 40	..	..	..	0	6	4½	7·7	78	7	10	32	4	9	110	12	7
Murray's Track	6	2·8	..	2 70	..	..	Culverts, 170 lin. ft.	0	7	11	7·2	300	19	2	41	7	9	342	6	11
Taihape–Paengaroa	9	2·5	1 1	..	..	..	Culverts, 250 lin. ft.; bridge, 24 lin. ft.	0	5	2¾	7·7	298	15	3	18	6	9	317	2	0
Te Kapua	8	3·2	..	5 0	..	..	Culverts, 192 lin. ft.	0	6	7¼	7·3	553	4	3	70	4	9	623	9	0
Watershed Road	1	2	0 3	..	..	..	..	0	6	6½	7·6	28	0	3	13	14	0	41	14	3
Ohingaiti–Tokaanu	2	2	..	..	..	..	In progress, bridge, 60 ft.; sawn timber, 11,258 ft.	0	7	2¾	7·4	92	4	5	10	11	6	102	15	11
Clifton No. 2 Block	2	2	0 10	..	..	..	Bridge, 24 lin. ft.	0	8	10⅓	7·2	54	4	0	5	15	2	59	19	2
Gladstone Block	11	2·2	..	3 27	..	..	Culverts, 148 lin. ft.	0	7	2½	6·7	636	17	9	42	2	4	679	0	1
Manganui and Ruapehu	4	2·2	1 41	..	..	..	Culverts, 100 lin. ft.	0	6	6½	6·7	258	6	0	14	0	0	272	6	0
Hautapu 1, 5, 6, 9, 10	30	3·4	..	9 64	..	..	Culverts, 40 lin. ft.	0	6	2¾	6·9	1,897	19	5	429	3	7	2,327	3	0
Tiriraukawa 4, 8																				
Ohinewairua	12	3·3	1 56	0 45	..	..	Culverts, 264 lin. ft.	0	7	6¾	7·4	574	7	8	79	0	4	653	8	0
Pukeokahu X., XIII.	8	2·4	0 16	4 76	..	..	..	0	7	4½	7·3	332	12	0	14	11	6	347	3	6
Makohine Village Settlement	3	2·3	0 61	..	..	..	Culverts, 80 lin. ft.	0	11	0	7·6	152	17	0	8	6	6	161	3	6
Horopito Improved-farm Settlement	2	1	..	..	9 7/10	..	..	0	7	4 *	5·3	32	16	4	..			32	16	4
Hautapu Improved-farm Settlement	13	1·3	..	..	84	..	..	0	5	2½	7·1	146	4	7	16	2	0	162	6	7
Masterton–Tenui	6	1	..	..	27	..	..	0	4	4¾	7·3	45	12	4	12	8	2	58	0	6
Ohutu	29	2·3	1 2	1 28	149	..	Culverts, 280 lin. ft.	0	5	9½	7·5	871	2	9	69	13	4	940	16	1
Otuarei	5	2·4	..	1 9	35	..	..	0	5	4	7·6	120	12	4	17	0	10	137	13	2
Rongoiti	11	1·8	1 5	..	18	..	Culverts, 94 lin. ft.; bridge, 24 ft. span	0	4	10¾	7·5	197	15	11	17	18	1	215	14	0
Taihape	7	2·3	0 20	0 31	23½	..	Sowing 645 acres	0	6	0	7·6	187	11	9	30	7	0	217	18	9
Pipiriki–Waiouru	4	1·5	..	..	..	2 37	2,150 c. yd.	*1	11	6	8·8	581	0	8	100	18	0	681	18	8
Ohingaiti–Tokaanu	19	1·5	..	..	..	3 0	3,271 c. yd.	*1	1	11¾	8·5	720	12	3	82	18	4	803	10	7
Totals and averages	294	2·4	12 69	51 56	362⅕	5 37		0	8	5½	7·1	12,854	0	2	1,792	7	3	14,646	7	5

* Including horses and drays.

Table 46.—STATEMENT showing CONTRACTS COMPLETED under CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.—*ctd.*

NOTE.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
MARLBOROUGH.												
Chief Surveyor—			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Arapawa–Te Awaiti	5	3	..	3 52·66	..	..	..	0 6 6	8	96 6 9	0 6 6	96 13 3
Anakoa–Manaroa	6	3	..	3 19·50	..	..	..	..	..	119 6 11	21 13 10	141 0 9
Beatrice Bay–Kenny's Isle	4	3	..	3 77	..	..	..	0 8 10	8	74 11 6	22 18 0	97 9 6
Crail Bay–Homewood	3	3	..	1 40	..	..	..	0 6 0	8	33 5 0	..	33 5 0
Crail Bay Track	10	3	..	2 70	..	..	..	0 7 3	8	107 4 9	8 0 0	115 4 9
Harvey's Bay, Pelorus Sound	2	4	..	2 75·50	..	..	..	..	..	138 14 10	9 5 2	148 0 0
Hakahaka–Opihi	3	2	..	2 66	..	..	..	0 7 4	8	56 2 0	..	56 2 0
Kenepuru–Anakoa	4	4	..	2 54·50	..	..	..	0 7 2	8	208 13 6	41 17 8	250 11 2
Kenepuru Sound	4	3	..	1 41·75	..	..	..	0 7 4	8	111 6 2	21 11 10	132 18 0
Manaroa–Hopai	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 10 0	4 5 6	9 15 6
Manaroa–Okoha	8	4	..	6 26·75	..	..	..	0 6 11½	8	262 15 1	116 9 11	379 5 0
Ohinetaha–Te Mehia	3	1	..	0 8	..	..	..	0 6 6	8	16 0 0	19 19 0	35 19 0
Piripaua Neck Cutting	1	2	..	..	..	..	Open cutting	..	..	25 0 0	..	25 0 0
Robin Hood Bay–Ocean Bay	2	3	..	5 4·50	..	..	..	0 7 1	8	107 2 6	0 6 9	107 9 3
Te Mehia Bay–Postage Bay	5	2	..	6 32·50	..	..	Repairing track, 527 chains; clearing slips on three miles track; making seven gates	0 6 6	8	174 2 0	46 5 10	220 7 10
Torea Neck	..	..	..	..	..	..	Removing slips	..	..	13 10 6	0 13 0	14 3 6
Tracks, Queen Charlotte Sound	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 13 6	..	3 13 6
Tory Heads–Whatamonga–Picton	8	2	..	9 44·50	..	..	..	0 6 7	8	214 10 9	40 1 0	254 11 9
Whatamonga–Port Underwood	..	..	..	..	..	..	Repairs to bridge and ford	0 7 0	8	2 2 0	3 3 6	5 5 6
White's Bay–Port Underwood	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 4 0	2 4 0
Nydia Bay–Havelock	1	2	..	0 16	..	..	Clearing slips and forming 16 chains road	..	..	28 2 0	..	28 2 0
Tawhiunui–Rai	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	0 7 0	8	39 11 2	10 19 6	50 10 8
Anikiwi–Grove	2	1	..	2 18	..	..	Twenty-two culverts, 110 ft.; two gates; tracks improved, 16 ch.	0 6 6	8	68 5 9	0 3 6	68 9 3
Blind River Road	2	..	0 75	..	..	..	..	0 7 0	8	394 11 11	44 16 1	439 8 0
Bluff Cove–Port Underwood	1	2	..	0 6·25	..	..	..	0 7 0	8	22 0 0	2 16 2	24 16 2
Picton–Queen Charlotte Sound	..	..	..	..	..	..	Removing slips, and survey	..	..	20 14 1	7 9 1	28 3 2
Starborough	1	..	5 5·97	..	..	..	..	0 7 0	8	253 4 10	50 14 7	303 19 5
Nelson–Havelock and Bridges	1	..	0 5·58	..	..	..	Traffic-bridge over Flat Creek, 46 ft.	0 8 0	8	257 10 0	13 5 6	270 15 6
Drain–Wairau River Gravel-pit	1	4	..	..	..	..	Drain-cutting, 40 ch.	0 8 0	8	98 3 0	..	98 3 0
Picton–Grove Road	2	11	0 25	1 0	..	..	Seven culverts: five 12 in. by 12 in., 30 ft. and 22 ft.; one 8 in. by 8 in., 22 ft.; one 18 in. by 12 in., 30 ft.	0 6 1	8	342 1 10	61 0 5	403 2 3

Omaka Estate																18 17 0		12 5 9	31 2 9
Kaiaho Canal												0 8 0		8		69 6 1		26 8 11	95 15 0
Cheviot-Kaikoura Road					46	42	3 48				Four stone and sixteen wooden culverts, one bridge, eight fords, Raramai Tunnel and sea-wall	0 7 11		8		5,626 1 5		1,071 0 4	6,697 1 9
Totals and averages					127	16·8	9 79·55	64 5·41				0 7 $3\frac{1}{2}$		8		9,008 6 10		1,660 1 4	10,668 8 2
NELSON.																			
Chief Surveyor—																			
Maitai Road					2	5·5	0 47					0 6 $6\frac{3}{4}$		8		86 0 5		12 9 1	98 9 6
Aniseed Valley Road					4	6	0 8·5					0 6 $3\frac{1}{4}$		8		101 5 0		9 10 9	110 15 9
Wangapeka-Wanganui					7	3		2 13	2 13			0 9 $3\frac{1}{2}$		8		110 7 0		37 11 8	147 18 8
Totals and averages					13	4·3	0 55·5	2 13	2 13			0 7 11		8		297 12 5		59 11 6	357 3 11
WESTLAND.																			
Chief Surveyor—																			
Road to Block 112, Kokatahi					1	5	0 3		0 2·25	0 2·25	Road-bridge, 51 ft.	0 11 $4\frac{3}{4}$		6·4		111 10 0		36 12 6	148 2 6
Stafford-Awatuna Road					3	4	0 23		0 23		Ditching, 32 ch.; three log-culverts	0 9 4		5·9		195 9 6		76 7 2	271 16 8
Karangarua Track Extension (Karangarua Bridge)					3	4		1 9	1 9	1 9	Three log-culverts, two level crossings	0 10 $5\frac{1}{2}$		6·9		292 0 0		56 10 0	348 10 0
Totals and averages					7	4·1	0 26	1 9	1 34·25	1 11·25		0 10 $2\frac{1}{2}$		6·4		598 19 6		169 9 8	768 9 2
OTAGO.																			
Chief Surveyor—																			
Main Catlin's-Waikawa Road					10	2·4	0 4		0 19	0 56	Repairs to bridges	0 6 $2\frac{1}{2}$		7·42		340 11 11		34 1 2	374 13 1
Waipati roads					6	3·66	0 74		0 29			0 6 $5\frac{1}{2}$		7·35		327 3 7		32 14 4	359 17 11
Waipati sections					16						Bush felled, 191½ acres					232 18 9		23 5 11	256 4 8
Heathfield roads					3	3						0 6 $2\frac{1}{4}$		7·33		89 11 6		8 19 2	98 10 8
Heathfield sections					14						Bush felled, 113 acres					197 0 0		19 14 0	216 14 0
Tahakopa Valley Road					3	6·66				0 43		0 7 $0\frac{3}{4}$		7·57		206 4 9		20 12 6	326 17 3
Tautuku, Block IV., Village Settlement Road					2	3·5					Stumping and levelling, 46 ch.	0 7 5		7·35		49 17 6		4 19 9	54 17 3
Rimu, Block XIII., Village Settlement Road					4	6					Stumping, 20 ch.; gravel, 32 ch.	0 6 $2\frac{3}{4}$		7·55		164 17 6		16 9 9	181 7 3
Rimu, Block XIV., Village Settlement Road					5	6			2 49			0 6 8		7·5		144 8 0		14 8 10	158 16 10
Rimu, Block XV., Village Settlement Road					6	6·2	1 25		3 28			0 6 $4\frac{3}{4}$		7·46		327 10 2		32 15 0	360 5 2
Rimu, Block XV. (sections)					13						Bush felled, 122 acres					236 2 5		23 12 3	259 14 8
Woodland District, Gordon Road					1	5	0 24					0 6 0		7·34		77 6 2		7 14 7	85 0 9
Woodland District, Newtown Road					1	5	0 14		0 14·5			0 6 $0\frac{3}{4}$		7·44		57 8 8		5 14 10	63 3 6
Purakauiti Stream Road					3	2			0 59			0 5 $10\frac{3}{4}$		6·76		35 12 0		3 11 3	39 3 3
Woodlands, Block IX., road					6	3·5	1 23·5		0 45			0 6 $2\frac{1}{4}$		6·94		262 6 10		26 4 8	288 11 6
Woodlands, Block IX., sections					5						Bush felled, 27 acres					28 7 0		2 16 8	31 3 8
Woodlands, Block VIII., Maitland					3	3	0 36		0 36			0 5 $10\frac{1}{2}$		7·31		144 7 11		14 8 9	158 16 8

Table 46.—Statement showing Contracts completed under Co-operative System from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, in the several Land Districts.—*ctd.*

Note.—The rates of earning are calculated at per working-day of eight hours. In previous years the earnings were computed for every working-day, whether the men were actually at work or not.

Name of Road or Work.	Number of Contracts completed.	Average Number of Men per Gang.	Character of Work done.					Average Earning per working-day of Eight Hours.	Average Hours worked per Man per Day, all Weathers.	Actual Cost.		
			Length of Main Road constructed.	Length of Horse-road constructed.	Bushfelling and Clearing.	Metalling.	Other Work.			Payment to Co-operative Contractors.	Cost of Tools, Explosives, Inspection, and Management.	Total Cost.
OTAGO—*continued.*												
Chief Surveyor—*continued.*			M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ratanui–Whitehead Road	4	3·5	..	..	1 11·5	..	..	0 6 9	7·77	126 13 6	12 13 4	139 6 10
Wingfield Road	2	2	0 12	..	..	..	Stumping, 12 ch.	0 6 1¼	8·0	19 5 0	1 18 6	21 3 6
Catlin's, Block VIII., Scadden's	6	3	0 70	..	..	..	..	0 4 6½	7·2	240 16 11	24 1 8	264 18 7
Catlin's, Block VII.	6	2·66	0 68·5	..	1 20	..	..	0 6 0¾	7·4	184 10 2	18 9 0	202 19 2
Catherwood Road	5	3	1 11	..	..	..	..	0 6 0	7·0	129 6 2	12 18 8	142 4 10
Barr's Road	1	6	0 71	..	0 13	..	..	0 6 0¾	7·65	122 4 4	12 4 5	134 8 9
Catlin's, Block II., Thomson's	2	3	0 20	..	0 18	..	..	0 5 11¼	7·4	117 14 4	11 15 6	129 9 10
Catlin's, Block I., Ivimey's	2	2·5	..	..	0 58	..	..	0 5 1½	7·45	35 5 6	3 10 7	38 16 1
Glenomaru, Block X., McKenzie's	2	3	0 35	..	0 12	..	..	0 6 2½	7·09	83 7 10	8 6 9	91 14 7
Katea to Owaka Dairy Farm	1	4	0 60	..	..	..	..	0 8 0	7·2	21 15 0	2 3 6	23 18 6
Glenomaru, Block VIII., Village Settlement Road	2	6	0 46	..	..	..	..	0 6 0¼	7·6	182 11 6	18 5 2	200 16 8
Glenomaru, Block V., Goldsberry Road	2	4·5	0 31	..	0 35·5	..	..	0 6 0	7·0	95 15 2	9 11 6	105 6 8
Glenomaru, Block IV., Ward's Road	1	4	0 29	..	..	..	..	0 6 2¼	7·37	80 0 3	8 0 0	88 0 3
Glenomaru, Block VII., Freston Hill Road	3	2·66	0 29	..	0 41·5	..	..	0 5 10	7·0	142 11 10	14 5 2	156 17 0
Totals and averages	140	3·7	10 43	..	13 9	1 19	..	0 6 5½	7·0	4,503 12 2	450 7 2	4,953 19 4
SOUTHLAND.												
Chief Surveyor—												
Tracks to western sounds	1	40	..	4 0	..	..	..	0 11 0¾	7·33	1,301 7 5	669 3 5	1,970 10 10
Lake Te Anau–Wakatipu	4	3·5	0 72	..	..	..	Pipe-culverts, 148 lin. ft.; log-culvert, 72 lin. ft.	0 8 3¼	7·33	388 15 8	191 18 11	580 14 7
Waikawa–Catlin's Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	Log-culvert, 16 lin. ft.	0 6 0	8	31 4 0	14 10 9	45 14 9
Waikawa–Catlin's Road	1	2	..	..	..	..	Pipe-culvert, 20 lin. ft.	0 5 11¼	7·33	17 16 3	5 15 7	23 11 10
Clifton–Tisbury	1	2	..	..	0 36·5	..	Fascining, 36½ ch.; pipe-culvert, 16 lin. ft.	..	..	27 7 6	0 2 3	27 9 9
Invercargill Hundred, Blocks XVII. and XX.	4	2	0 16·5	0 28	1 4	..	Log-culverts, 58 lin. ft.; ditching, 101½ ch.; fascining, 71 ch.	0 6 9	7·36	124 6 0	4 14 9	129 0 9
Mokoreta, Block XIV.	1	3	0 15	..	..	..	Chipping, 130 ch.; fascining, 11¼ ch.; ditching, 8 ch.; log-culvert, 256 lin. ft.; bridge, 13 lin. ft.	0 5 3½	6·46	99 15 7	17 2 6	116 18 1
Oteramika	1	2	0 1	0 45	..	..	Corduroy, 14⅛ ch.; ditching, 11 ch.; log-culverts, 80 lin. ft.	0 6 3½	7·14	42 4 8	2 11 2	44 15 10
Seaward Bush	8	3	0 33·25	..	0 65·5	..	Ditching, 13 ch.; fascining, 25½ ch.; corduroy, 3¼ ch.; log-culvert, 71 lin. ft.	0 6 11¼	7·5	234 5 7	12 7 1	246 12 8

Waikawa District	4	2	0 18	..	0 10	..	Log-culverts, 204 lin. ft.; pipe-culverts, 20 lin. ft.; surfacing and repairing, 1 m. 58 ch.	0	6	2½	7·5	79	15	9	16	18	4	96	14	1
Waikawa, Block VII.	5	3	0 27·25	..	..	..	Stumping, 32 ch.; log-culvert, 76 lin. ft.; log-bridge, 10 lin. ft.	0	6	0¾	7	131	5	7	11	16	0	143	1	7
Waikawa–Otara	..	..	..	..	..	..	Surfacing and repairing, 5½ miles	0	6	0	8	173	5	6	37	9	6	210	15	0
Waikawa–Otara–Wallace–Rock Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	Surfacing and repairing, 10 ch.	..			..	..			..			..		
Waikawa–Wyndham Valley	6	4·17	2 1	..	..	..	Surfacing and repairing, 2 m.; pipe-culvert, 444 lin. ft.; log-culverts, 272 lin. ft.; water-openings, 108 lin. ft.	0	7	6½	6·81	595	9	4	181	3	2	776	12	6
Longwood, XV., XVI., XVII.	1	8	0 33	..	0 18·5	..	Fascining, 1 ch.; stumping, 115 ch.; fencing, 103 ch.; log-culverts, 138 lin. ft.	0	6	9	6·33	191	3	2	27	15	1	218	18	3
Manapouri–Te Anau	1	4	0 6	..	..	..	Log-culverts, 32 lin. ft. ..	0	7	2½	7	12	0	0	0	15	0	12	15	0
Orawia–Clifden	3	3	..	..	1 43	..	Pipe-culverts, 156 lin. ft. ..	0	4	0	8	101	10	6	3	4	6	104	15	0
Te Anau–George Sound	1	6	..	5 40	..	..	Foot-track; suspension foot-bridges, 120 lin. ft.; one boat, 18 ft.	0	8	0	8	221	11	11	69	0	5	290	12	4
Outfall, drainage, Otatara	1	3	..	..	0 49	..	Ditching, 50 ch.	0	4	2½	7·5	65	12	6	8	11	0	74	3	6
Orepuki to Preservation Inlet	7	3·86	..	0 79	35 12	..	Foot-track; ten foot-bridges, 550 lin. ft.	0	7	8¾	7·66	696	1	0	65	11	8	761	12	8
State Forest, Seaward Bush	3	2·33	..	..	69 acres	..	..	0	6	8	7	61	6	8	10	6	1	71	12	9
Totals and averages	53	3·96	4 63	11 32	39 78·5 & 69 ac.	..	..	0	6	10	7·2	4,596	4	7	1,350	17	2	5,947	1	9
Improved-farm Settlements—																				
Haldane Improved-farm Settlement roads	5	4·5	0 32·75	..	45 ch.	..	Ditching, 2 ch.; pipe-culverts, 134 lin. ft.; log-culverts, 54 lin. ft.; road maintained, 2 m.	0	7	6½	4·73	265	15	7	45	4	6	311	0	1
Haldane Improved-farm Settlement sections	1	19	..	..	227 ac.	..	..	0	5	3¼	7·3	340	10	0	395	19	4	736	9	4
Waikawa Improved-farm Settlement roads	1	5	0 9	..	10 ch.	..	Surfacing and repairing, 3 m...	0	5	4	7·66	35	2	9	9	8	0	44	10	9
Waikawa Improved-farm Settlement sections	1	8	..	..	97·5 ac.	..	..	0	5	10½	7·14	138	7	6	156	6	10	294	14	4
Moturimu Improved-farm Settlement sections ..	1	6	..	..	30 ac.	..	..	0	3	10½	7·66	32	5	9	100	16	8	133	2	5
Papatotara Improved-farm Settlement sections ..	1	4	..	..	28·25 ac.	..	..	0	3	4*	8	44	13	5	18	17	0	63	10	5
Totals and averages	10	6·4	0 41·75	..	55 ch. & 382·75ac	..	..	0	5	9½	6·1	856	15	0	726	12	4	1,583	7	4

* Inexperienced men.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1899.

S. PERCY SMITH
Surveyor General

NEW ZEALAND

SHOWING THE

STATE OF THE PUBLIC SURVEYS
1899.

Scale of English Miles.

20 15 10 5 0 40 80 120

North Island

Middle Island

REFERENCE

Standard Survey ... shewn thus
Minor Triangulation
Section Survey under check ...
built

Photo-lithographed at the Head Office, Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, N.Z. May 1899
S.H. Ranson, Chief Draughtsman

S. PERCY SMITH
Surveyor General

NEW ZEALAND

SHOWING THE

ROADS TO OPEN CROWN LANDS FOR SALE.

SURVEYED & CONSTRUCTED DURING 1881-1899.

Scale of English Miles.

REFERENCE

Roads ..... shewn thus
Railways .....
Roads cleared
Roads cleared & formed
Roads surveyed & graded

North Island

Middle Island

TASMAN SEA

PACIFIC OCEAN

North Taranaki Bight

South Taranaki Bight

Cook Strait

Foveaux Strait

South Latitude

East Longitude

Three Kings

North Cape

C. Maria van Diemen

Bay of Islands

Poor Knights

Great Barrier Is

D'Hausseez Group

Mercury Bay

Aldermen Is

Mayor Is

White Is

BAY OF PLENTY

Hicks Bay

East C

Open Bay

Tolago Bay

Poverty Bay

Table Cape

Mahia Peninsula

HAWKE BAY

NAPIER

C. Kidnappers

C. Turnagain

Castle Pt

Flat Pt

Pahaoa R

C. Palliser

Banks Peninsula

Otago Har

Solander Is

Stewart Is

Mason B

East Head

S.W. Cape

Port Pegasus

Chalky Inlet

Dusky Sd

Breaksea Sd

Dagg Sd

George Sd

Bligh Sd

Milford Sd

Caswell Sd

Charles Sd

Secretary I

Doubtful Sd

Jackson B

Big Bay

Golden Bay

Tasman B

Kaikoura

Clarence R

Conway R

Hurunui R

Waiau R

Waiau Pa

Waiau Toa

Auguste I

Great Barrier

Kaipara Har

Manukau Har

Whangaroa Har

Kawhia Har

Aldermen

Mayor

Whites

Motiti

Waihou R

Waikato R

Mokau R

Rua Pt

Taupo

Rotorua

Tarawera

Waiotapu

Waimangu

Waiwera

Waiotahi

Waikare

Waiau R

Waiapu R

Waihau R

Waiapu

Waiau

S. PERCY SMITH
Surveyor General

NEW ZEALAND

SHEWING LAND TRANSACTIONS 1898-9.

Scale of English Miles.

20 15 10 5 0 40 60 120

ESTATES PURCHASED UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS, UP TO 31st MARCH, 1899.

INDEX TO SETTLEMENTS.

1.	Sandholme Junction	
2.	Cannington	
3.	Pareora	
4.	Kapua	
5	Teanaraki	
6	Blind River	
7	Pomahaka	
8.	Eisthorpe	
9	Tahawai	
10.	Poerua	
11	Macrewhenua	
12.	Epworth	
13	Rosebrook	
14	Otaio	
15	Opouriao	
16.	Merrivale	
17.	Arigowan	
18	Raureka	
19.	Kereta	
20.	Romata	
21.	Patoa	
22.	Ashley Gorge	
23.	Braco	
24.	Puketapu	
25.	Orakipaoa	
26	Omaka	
27	Makareao	
36		
28.	Highbank	
29.	Waimarie	
30.	Waiapi	
31.	Rakitatiri	
32.	Otarakaro	
33.	Wharemai	
34.	Albury	
35.	Pouparae	
36.	Makareao Extension	
37.	Monoroa	
38.	Marewiti	
39.	Horsley Downs	
40	Tokarahi	
41.	Otaika	
42	Beaumont	
43.	Tomoana	
44.	Paparangi	
45	Okaina	
46.	Hekeao	
47.	*Pawaio*	
48.	*Rangiatea*	
49.	*Puhipuhi*	
50.	*Karapiro*	
51.	*Stanborough*	
52.	*Willows*	
53.	*Mahora*	
54.	*Waikakahi*	
55.	*Richmond Brook*	

Opened for selection before 1898-99.

Opened for selection during 1898-99.

The numbers in red correspond with those on the map.

North Island

Middle Island

REFERENCE

Land taken up during the year, shewn thus ■
" available for settlement "

Photographed at the Head Office Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, N.Z. May 1899
P.W. Flanagan Chief Draughtsman