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HENRY BUNNY,
PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1872.

No. 10

Speech of His Honor the Superintendent on opening the Twenty-second Session of the Wellington Provincial Council.

MR SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL,—

After the inconvenience to which the representatives of the province have patiently submitted for the last eight years, from the want of any accommodation beyond what may have been afforded by casual lodgings, it is a satisfaction to me to be able to convene you in a council chamber appropriated to your own use. The Provincial Government had indeed hoped that the chamber would by this time have been completed in a manner more suitable for your reception; but it was really found impracticable to press forward the work more speedily than has been done. Great, however, as is my satisfaction at being thus enabled to relieve you from personal inconvenience and furnish you with the accommodation suitable for a body of representatives, there are other considerations which characterize and stamp the change, and upon these I congratulate you. During the years of doubt and wandering to which I have referred, the inhabitants of the province have constantly had presented to them the desirability of abandoning their provincial institutions in exchange for some form of self-management under the immediate control of the central government. The removal of the Seat of Government of the colony to the chief town of the province appeared to many minds to offer a favorable opportunity for effecting such a change. After, however, the manner in which you encouraged, not to say urged, me to incur a large expenditure for the purpose of erecting buildings in which your provincial institutions might be more suitably and efficiently administered, I am bound to believe that you have carefully considered and decided not to break with the past, but to abide by the spirit of your Constitution. Whilst I, for one, would not have obstinately opposed a general determination, deliberately formed, to pursue an opposite policy, because I believe that the most perfect theoretical form of constitution is only of value so far and so long as it is appreciated and kept in working order by its possessors; yet I, at the same time, assure you that I will faithfully aid you to carry out your views, now that you have arrived at an ultimate decision. I further admit that recent proposals have shewn that you have had the sagacity to understand the meaning of the fable which exposes the folly of prematurely abandoning the possession of a substance. At the same time you must allow me to frankly state my opinion on this occasion of the renewal of your allegiance to pro-

vincial institutions; that I do not believe in the adoption of a system of responsible government in the conduct of the administration of the province. It is quite as much as the colony can afford to indulge in the practice. So far as the provinces are concerned, it has been an interesting experiment, but a failure; it has been played out. But the occupation of the building in which we now meet for the first time presents another interesting feature. Accommodation has been provided within these walls, not only for the Provincial Council and Provincial Departments, but also for certain Local Departments of the Colonial Government, and for his Worship the Mayor of Wellington and his City Council. Such an arrangement expresses that which, to my mind, is exactly suitable to the administrative requirements of a country like New Zealand. The undivided exercise of power is typical of a barbarous political existence; while the subdivision of power is the mark of a higher political life. No doubt we are more exposed to the dangers arising from jealous rivalries and antagonism under the latter order of things; but the antidote consists in an unambitious co-operation. It is this spirit which the Provincial Government has endeavored to practise and evoke; believing as it does that the end of all good government consists in effective practical administration, rather than the enunciation of sensational policies.

In order to enable you to form a judgment of the last year's administration, I must pass in review before you the leading results. When you imposed upon me the duty of introducing certain measures into Parliament last session, I cheerfully accepted the task, because I entirely concurred in your view, that the welfare of the province depended in a great degree on the passing of those measures. At the same time I assure you that I did not expect to find that those measures would have met with such hostility in their passage through Parliament, recommended as they were by the almost unanimous wish of the people of the Province. After, however, the successful issue of the hard struggle to which they were exposed, I forbear complaint, not only because if I resorted to it, I should thereby disregard the cheerful advice of the proverb, but also and especially because I recognise the wisdom of putting the most charitable construction possible on the political exigencies which demand opposition to particular measures. At the same time I cannot omit the opportunity of recording my sense of the cordial assistance which I received from the majority of the representatives of the province in Parliament. And although it is true that the measures which you recommended were shorn of their just proportions, yet, without the valuable aid to which I have referred, it would have been idle, if not presumptuous, in me to have struggled alone, notwithstanding that the case of the province was unanswerable and in fact remained unanswered. The result then of our efforts to carry out your wishes last session may be thus stated, viz:—Money was authorized to be raised under the Wellington Debts Act to the extent of £85,000, a sum estimated to be sufficient to cover your existing unsecured debts and obligations, so far as then ascertained; but insufficient to enable you to undertake any important new public works, other than the erection of an asylum, for which indeed the vote has since been found to be insufficient. The best gauge by which to measure the character of the treatment you received consists in this plain statement of the result of last year's operations, viz:—"The province of Wellington, after paying off the whole of its unsecured debts and obligations, has actually paid £31,000 off the funded debt of the province; which is equal to a reduction of the capital debt by 12½ per cent. The debt, after deducting amounts paid in respect of Sinking Fund, was £246,000; it is now £215,000." The question naturally occurs, was it reasonable to deny to the province of Wellington the power to borrow £15,000 for new public works? The statement which I have just made verifies in an ample and remarkable manner the assertion of my predecessor in office, when he declared that the embarrassment of the province was only temporary. The means by which such a result as I have stated might be arrived at were indicated in my opening speech last session. The words used were these:—"The Provincial Government will make efforts to realise certain portions of the public estate which have lately been unproductive." Those efforts led to—1st. The purchase by the Hon. Colonel Feilding of 100,000 acres of the provincial estate, for which he paid £75,000 to the General Government. (Appendix A.)

2. The purchase by the Corporation of the city of Wellington of a wharf and certain reclaimed land for £50,000. You will find appended to my speech certain returns, reports and correspondence, which will elucidate and corroborate my several statements where necessary. I now refer you to a return (Appendix B) which exhibits the extent to which each particular service provided for in the schedule to the Wellington Debts Act has already been discharged. In reference to this return I observe that the accounts between the General Government and the province have not yet been finally adjusted. You will be gratified to learn that the Hon. Mr. Vogel recently placed £66,000 of our Wellington Debentures on the Australian market at £102, being equal to 2 per cent premium; the debentures bearing interest at 5 per cent. This cannot be considered otherwise than as a satisfactory and successful operation. After the sale to the Hon. Colonel Feilding, the Provincial Government decided to request the General Government not to raise debentures to an extent beyond £75,000, as it wished for a release from the mortgage on certain lands; for which release the amount of the sale to Colonel Feilding undoubtedly entitled it to ask. An unexpected demand may, however, oblige the province to avail itself of the

provisions of the Wellington Debts Act" to the extent of a further sum of £3000; thus making in all £78,000 to be raised under the act; an amount, however, which will be still £7000 within the limit authorised by that act. The circumstances to which I refer are these. The adjustment of accounts between the provinces of Wellington and Hawke's Bay, after having been in dispute for a great number of years, was at length referred to what was intended to be a final tribunal. An award was made and a certain basis laid down according to which the final accounts should be made out. An account, purporting to be in terms of this award, was officially rendered to the Superintendent of Wellington on the 3rd May, 1871, stating the amount due by the province of Wellington to the province of Hawke's Bay to be £881 6s 7d. On the 3rd April, 1872, eleven months afterwards, I was informed that the amount due by the province of Wellington to the province of Hawke's Bay was £3881 6s 7d. The additional sum of £3000 thus brought against Wellington, is said to have been paid eleven years ago by the province of Hawke's Bay; and is only now for the first time brought to charge against this province; although an official account, having no reference to this large amount was rendered eleven months before. Whilst I forbear to comment on the circumstances, it is nevertheless necessary for me to state that, whilst I am quite prepared to use every exertion to discharge the just liabilities of the province, I specially guard myself against being supposed to admit the validity of the present claim, merely because I indicate the source from which it may be met, in case it should be found, after due investigation, to be valid. You will find the correspondence on the subject by referring to the appendix (C).

Another result of our legislative labors last session was, the passing of the Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871. I believe that this act will be highly beneficial in aiding the settlement of the agricultural lands of the province. Action has already been taken by which 45,160 acres of agricultural land have been proclaimed under Part I. of the Special Settlements Act; and also by which, under the provision of Part II. of the same act, 42,000 acres have been set aside for the location of special settlers. The majority of these special settlers will probably arrive from the dominion of Canada, through the agency of Mr. M'Leod; and the agreement which I have entered into with Mr. Engels will, I hope, eventuate in the location of a few select families from Scotland and Holland. (Appendix D.)

I must not omit to mention that under the authority of an act of the last session of Parliament, I have paid the amount of purchase money for the Wesleyan reserve, which has now become provincial property; and also that by the Wellington City Reserves Act, 1871, I am authorised to convey to the Corporation of the city of Wellington the Town Belt, subject to certain trusts, which I have to determine and on which I have already consulted the city authorities with every prospect, I may say, of a satisfactory result. The difficulties, therefore, which have for so many years interfered with the satisfactory management of these valuable estates, may at length, I hope, be regarded as removed.

As part of the account which I am now rendering of the last year's administration, I pass on to a notice of the action taken by the Provincial Government to carry out the provisions of Provincial Acts, strictly so called, passed during the last session of the Provincial Council. The two leading measures of that session were the Highways Act and the Education Act. Both these Acts required, as you are aware, a very large amount of preliminary labor, before they could be brought into operation. Every effort has been made to produce the necessary detailed maps; and so soon as the several district maps were completed at the Survey Office, the valuers appointed by the Government received the necessary instructions to proceed with their work. The result of these labors is not of course yet ascertained; but I believe that when the detailed maps and the valuation books pass into the hands of the proper authorities, it will be generally admitted that a work of considerable labor and value has been accomplished. At any rate I express an earnest hope that these two important measures will receive a fair trial.

I now pass on to give an account of the extent to which your wishes, as expressed in the Appropriation Act of last year, have been carried out. Appendix E will show you in detail the actual expenditure as contrasted with the appropriations. This return speaks for itself. The expenditure in excess has been kept within the legal limit prescribed by the Provincial Audit Act. The principal item of excess was in the case of the Hutt Bridge; in explanation of which I refer you to the report of the Provincial Engineer. You will also bear in mind that it is useless to build bridges unless we keep the rivers to the channel under them, which frequently, as in the case of the Hutt river, requires expensive protective works; and you will also recollect, that a toll has been erected at this bridge, which will, I anticipate, ultimately recoup the outlay. The items which show the largest unexpended balance, viz., the Wairarapa Bridges and the Provincial Buildings are severally under contract; and, on the whole, the works connected with them are progressing favorably.

With regard to the general departmental administration, I append (Appendix F) reports from the following officers, viz. :—

Commissioner of Crown Lands
 Chief Surveyor
 Provincial Surgeon
 Medical Officer of Asylum
 Provincial Engineer
 Inspector of Police
 Warden of Wellington Gaol

I have already referred you to the report of the Provincial Engineer; and you will gather from these various reports a better idea of the state of the provincial administration than I could convey to you in any other terms. Many of them contain very valuable information, and you will, I am sure, read them all with interest.

I may here mention that the Provincial Government has at last succeeded, after a lapse of six years, in placing the Hutt Small Farm Association members on their land at Manawatu, and bringing the block under the operation of the deferred payment system. I have reason to believe, from the admirable character of the site and soil, that the block will be successfully settled.

But, outside the action of the Provincial Government taken in respect of Acts of the General Assembly and Provincial Acts, a considerable amount of administrative effort has been exerted in other directions; not always, it is true, with success, but at least with good intentions; and you will expect a report of them to form part of the account I have to render you of the past year's administration. When you recollect that the native title has not been extinguished over very much more than two-sevenths of the territory of this province, you will agree with me that there is nothing more important for this part of New Zealand, whether regarded from a colonial or a provincial point of view, than the acquisition of land for colonization purposes. What I mean by colonisation, is the planting on the soil of regular settlements of new people, and the opening up communication by roads. Entertaining, as I do, such views, I applied, very shortly after I entered upon the duties of Superintendent, to the General Government for authority to negotiate with the native owners for the acquisition of territory, especially with reference to the Seventy Mile Bush. I was informed that a negotiation was then pending, under the conduct of the Superintendent of Hawke's Bay, and that I might rest assured that everything possible would be done for the interests of Wellington in that respect, as for those of Hawke's Bay; and that it would be unwise to interfere with the existing arrangements. I was satisfied with the explanation, and the result has shown that the province has every reason to be satisfied with the negotiations, which have ended in the purchase of and payment for nearly the whole of that important territory.

This territory, I may observe, is to be specially pledged for railway works within the province.

Subsequently I received overtures from many natives in different parts of the province, to whom my career as a public man had been more or less known, and I attended, by special invitation, a large and influential meeting of natives at Otaki, where the subject of purchase was fully discussed.

The General Government ultimately recognised the desirability of authorising me to negotiate for the purchase of native lands. I am able to report that agreements to sell three small blocks in the Wairarapa have been already signed by the natives, and that other useful blocks in the same district are under negotiation with the natives for me by Mr Hill.

Numerous offers have also been sent in by native owners of lands on the West Coast, between Otaki and Manawatu, to Mr Grindle, whose valuable services have for that purpose been freely placed at my disposal by the General Government. I append copy of his report. (Appendix G.) Should these negotiations be successful, I anticipate that great strides will be made in the colonization of the province, to the benefit of the native as well as the European; for I propose to make it a stipulation of the purchase of the territory from Otaki to Manawatu, binding on the Government, that one-half of the proceeds of the re-sale of the land purchased shall be expended in opening up the territory, if purchased, by means of roads and bridges.

I am happy to be able to report to you that the General Government, at my request, has effected the purchase of the Parae Karetu block, consisting of 46,975 acres. It is situated on the Turakina River, and has been reported on very favorably to me. I refer you to an official intimation received from the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, informing me of the purchase of the block on account of the province. (Appendix H.)

In close connection with the subject of the acquisition of land for colonization purposes, stands the question of the settlement of the residue of the confiscated lands within this province.

After my recent visit to Patea, I had an interview with Ministers, and expressed to them my opinion in the fullest manner. There is no subject which, in my opinion, is of more pressing interest, whether regarded colonially or provincially, than the speedy and judicious settlement of the residue of the confiscated land within the province by a strong settlement of Englishmen. I have asked the General Government to transfer that land to me on fair terms, and I trust that my application may not be in vain.

After the many years during which the Manawatu question has held a prominent place in the official speeches of your Superintendent, I wish I could inform you that the ghost was at length finally laid. I do hope, however, that I am now able to state that, so far as the natives are concerned, every question of dispute has been agreed to be settled. I wish at the same time that I was able to report that the surveys of the reserves had been completed. If all land took as long to survey as those reserves, a very serious if not prohibitory tax would be entailed on purchasers. I requested the Commissioner of Crown Lands to proceed to that district and report to me; and since his arrival there he has telegraphed to me that he expects that the surveys of the reserves will be completed by the 30th June. I cannot, however, dismiss this subject of the Manawatu difficulty without expressing my sense of the very great personal trouble which the Hon Mr M'Lean has taken during the past year to finally adjust the various difficult complications. There has existed a triangular contention, from which I stood aside for a while, lest I might add to the complications already existing, and so embarrass the adjustment of native claims. The native element has now been eliminated from the contention, and it is reduced to a duel (a friendly one, I hope) between the General and Provincial Governments. There can be no doubt that the province has in the meantime sustained a serious loss; the question is who is to be ultimately saddled with it.

I may mention here that in company with the Provincial Secretary I have visited during the recess the various parts of the province, as I intimated to you when I last addressed you my intention of doing, so far as opportunity might offer. I believe that these official visits have been productive of much good; and I might refer to many particulars if time permitted. But I can not refrain from briefly alluding to one instance.

For some years, the building dignified by the name of the Wanganui gaol has not been in any respect suitable for the purpose; and I succeeded in negotiating with the Hon. D. M'Lean for the purchase of the Rutland stockade. This has now been successfully converted into a gaol; which is at once healthy, commodious and every way fitted for the purpose; and a stigma which rested on the province has been thus removed.

One of the vital questions affecting this province, and indeed New Zealand at large, is that of the construction of railways. You are aware that the representatives of this province generally and the members of the Provincial Government in particular, have from the first advocated the construction of railways. They have at the same time, in common with many others outside the limits of this province, recognised that the success or failure of the scheme proposed was entirely a question of administration. And here I cannot help expressing my regret that the Colonial Government did not adopt the sound and friendly advice which on two occasions was urged by an influential deputation, of which I was chairman, the session before last. I do not pretend to know what arrangements have been made or what progress has been attained in other provinces; but I am aware that within this province the Colonial Government has entered into a contract for the construction of a valuable line of tramway from Palmerston North to Foxton; and that they have opened up a most important line of communication through the country to Hawke's Bay; some parts of which they have finished both cheaply and well. With reference, however, to the progress of the important line of railway from Wellington to Masterton, I can only refer you to a letter, which will be placed before you, from the Hon the Colonial Secretary, stating that the data for a contract for fifteen miles—from Pipitea to the Upper Hutt—will be immediately furnished to Mr Brogden's firm. (Appendix I.) The Provincial Secretary was present at two interviews which I had with the Government, when I asked for a delegation of power to enable me to have made a survey and specification for contract for the construction of the entire length of line. This proposal, however, after some consideration was positively declined. Notwithstanding the limitation introduced by the Immigration and Public Works Act Amendment Act, 1871, by which the powers of Superintendents are restricted, and they are not permitted (and very properly so, in my opinion) to stand in the way of and obstruct immigration; yet, you will observe, not only that such transfer of power respecting immigration was very properly accompanied by a transfer of cost, and that henceforward the General Government, which was to control, was required at the same time to provide the cost of the immigration service which it aspired to administer; but you will further observe that all that portion of the railway policy which charges the provinces with the cost of railway works within their boundaries is still carefully maintained in the amended Act, and that elaborate regulations are incorporated in the body of the Act for bringing to charge against provinces in future all and sundry railway outlay. It follows, therefore, that if one part of the Act is to be deemed consistent in spirit with another part of it, a delegation of powers

of management and administration ought to be the rule and not the exception, so far as railways are concerned. Viewed, therefore, by the light of the special laws on the subject, there was nothing unreasonable in making the application for delegation to which I have referred, unless, indeed, it be deemed unreasonable in any one to ask for the control of that expenditure for which he is obliged ultimately to provide. I repeat a statement which I have frequently had occasion to make, viz., that for one authority to spend and another to provide the means for that expenditure, without having the power to control it, is a rotten system of finance. Such a system is the mother of extravagance, and although, when dealing with the annual estimates presented to the House of Representatives (which although large are quite insignificant when compared with the proposed railway expenditure,) almost all members agreed last session to abolish the system of provincial charges, we are nevertheless now, I am afraid, about to drift into what may be termed a truly gigantic system of provincial charges. The truth is, that you cannot safely separate the task of finding money and the exercise of control over its expenditure. The two must go together in any sound system of finance. The attempt to separate them has throughout been the weak point in New Zealand finance, and if the system be persisted in and enlarged, your finance will ultimately break down.

If the provinces are to be charged with railway expenditure, the provincial authorities must take part in the administration, and if you have still any doubt as to what was originally intended, when the consent of the Colonial Parliament was first obtained to the theory of this vast scheme of public works, I need only refer you to the principles so plainly laid down in section 6, Part II., of the "Immigration and Public Works Act, 1870."

After the full explanation which I have thus afforded you of the provincial administration in all its phases for the past year, you have, I submit, placed before you the best materials with which you could be supplied, to enable you to judge of the proposals which I am about to make for the ensuing year; and of the degree of confidence which you may be prepared to extend to the Provincial Government for the purpose of carrying into execution any such proposals. It is an act of simple justice for me to state here that I could not possibly have accomplished what has been done, had I not been aided by the untiring energy of the Provincial Secretary.

The bills which it is the intention of the Provincial Executive to introduce this session have been carefully prepared. They are already printed, and most, if not all of them, have been circulated amongst members of Council. You need not therefore be delayed a single day before proceeding to the work of the session. The following is the list of them, viz:—

1. Interim Appropriation Act.
2. Diseased Sheep Act.
3. Impounding Act.
4. Wellington Cemetery Act.
5. Wanganui Hospital Act.
6. Wanganui Wharf.
7. Land Office Site Sale Act.
8. Reclaimed Land Act.
9. Waste Lands Occupation Rent Act.
10. Obsolete and Invalid Acts Repealed.
11. Amendment of Toll Gate Acts.
12. Act to declare mode of Enforcing Penalties.
13. Wanganui Toll Bridge Act.
14. Fencing Act.
15. Benevolent Societies Incorporation Act.

These bills are not generally of a character such as to require me to do more than remark briefly on some of them. "The Wellington Cemetery Act" is in my opinion very important in a sanitary point of view. Whatever might have been the consideration which originally directed the choice of the site, there can be no doubt that to continue much longer the use, for purposes of interment, of a piece of ground sloping towards the centre of a town whose population is steadily increasing, will be highly injurious to the health of the inhabitants. At the same time, if this important change is to be made, it cannot be expected that it is to be effected at the sole cost of the rest of the province. It is as much a local affair as is the drainage of a town, and I have accordingly only proposed a vote of £500, which will be wholly inadequate to do more than enable certain preliminary steps to be taken.

The condition of the Wanganui Hospital Building was found to be very bad, and the management of the Hospital estate unsatisfactory. During the course of enquiry which the Provincial Government instituted, it appeared that the grant to the late trustees was invalid. A fresh grant was therefore applied for, and the General Government has caused a grant to be issued to the Superintendent. The Hospital estate is a very valuable one, if properly managed, and the object of the present Bill is to encourage the inhabitants of the town of Wanganui to assume the management of their purely local affairs. I may

take this opportunity of stating that the policy of the Provincial Government is to divest itself, as fitting opportunities occur, of mere local powers; to decentralise, in fact, administration so far as practicable. So far therefore is the Provincial Government from regarding with jealousy any desire which may be evinced for the attainment of local power, that it conceives that it best discharges the important functions entrusted to it, by endeavoring to open up and colonise the unsettled parts of the province; and, as centres of population become sufficiently strong to enable them efficiently to discharge the duties of local management, by encouraging them to accept a transfer of local power, whilst the province only retains a general administrative and legislative control.

With reference to the Reclaimed Land Act I have only this remark to make, viz., that unless I had understood that I should receive authority to dispose of the parcel of land referred to in this Act, I should not have felt justified in incurring so large an expenditure (to which indeed I consented with some reluctance) on the Provincial Buildings now in progress in the City of Wellington; and I ask you to bear in mind, that according to the present proposals as shown in the estimates of expenditure for the current year, a very large sum of money is to be spent within the precincts and for the advantage of the City of Wellington.

With reference to the Amendment of Toll Gates Act, I wish to draw the attention of the Council to two important provisions. First, it is proposed that all Government officers, including the Superintendent, should pay toll equally with other persons. The only exemption is in the case of his Excellency the Governor and his personal suite. It is also proposed to set aside twenty per cent. of the tolls as a special fund, whereout to provide for maintenance and casualties. I believe that these proposals are alike equitable and prudent, and as such will commend themselves to the Council.

The Benevolent Institution Incorporation Act is, I think, a step in the right direction. In dealing with charitable relief in a new country like this, the problem is very different from that which pauperism presents in older and more populous countries. There the lack of work is a great cause of destitution; but with us, by far the largest proportion is due to infirmities and natural calamities. At the same time, I have reason to believe that desertion supplies us with more cases of destitution than it ought; and that the sense of moral obligation to support relatives is weaker than it ought to be. The establishment of orphanages and infirmaries and the discriminating benevolence of institutions such as it is sought to incorporate by this act; are the means which, in my opinion, are amongst the most suitable to the kind of destitution existing in a new country like ours.

Although the legislative measures to which I have thus briefly referred, and which will be immediately introduced for your consideration, cannot perhaps be classed as of the highest importance; yet I believe they will on the whole be found to be useful practical measures, suited to our circumstances.

I now invite your attention to the subject of your finances. Whereas you began last year in debt to your bankers to the amount of £10,000, I am happy to be able to inform you that the available balance to your credit at the commencement of the present year (1st April) was £7383 8s 4d. I may here add that all payments have been punctually made at the time they were due during the past year. Including the balance I have just mentioned, I estimate the total income for the year ending 31st March, 1873 at £75,151, 17s 10d. This total is thus made up, viz. :—

Available balance on 1st April, 1872*	...	...	7383	8	4
ORDINARY INCOME—					
Licenses: Publicans', auctioneers', and watermen's	...	4500	0	0	
Pilotage	...	2100	0	0	
Sheep Assessment	...	1800	0	0	
Incidental receipts...	...	3000	0	0	
Toll bars	...	7500	0	0	
Capitation allowance available for provincial appropriation	...	3600	0	0	
			22,500	0	0
TERRITORIAL—					
Land Sales	...		28,000	0	0
SPECIAL—					
Reclaimed land	...	3600	0	0	
Mortgages	...	650	0	0	
Grant for public works	...	2341	9	6	
Purchase money due from General Government for site of custom-house and post-office	...	5022	0	0	
Amount to be received under Wellington Debts Act, 1871...	...	6255	0	0	
			17,268	9	6
			<hr/>		
Total	...		£75,151	17	10
*Balance at Bank of New Zealand	...	1383	8	4	
Lodged with Mutual Investment Society	...	6000	0	0	
			<hr/>		
			£7383	8	4

I think it right to remark that whilst I have placed the land sales at £28,000, the estimate of the Commissioner of Crown Lands is only £24,000. The item £5022 for site of Custom House refers to the Custom House, &c, at Wellington. The site for these buildings is not a site of an ordinary kind, already made by nature; but was reclaimed from the

sea at a considerable cost out of provincial funds. There is no reason therefore to urge why the colony should be released from payment to the province. The General Government has been asked to pay this amount; but although it has not yet done so, I do not anticipate that it will dispute the justice of the claim. The amount £6255, under the Wellington Debts Act, is for arrears of survey; the detailed appropriation of which remains in your hands. I observe generally with regard to the estimates of income which I now submit to you that although I anticipate that they will be realized, yet that I think the total has been extended to a full margin; unless some windfall of land revenue should drop in, which indeed is far from impossible. If now we study this estimate of provincial income, we shall perceive noticeable features, which present some unsatisfactory and some very encouraging characteristics. If we contrast the amount receivable this year by the province of Wellington as its nett share out of general revenue available for provincial appropriation, viz, £5941 9s 6d with the acreage amount receivable under the same head for the last fifteen years, viz, £9878 (Appendix K), we shall at once perceive how small a proportion this year's estimate of receipts (Appendix L), under that head, bear to those of past years. We shall also perceive that the provincial income from this source has been vanishing in a rapidly decreasing ratio. If you turn to the Constitution Act you will wonder how such a result could have been brought about; and you will naturally ask whether it has arisen from a diminution of general taxation? Your own experience as tax-payers will furnish you with an appropriate answer. You will next enquire whether the money has been required by the Colonial Government for the purpose of public works? You will probably conclude that, until lately, scarce any public works have been executed by it. Still, the fact will remain that the provinces have had their share of the revenue reduced down to the lowest point. It has been a game at "peep-core" between the big and little boy, of which the finale may be easily anticipated, unless the master intervenes. It is encouraging, however, to observe that notwithstanding this diminution of income from resources recognised by the constitution, the amount of your direct taxation (a wholesome mark of self-reliance) has increased sufficiently to enable you to meet your moderate expenditure. Another encouraging circumstance is that out of the total amount estimated as available this year for your appropriation, only £6255 is accruing from loan; and that even that amount has been raised for the purposes of meeting obligations, dating back from the earliest days of the colony, long before you had your provincial institutions; and therefore obligations with which you ought justly never to have been burthened. All the rest of your estimated year's income arises from regular income sources. When I inform you that the average amount out of loans for the last fifteen years, which has annually formed part of the estimated amount available for appropriation, amounted to £15,663 14s (Appendix M), i.e., two and a-half times the amount which appears on the estimates of this year, you will agree with me that it is a very encouraging circumstance as showing that we are able successfully to live within our means. But I would further observe that the evidences of a system of self-reliance and of a system of self-supporting institutions which this province has had the courage to adopt are not only visible in these estimates of income, but are also to be found elsewhere as the result of your last year's legislation. By it you authorised the raising of large annual amounts for the purposes of educating your children and constructing and maintaining your district roads. Although, however, those amounts do not appear in these estimates, because they are not subject to your appropriation, but are at the disposal of the localities which raise them, they are nevertheless important elements of consideration in taking a survey of your provincial finance. The total outlay for the year I estimate at £75,504 18s 2d. In addition to this I shall ask you for a contingent vote for public works and undertakings to the amount of £15,000.

As it is very difficult to form a correct estimate of our land revenue, I have thought it prudent to ask you for this contingent vote, in the event of my estimate of land being exceeded. I do not wish you to infer that I think it probable, at the same time I am of opinion that it is not so highly improbable as to justify me in omitting to take the circumstance into consideration. The outlay may be thus classified, viz:—

1. Executive	...	...	...	...	2250	0	0
2. Legislative	...	...	...	...	825	0	0
3. Judicial and police	...	...	...	...	7050	19	6
4. Charitable	...	...	...	...	4036	10	0
5. Education	...	...	...	...	2980	0	0
6. Harbors	...	...	...	...	2892	7	6
7. Special	...	...	...	...	2424	15	0
8. Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1949	10	0
							24,409 2 0
9. Public works and undertakings—							
Native land purchases	...	...	...	...	550	0	0
Survey and land Departments	...	...	...	...	13,715	0	0
Engineers	...	...	...	...	768	8	0
Sundry undertakings	...	...	...	...	14,453	8	2
Roads	...	...	...	...	12,640	0	0
Bridges	...	...	...	...	7969	0	0
Contingencies for public works	...	...	...	...	1000	0	0
							51,095 16 2
Total	...	...	...	...			£75,504 18 2
Contingent vote for public works and undertakings	...						£15,000 0 0

In these estimates of outlay you will notice for the first time a considerable amount proposed for the encouragement of higher class of education. Believe me, that nothing can be of more importance. But this vote (according to the principle which the Provincial Government endeavors to carry out) is only as it were a grant in aid; and will be void, unless those more especially interested are willing to come forward to help; it is a policy of self-help that we advocate. The only other point that I propose specially to notice, is the very considerable amount proposed for surveys; amounting to upwards of £13,000. The Council will expect much from this department, if it should sanction the very large expenditure proposed; and I have reason to believe myself, that these expectations will not be disappointed.

Having thus brought before you the estimates of income and outlay severally, I desire briefly to compare them; as there is much encouragement for the future to be derived from such a comparison; and a lesson to be learnt, if we are only wise enough to be taught. A comparative study of the estimates will show that you may efficiently and creditably conduct your provincial administration at an annual cost of say £33,000. This estimate includes management of departments, gaols, police, harbors and repair of main lines, &c.; but does not include any new works and undertakings. Now what prospect have you of averaging such an income? For the last 19 years (Appendix N.) the average annual income from sales of land in this province may be stated at £23,480 (exclusive of land scrip). What then are the prospects of the continuance of such an average? I refer to a return (Appendix O) from which it appears that 1,209,468 acres have been sold, which yielded an annual average of £23,480. But you will remember that out of this estate of 1,209,468 acres 268,000 were alienated by the New Zealand Company and otherwise, without contribution to the provincial revenue; and therefore that the average income to which I have referred was derived from the sale of less than 950,000 acres. Now, you have still remaining 1,050,000 acres; you may therefore, I conceive, not unreasonably anticipate an equal average for the next fifteen or twenty years to that which has accrued for the last nineteen years. You may fairly place your average income for a similar period arising from other sources, wholly independent of any capitation allowance or subsidy from the General Government, at £19,000. You may calculate therefore, for many years to come—taking one year with another—on averaging an annual income of say £42,000 to £43,000; which would leave you £9000 or £10,000 per annum for new works and undertakings after providing for your ordinary departments and maintenance of main lines. But, if you bear in mind that there will be a natural increment of your ordinary revenue during the time, for which I have calculated; and, further, that there are upwards of four millions of acres within the province yet unalienated, the wisdom of your throwing up the sponge, and leaving such considerable resources to pass out of your own immediate control, may indeed well be questioned. I do not pretend that these prospects are brilliant or grand; but I say that they are sufficiently encouraging, if only you are content to conduct your affairs in a spirit of progress and vigilance combined with prudence; indeed, you have no margin for recklessness. And I further say, if you resolutely enter on such a course as I have endeavored to point out, the beneficial effects will not be confined to the province; for if the provinces generally determine to adopt a policy of self-help and economy, minding their own affairs, whilst they, at the same time, loyally recognise the sovereignty of the Colonial Parliament (for I do not ask for an uncontrolled control), it is scarcely likely that no economy and reform will be enforced on the Colonial Government. The result assuredly would then be, that the valuable time of the Assembly would not be frittered away on parish business, and the administration of our affairs generally would become more economical and more effective, and the burthens of New Zealand would be steadily reduced.

WILLIAM FITZHERBERT,
Superintendent.

Superintendent's Office,
Wellington, April 30, 1871.

APPENDIX.

A.

CORRESPONDENCE with reference to the Sale of Lands to Colonel Feilding.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 16th February, 1872.

SIR,—

With reference to my letter of the 25th ultimo, I have now the honor to forward, in compliance with your Honor's verbal request, a duly certified copy of the Deed between Her Majesty the Queen and the Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation (Limited).

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your very obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

DEED OF AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND THE EMIGRANT AND COLONIST'S AID CORPORATION (LIMITED).

THIS DEED, made the twenty-sixth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, between Her Majesty the Queen, of the one part, and the Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation, Limited, of London, in England, a Company incorporated under "The Companies Act, 1862," and herein called the Corporation, of the other part: Witnesseth, that the parties hereto, Her Majesty the Queen—contracting for herself, her heirs and successors,—and the Corporation—contracting for themselves and their successors,—do hereby covenant and contract the one with the other as follows:—

1. The Governor for the time being of the Colony of New Zealand, herein called the Governor, shall reserve and set apart waste lands of the Crown in and about the Township of Palmerston, in the Province of Wellington, to the extent of one hundred and six thousand acres, and waste lands of the Crown in the Township of Palmerston, to the extent of about ten acres; all such lands to be as nearly as practicable within the limits set forth in the First Schedule hereto.
2. The said lands shall be reserved and set apart under the provisions of the Fifth Part of "The Immigration and Public Works Act, 1870," and the Ninth Part of "The Immigration and Public Works Act Amendment Act, 1871," as soon as may be after the signing of these presents.
3. All payments required to be made to the Land Fund of the Province of Wellington, or to any person entitled to compensation, shall be paid by the Governor out of the Public Works Account of the said Colony.
4. The Governor shall, as soon as may be, make Regulations for the sale, occupation, and disposal of the lands so reserved, in such terms as to give to the Corporation the immediate right to occupy the whole thereof (except the bush reserve hereinafter referred to), until disposed of, as hereinafter mentioned, or until such right is determined in pursuance hereof. The said Regulations shall also provide that the land so reserved shall be sold absolutely, but only to persons approved by the Corporation under this agreement, upon payment by the Corporation to the Colonial Treasurer for the time being of the Colony of New Zealand, herein called the Colonial Treasurer, of fifteen shillings for every acre sold.
5. As to the piece of land containing ten acres before mentioned, the said Regulations shall provide that the same shall be sold to the Corporation, or to some person on their behalf, on payment therefore to the Colonial Treasurer of fifteen shillings for every acre.

6. The Governor may select, out of the land so to be set apart, one or more block or blocks of land, not exceeding in all one thousand acres, having totara timber growing thereon, which shall not be subject to sale or lease under any Regulations made in pursuance of this agreement until all the totara timber shall have been cut and removed therefrom, when the Corporation shall have the right to purchase the same on payment of fifteen shillings per acre, but shall in the meantime remain land of Crown, subject only a right in the Corporation to make public roads through the same where necessary for public convenience and the convenience of the Corporation, and, for the purposes of constructing repairing such roads and the works incidental thereto, and to cut and take timber from such land: Provided, however, that no timber on any such land shall be cut by the Government of the said Colony, or by their license, except for use by the Government for public purposes.

7. The Honorable William Henry Adelbert Feilding shall, on the execution hereof, for and in the name of the Corporation, sign and deliver to the Colonial Treasurer seventy-five promissory notes, each binding the Corporation to pay to the Colonial Treasurer, or his order, the sum of one thousand pounds, on a day and at a Bank in New Zealand to be therein stated. The said notes are herein called "The Principle Notes." They shall be numbered in consecutive order, and classified as series A, B, and C, and set forth in the Second Schedule hereto.

8. The said William Henry Adelbert Feilding shall also, for and in the name of the Corporation, sign and deliver to the Colonial Treasurer the several promissory notes mentioned in the same Schedule for the amounts and due at the dates therein mentioned, and numbered as therein stated. All such notes to be payable at a Bank in New Zealand to be therein mentioned. The said notes are herein called "The Interest Notes." The said William Henry Adelbert Feilding shall not be personally responsible in respect of any of the said Principal Notes or Interest Notes.

9. One-third in amount of the said Principal Notes shall be payable on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven; one-third on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine; and one third on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

10. The Corporation shall have the right to pay, from time to time, all or any such Principal Notes on the first day of April or the first day of October in any year, upon giving six calendar months' written notice to the Governor, specifying the amount intended to be paid: Provided that, after notice is so given, the Corporation shall be bound to pay the amount therein mentioned at the expiration thereof, in the same manner as if Principal Notes to that amount had then fallen due. Such payments shall be made at the place where the Principal Notes are made payable.

11. When any Principal note is paid in pursuance of notice as aforesaid, the Interest Notes, bearing numbers corresponding with the number of such Principal Note, and not then due, shall be cancelled.

12. When the Corporation shall have paid any of the said Principle Notes, either upon giving notice as aforesaid, or upon or after the due date thereof, the amount of principal paid shall be taken as a payment in advance of the purchase money thereafter payable for land sold under the said Regulations; and thenceforth, upon sale of any such land, the Colonial Treasurer shall take, in lieu of cash payment, an order of the Corporation, or their Agent, requiring a Crown Grant to be issued to a purchaser therein named, and shall debit the Corporation with the amount against the purchase money so paid in advance, and so on until the same is exhausted, when payment in cash shall again be required, and so *toties quoties*.

13. As often as any of the said land is sold in accordance with the said Regulations, and the purchase money is paid otherwise than by such order as in the last preceding clause mentioned, one or more Principal Note or Notes shall be cancelled either wholly or in part as the case may require; and as and when the subsequent Interest Notes fall due, the Colonial Treasurer shall provide for payment of a part of such notes at the Bank where they fall due, equal to interest on the amount so paid off, calculated from the time of payment of the purchase money at the rate of seven per cent. interest per annum for the year ending April first, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, and afterwards at the rate of seven and a half per centum per annum.

14. Whenever any Principal Note or Interest Note is required to be cancelled wholly or in part, and is not in the possession of the Colonial Treasurer, it shall be sufficient if an undertaking by the Colonial Treasurer to cancel such note, wholly or in part as the case may require, or to provide for paying the same wholly or in part as the case may be, be delivered to the Corporation or their Agent. The Principle Notes to be cancelled shall be selected from such class as the Corporation shall think fit.

15. The said land shall be surveyed internally by and at the cost of the Corporation.

All such surveys shall be subject to the approval of the Chief Surveyor for the Province of Wellington, or other officer performing the duties at present performed by him; and until approved, shall be deemed incomplete: Provided that such approval shall not be unreasonably delayed or refused without sufficient cause. The outside boundaries of the said land shall be surveyed by and at the cost of the Provincial Government of the Province of Wellington, or otherwise free of cost to the Corporation. All surveys already made and to be made, shall be the property of the Corporation.

16. Every purchaser of land under the said Regulations shall be entitled to a Grant from the Crown of the land upon the Corporation paying the purchase money and the purchaser paying the usual fees for the Grant. The Government of the Colony shall not be answerable for any delay in issuing Grants arising from incompleteness in surveys.

17. When all the said Principal Notes and Interest Notes shall have been paid or cancelled, and all interest thereon, and all sums of money herein declared payable as stipulated damages, shall have been paid, the Corporation shall be entitled to a Grant from the Crown of so much of the said land as shall remain unsold (after providing for all those persons who may be or become entitled to purchase any of the said land under the said Regulations and for roads), without any payment, except the usual fees upon the Grant. All roads constructed by the Corporation or otherwise in the Settlement shall be public roads, and the soil thereof shall remain vested in the Crown, except tramways or railroads constructed solely by and at the expense of the Corporation and without any pecuniary aid from the Government, which shall be the property of the Corporation.

18. The Corporation shall place upon the land set apart under this Agreement, hereinafter called "The Settlement," at least two thousand emigrants before the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven. Not less than one hundred of the number shall be placed on the Settlement during the year ending on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, and not less than two hundred in any one of the succeeding years.

19. Every emigrant shall be approved by the Agent-General for the time being for New Zealand in the United Kingdom, and shall sail from some port in the United Kingdom; and no emigrant not so approved shall be deemed an emigrant within the meaning of these presents.

20. The Governor shall provide passages in suitable ships, from the port of shipment in the United Kingdom to the Settlement, for all such immigrants, with their personal effects, if such passage cost no more than fifteen pounds for each emigrant: any excess above that sum shall be paid by the Corporation.

21. If the Corporation shall find suitable ships for conveying such emigrants, the Governor shall pay to the Corporation, passage money at the then current rates of passage for emigrants, not exceeding in any case fifteen pounds for the whole passage of one emigrant, from the port of shipment to the Settlement; and all emigrants introduced by the Corporation shall be provided with suitable barrack accommodation and provisions during two days after arrival in Wellington.

22. The Governor shall provide employment, for each able-bodied male emigrant upon some public or other works in or within ten miles of the Settlement, at such rates of payment as will enable each emigrant to earn at least one pound by four days labour in each week: Provided that the Governor shall not be bound to find employment for more than two hundred such able-bodied emigrants at one time, nor to employ any such emigrant for more than one year; and if a greater number of such emigrants than the Governor is hereby required to find employment for, such as shall require employment their priority shall be determined by the Corporation.

23. Until the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, the Corporation shall have, free of charge, the use of two trucks each way every week along so much of the tramway from Foxton to the Settlement as shall be open for traffic at such times as the Governor shall from time to time direct, and subject to the general regulations for the management of traffic thereon, the Government of the Colony finding the motive power.

24. If a less number in all than one hundred emigrants shall be placed by the Corporation upon the said Settlement before the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, or if the total number of emigrants placed by the Corporation upon the said Settlement during any subsequent year, up to and inclusive of the year ending the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, shall be less than two hundred, and if the total number of emigrants which shall have been so placed during the period ending on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven shall be less than two thousand, the Corporation shall pay to Her Majesty the Queen, her heirs or successors, through the Colonial Treasurer, for

the Public Service of the Colony of New Zealand, the sum of ten pounds for every emigrant wanting to make up the full one hundred, or two hundred, or two thousand, as the case may be; such sum to be deemed liquidated and stipulated damages, and not a penalty, or in the nature thereof, and to be paid on the day next succeeding the expiration of the period for which the deficiency occurs.

25. If, on the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, there shall be a less number than two thousand persons then *bonâ fide* residents on the said Settlement, the Corporation shall forthwith pay to Her Majesty the Queen, her heirs and successors, the sum of ten pounds for every person wanting to make up the full two thousand: Provided that, in the computation of such number, children under one year of age shall be excluded, and two persons between one and twelve years of age shall count as one resident. The provisions of the last preceding clause, as to the mode of payment and as to liquidated damages, shall be deemed to be here repeated.

26. If the Corporation shall be wound up voluntarily, or by an order of the Court of Chancery or under the inspection of the said Court, or if any Principal or Interest Note shall remain wholly or in part unpaid after the due date thereof, the right of the Corporation their tenants, licensees, and assigns, to occupy the land set apart in pursuance of this agreement, and not then actually paid for in cash by the Corporation, and all interest of the Corporation therein, shall cease: Provided that if and when, within a period of ten years, by payment by the Corporation or by sale of the land unpaid for and the improvements thereon, the whole of the Principal Notes and Interest Notes herein mentioned, with interest from the time of dishonour, and a further sum of twenty thousand pounds, shall have been realised by the Government of the said Colony, the Corporation shall be entitled to the residue of the said land then undisposed of.

27. If any question or dispute shall arise between the parties hereto concerning these presents, or the construction hereof, or concerning any matter or thing hereby required to be done, the same shall be submitted to two Arbitrators, one to be named by or on behalf of each party. The Arbitrators shall appoint an Umpire before entering upon the reference. The Arbitrators, or, in case of difference between them, the Umpire, shall award as to the matters in difference, and shall determine how and by whom the expenses of the reference shall be paid, and such award shall be binding upon the parties hereto.

28. In the construction of these presents, the word "Emigrant" shall mean either one male or one female of the age of twelve years or upwards, approved by the said Agent-General or other person appointed by the Governor; or two persons so approved, between the ages of one and twelve years, such two persons counting as one for all purposes; and the word "Emigrant" shall not have any more extended meaning.

In witness whereof the Public Seal of the Colony of New Zealand hath been hereunto set, and, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, His Excellency Sir George Ferguson Bowen, the Governor of the said Colony, hath hereunto set his hand; and the Honourable William Henry Adelbert Feilding, on behalf of the said Corporation, under and by virtue of a certain Power of Attorney, bearing date the eighteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and in pursuance of every Statute and power enabling him in that behalf as such Attorney, hath hereunto set his hand and seal.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

LIMITS of a block of land situated in the Manawatu and the Manawatu-Rangitikei Blocks, in the Province of Wellington, New Zealand, estimated to contain about one hundred and six thousand acres, bounded as follows:—Southerly by a line bearing $97^{\circ} 43'$ passing through the trigonometrical stations called Mount Biggs and Mount Taylor, and produced as far as the Native reserves situated on the banks of the Rangitikei and Oroua Rivers, by the northern boundary of the said Native reserves on the bank of the Oroua River, by a line of railroad running through the Township of Palmerston Block Manawatu District, by the northern boundary of section number four hundred and eleven, Township of Palmerston Block, and by a line bearing about 135° from the northern extremity of the Ti Wi Native reserve; Easterly by the Ti Wi Native reserve, by a line bearing about 200° from the Manawatu Gorge to intersect the southern boundary line bearing about 135° from the northern extremity of the said Ti Wi Native reserve, and by a line drawn from the Manawatu Gorge passing along the lower slopes of the Ruahine Ranges at an average distance of two miles from the Pohangina River; Westerly by the Native reserves along the bank of the Rangitikei River, by the north-western boundary of the Rangitikei-Manawatu Block, and by Native land forming the boundary of the Township of Palmerston Block, Manawatu District; Northerly by a line commencing about two miles from the mouth of the Waitapu stream, and on the north-west boundary line of the Rangitikei-Manawatu Block, and running in an easterly direction so as to include one hundred and six thousand acres, and the said northern boundary line to intersect the eastern boundary line at a point not less than four miles from the Manawatu Gorge.

Limits of a block of land, containing ten acres, to be selected, by some person duly authorised by the Corporation, from the land still unalienated in the Township of Palmerston.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Total Number of Notes.	Amount of each.	Payable.	Numbered.
Series A.			
Principal Notes } 25	£ 1,000 0	1st April, 1877	1 to 25
Interest Notes } 25	35 0	1st October, 1873	1 to 25-1
	35 0	1st April, 1874	1 to 25-2
	35 0	1st October, 1874	1 to 25-3
	35 0	1st April, 1875	1 to 25-4
	35 0	1st October, 1875	1 to 25-5
	35 0	1st April, 1876	1 to 25-6
	35 0	1st October, 1876	1 to 25-7
	35 0	1st April, 1877	1 to 25-8
Series B.			
Principal Notes. } 25	1,000 0	1st April, 1879	1 to 25
Interest Notes } 25	35 0	1st October, 1873	1 to 25-1
	35 0	1st April, 1874	1 to 25-2
	35 0	1st October, 1874	1 to 25-3
	35 0	1st April, 1875	1 to 25-4
	35 0	1st October, 1875	1 to 25-5
	35 0	1st April, 1876	1 to 25-6
	35 0	1st October, 1876	1 to 25-7
	35 0	1st April, 1877	1 to 25-8
	37 10	1st October, 1877	1 to 25-9
	37 10	1st April, 1878	1 to 25-10
	37 10	1st October, 1878	1 to 25-11
	37 10	1st April, 1879	1 to 25-12
Series C.			
Principal Notes. } 25	1,000 0	1st April, 1882	1 to 25
Interest Notes. } 25	35 0	1st October, 1873	1 to 25-1
	35 0	1st April, 1874	1 to 25-2
	35 0	1st October, 1874	1 to 25-3
	35 0	1st April, 1875	1 to 25-4
	35 0	1st October, 1875	1 to 25-5
	35 0	1st April, 1876	1 to 25-6
	35 0	1st October, 1876	1 to 25-7
	35 0	1st April, 1877	1 to 25-8
	37 10	1st October, 1877	1 to 25-9
	37 10	1st April, 1878	1 to 25-10
	37 10	1st October, 1878	1 to 25-11
	37 10	1st April, 1879	1 to 25-12
	37 10	1st October, 1879	1 to 25-13
	37 10	1st April, 1880	1 to 25-14
	37 10	1st October, 1880	1 to 25-15
	37 10	1st April, 1881	1 to 25-16
	37 10	1st October, 1881	1 to 25-17
	37 10	1st April, 1882	1 to 25-18

G. F. BOWEN, Governor.

(Seal of the
Colony.)

The Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation (Limited), by their Attorney,

W. H. A. FEILDING.

(Seal.)

Sealed with the Public Seal of
the Colony of New Zealand, and
signed by His Excellency Sir George
Ferguson Bowen, the Governor of
the said Colony, in the presence of
JULIUS VOGEL.

Signed and sealed by the
said William Henry Adelbert
Feilding, as the Attorney, and on
behalf of the said Corporation, in
the presence of
P. A. BUCKLEY,
Barrister-at-Law, Wellington.

I, the Honorable William Henry Adelbert Feilding, of 23 Lower Brook Street, in Grosvenor Square, Middlesex, in England, but at present residing at Wellington, in the Colony of New Zealand, do solemnly and sincerely declare that, by Deed-poll or power of Attorney, bearing date the eighteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, under the seal of the Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation (Limited), and signed by certain of the Directors of the said Corporation, I am their legally appointed Attorney, and, by virtue thereof, I am empowered, on behalf of the said Corporation, to execute the within-written Deed. I have not received any notice of the revocation of the said Power of Attorney in any manner howsoever, and I verily believe the same to be now subsisting and in full force. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand intituled "The Powers of Attorney Act, 1854."

W. H. A. FEILDING.

Taken and declared at Wellington aforesaid, this }
26th day of December, 1871, before me }

R. S. MACHELL,

A Justice of the Peace for the Colony of New Zealand.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 9th March, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that the subject of the disposal of the funds received for the sale of portions of the land included in the second Schedule of "The Wellington Debts Act, 1871," has been brought under my notice, through a sum of two hundred and seven pounds nineteen shillings having been paid to the Public Account by the Receiver of Land Revenue in terms of the Act already mentioned.

As the Province only desires that the sum of £75,000 shall be raised under that Act, and the General Government already hold bills to an equivalent amount, received from Colonel Feilding, on behalf of the Immigrants' Aid Society for a purchase of a portion of the land, and as payment on account of such land will have to be made by the General Government, as required by "The Public Works and Immigration Act, 1871," I have directed that all moneys other than the proceeds of those Bills, received for sales of that land, shall be paid over from time to time to the Province.

I have, &c.,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

B.

RETURN of Sums paid up to date, 25th April, 1872, out of moneys raised under "The Wellington Debts Act, 1871."

	£	s.	d.
Buck and Kemble Compensation	575	0	0
Patent Slip Site	543	3	0
Balance of Contract Money due to Road Boards ...	1,225	10	8
Provincial Debentures held by Wellington Savings Bank ...	8,978	16	4
Bank of New Zealand Overdraft, with interest ...	10,527	2	6
Sundries	941	4	9
Due to General Government on 30th June, 1871* ...	15,000	0	0
Balance due on Purchase of Wesleyan Reserve ...	2,350	0	0
Arrears of Survey	3,987	11	5
Lunatic Asylum	57	16	0
	£44,186	4	8

* Payment on account. The accounts between the Province and the General Government being still under adjustment.

Provincial Treasury, Wellington, 25th April, 1872,

CHAS P. POWLES,

Assistant Provincial Treasurer.

WILLIAM DORSET, Provincial Auditor.

C.

CORRESPONDENCE in reference to the Apportionment of Charges under "The Wellington and Hawke's Bay Debts Apportionment Act, 1868.

The Hon. W. GISBORNE to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 3rd May, 1871.

SIR,—

Adverting to the subject of the apportionment of the charges for interest and sinking fund upon the Wellington Provincial Loans, payable respectively by the Provinces of Wellington and Hawkes Bay, under Mr. Curtis' award, I have the honor to enclose for your information a series of accounts, and an account current furnished by the Treasury, showing the proportions of the charges upon the various loans payable by the respective provinces, calculated up to the 31st of March last.

Your Honor will perceive from the enclosures that after allowing credit for the deductions made by the General Government on account of interest, and charging for the proportion of 23.5 per cent. of the interest and sinking fund, paid by the Province of Wellington on the loans with proportion of cost of consolidation, there remained at the above date a balance in favor of the Province of Hawkes Bay of eight hundred and eighty one pounds six shillings and seven pence.

I enclose at the same time a copy of the Assistant Treasurer's memorandum, covering these accounts, which with the accounts themselves will, it is hoped, render the whole matter sufficiently clear to your Honor and the Provincial Council of Wellington.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Wellington.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY.

HEREWITH please receive statement made up from the Treasury accounts for the information of their Honors the Superintendents of the Provinces of Wellington and Hawke's Bay, showing that the balance due to Hawke's Bay on the 31st March, 1871, for over payments on account of interest and sinking fund was £881 6s 7d.

This account is supported by detailed statements which have been made so explicit that I believe they will not require further explanations, at the same time these details will enable their Honors to check every item and of course as it is an account between the Provinces with which the General Government has no direct concern, it must be subject to emendation if the Superintendents should deem that any alterations are required.

It may be needful to point out that although in the interest account the dates from and to which the interest is calculated will be found in some cases to "overlap" yet that this is not an error, but is one of those incidents which are unavoidable in operations for raising money by way of loans, and that the dates given are those in respect of which Wellington has made (or has yet to make) the various payments with which that Province is credited in these accounts.

A statement is also appended showing the proportions of unconverted and consolidated loans on which interest and sinking fund will have to be paid by the respective Provinces from and after April 1st, 1871.

There will be a small additional charge for the expenses of the fourth conversion, but the amount has not been made up as yet.

J. WOODWARD.

May 1, 1871.

STATEMENT of Amounts deducted from time to time by the General Government from moneys due to the Province of Hawke's Bay and paid to the Province of Wellington on account of Interest on Debts of the original Province of Wellington.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1860	Quarter ending June 30				2,500	0	0
1861	" March 31				2,500	0	0
	" December 31	1,250	0	0			
1862	" March 31	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" December 31	1,250	0	0			
1863	" June 30	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" December 31	1,250	0	0			
1864	" June 30	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" December 31	1,250	0	0			
1865	" June 30	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" December 31	1,250	0	0			
1866	In month of May	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" October	1,250	0	0			
1867	" April	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
	" October	1,250	0	0			
1868	" May	1,250	0	0	2,500	0	0
1870	" February, from Consol- dated Fund	1,217	17	8			
	" February, Land Fund	494	8	0			
	" March, Consolidated Fund	292	8	5			
	" March, Land Fund	145	10	11			
	" April, "	349	15	0			
					2,500	0	0
					£25,000	0	0

J. WOODWARD,

Assistant Treasurer.

Treasury, April 29, 1871.

The Hon. W. GISBORNE to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington-

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Wellington, 8th January, 1872.

SIR,—

As the account which has been made out by the Treasury between the Provinces of Wellington and Hawkes Bay has not been satisfactory to the Superintendent of the latter Province, I have the honor to request that in order to enable the Treasury to check the account as it stands at present, your Honor would have the goodness to supply the Government with a return of all moneys received by the Province of Wellington, since the 1st November, 1858, from or on account of Hawke's Bay, as contributions towards the interest on the Provincial Debt, as well as of all sums for which it has received credit in account with the General Government under the same heading.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Wellington.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington, to the Hon. W. GISBORNE.

Superintendent's Office,

Wellington, January 9th, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th inst: in which you state that the account which has been made out by the Treasury between the Provinces of Wellington and Hawke's Bay has not been satisfactory to the Superintendent of the latter Province and request me to supply the Government with a return of all moneys received by the Province of Wellington since the 1st November, 1858, from or on account of Hawkes Bay as contributions towards the interest on the provincial Debt.

In reply I write to say that as the award made by Mr. Curtis was final as between the two provinces I beg respectfully to decline to do anything which may bear the appearance of re-opening the question of account as between such Provinces.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM FITZHERBERT,

Superintendent.

The Honorable W. Gisborne,
Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. W. GISBORNE to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington.

Colonial Secretary' Office,

Wellington, 13th January, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th January inst. in which your Honor declines to furnish an account of moneys received by the Province of Wellington from or on account of the Province of Hawke's Bay, since 1st November, 1858, which I had in my letter of the 8th requested your Honor to supply.

I now enclose the copy of a memorandum by the Assistant Treasurer, from which your Honor will perceive that I had no intention of asking for anything which would re-open the award, but merely for information to enable proper effect to be given to it.

I trust that with this explanation before you your Honor will reconsider the matter and not continue to decline to afford the information asked for.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

The Hon. W. GISBORNE to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington.

Colonial Secretarys Office,

Wellington, 3rd April, 1872.

SIR,—

Referring to my letter of the 3rd May, 1871, transmitting a statement of the account between the Provinces of Wellington and Hawkes Bay under the Wellington and Hawke's Bay Public Debts Apportionment Act 1868, I have to call your Honor's attention to the omission from statement of a sum of three thousand pounds paid to the Province of Wellington on this account on the 11th May, 1861.

The omission of the item referred to was pointed out by the Provincial Government of Hawkes Bay and on re-examination of the account it is found that the total sum paid to Wellington during the period from November, 1858, to June, 1869, has been twenty-eight thousand pounds and not twenty-five thousand pounds as shown in the statement accompanying my letter above referred to.

I enclose for your Honor's information an amended statement of the sums paid with a memorandum by the Paymaster-General on the subject and an amended account current showing a balance of three thousand eight hundred and eighty-one pounds six shillings and seven pence due by the Province of Wellington to the Province of Hawke's Bay and I have to request in terms of the Wellington and Hawke's Bay Public Debts Apportionment Act, 1868, that your Honor will cause payment of that sum to be made to the Colonial Treasury for payment to the Province of Hawkes Bay.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

The Province of Hawke's Bay in account with the Province of Wellington.

DR.				CR.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To proportion of interest and Sinking Fund paid to Province of Wellington	23,875	8	2	By amounts deducted by General Government	28,000	0	0
„ proportion of cost of consolidation of loans	245	1	1	„ Amount due as portion of balance of net proceeds of Consolidated Loan		1	15
„ Balance due	3,881	6	7				
	<u>£28,001</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>£28,001</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>
				By balance due to Hawke's Bay	£3,881	6	7

J. WOODWARD,

Assistant Treasurer.

Treasury, 30th March, 1872.

D.

CORRESPONDENCE relative to the Introduction of a Body of Immigrants for Settlement at Fitzherbert, under the provisions of "The Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871."

Wellington, 23rd April, 1872.

SIR,

I beg to submit to your Honor the following proposals for introducing Immigrants to colonise the township of Fitzherbert, Manawatu.

1st. Government shall set apart and reserve Waste Lands of the Crown in and about the township of Fitzherbert, Manawatu, to the extent of Two thousand five hundred acres, more or less; such lands to be hereafter more clearly defined.

2nd. Such land shall be reserved under the provisions of the "Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871," part 2, for a period of eighteen months.

3rd. I understand that the block of land which the Government has at its disposal in the township of Fitzherbert, suitable for the purposes of the special settlers I propose, has been surveyed; and I request that I may be furnished with a plan, in order that intending Immigrants may be made acquainted with the proposed subdivision.

4th. Immigrants shall pay for lands allotted to them at the rate of one pound sterling (£1) per acre, in manner following:—

	20	per centum	after	twelve	months	occupation
	20	”	”	2	years	”
	20	”	”	3	”	”
	20	”	”	4	”	”
	20	”	”	5	”	”

5th. When the whole of the purchase for any allotment has been paid, a Crown Grant shall be issued to the holder on payment of the usual fees.

6th. Each adult male Immigrant shall purchase at least one allotment.

7th. The bush on the line of the road from Palmerston to Fitzherbert shall be fallen and cleared off at once, at the expense of the Government, so as to make Fitzherbert accessible for the immigrants and their chattels on arrival.

8th. Government shall cause a good metalled road or tramway to be constructed along the said route, connecting Fitzherbert with Palmerston, immediately on arrival of Immigrants.

9th. The Immigrants to be introduced and settled on the above mentioned lands, shall consist of fifty married couples, more or less, with their families.

10th. Such Immigrants to arrive in the Colony about March or April, 1873.

11th. Immigrants to be selected chiefly in Holland, 20 per cent. or ten families, to be selected in Scotland.

12th. Immigrants to be approved of by the Agent-General for New Zealand.

13th. Government shall authorise me, as their agent, to provide passages in suitable vessels from some port of shipment in Holland or Great Britain to New Zealand, for each Immigrant and his personal effects.

14th. The sum of Seven pounds ten shillings (£7 10s.) will be paid in Wellington to the charterers or owners of the ship on which the Immigrants may arrive, in respect of each adult Immigrant, in aid of his passage money. The balance must be paid by the Immigrant or his friends before embarkation: and the charterer or owner shall have no claim on Government in respect of any further amount than the said sum of seven pounds ten shillings (£7 10s.). The sum of seven pounds ten shillings shall be paid only on such Immigrants as may be landed, and it is understood that the Government reserves to itself the right to refuse payment in case the Immigrant passengers have not been provided for in terms of the Passengers' Act, the provisions of which Act must be made to form part of the conditions under which the charterers or owners agree to bring out the said Immigrant passengers. Single women to be provided with passages free of all charge, at the expense of the Government.

15th. Immigrants on arrival in the colony shall be provided with Barrack accommodation and provisions during their stay in Wellington, not exceeding two days, and their progress towards their destination to be facilitated.

16th. The Provincial Government shall employ each able bodied male Immigrant upon some public works within six miles of the settlement, for a period of six months at such rates as to enable each Immigrant to earn at least one pound sterling (£1) by four days' labour per week. Provided that if any Immigrant so employed shall fail to give satisfaction to the person employed by the Government, the Government shall have power to discharge such person, and all obligation to employ him further shall thereon cease.

17th. The General Government of New Zealand engages to provide employment on similar terms, for a period of not less than six additional months.

18th. Should a clergyman or teacher of religion be induced to accompany the expedition, such person shall have provided for him a cabin passage free of expense and shall receive on arrival fifty acres of land, for which he is to receive a Crown title after ministering during ten years to the spiritual wants of the community.

19th. Government shall furnish me with the necessary authority to act as its agent, and on its behalf in carrying out these proposals and allow me as payment for such agency five pounds per centum on the purchase price of the land herein mentioned or any other lands that may be sold by me for and on account of the Government of the Province of Wellington, within a period of three years.

I have, &c.,

G. H. ENGELS.

His Honor the Superintendent,

Wellington.

MINUTE BY THE HON. W. GISBORNE.

THE General Government consent to promote the proposed scheme of Special Settlement in Province of Wellington, to the following extent:—

1. To pay seven pounds ten shillings (£7 10s.) towards passages of Emigrants, and full passages of single women in pursuance of clause 14.
2. To provide six months' employment on public works in pursuance of clause 17.
3. To provide cabin passage to clergyman, in pursuance of clause 18.

W. GISBORNE.

24th April, 1872.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT to Mr. G. H. ENGELS.

Superintendent's Office,
Wellington, April 23, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and to inform you that I accept the terms therein proposed.

I undertake to allow you the commission therein named in terms of the "Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871," Section 22 (copy of Act enclosed).

I transmit you herewith a tracing showing the sections within the block, and roads through it as laid off by the Government Surveyor.

WILLIAM FITZHERBERT.

Gerhard Hendrick Engels, Esq.,

E.

RETURN of the Expenditure of the Province of Wellington, for the year commencing 1st April, 1871, and ending on the 31st March, 1872, specifying in each case the Appropriation, Expenditure, Unexpended Balance of Appropriation, and Expenditure in Excess.

	Appropriation.			Expenditure.			Balance Unexpended.			Expenditure in Excess.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Executive ...	2170	0	0	1948	14	4	221	5	8	...		
Legislative ...	695	0	0	633	15	0	61	5	0	...		
<i>Judicial and Police—</i>												
Gaol Department, Wellington ...	2870	17	6	2021	11	0	849	6	6	...		
" Wanganui ...	462	0	0	307	7	8	154	12	4	...		
Police Department ...	4050	14	0	3954	14	2	95	19	10	...		
<i>Charitable—</i>												
Wellington Hospital ...	1894	15	0	1529	16	5	364	18	7	...		
Wanganui Hospital ...	650	0	0	630	16	2	19	3	10	...		
Lunatic Asylum ...	952	10	0	1044	17	0	...			92	7	0
Charitable Aid ...	500	0	0	662	12	1	...			162	12	1
Education ...	3577	10	0	759	16	2	2817	13	10	...		
<i>Harbours—</i>												
Wellington Harbour ...	1389	12	6	1446	17	11	...			57	5	5
Wanganui Harbour ...	701	2	6	633	16	6	67	6	0	...		
Manawatu Pilot ...	100	0	0	112	10	0	...			12	10	0
Beacons, &c., Rangitikei ...	20	0	0	...			20	0	0	...		
Lighthouses ...	341	5	0	296	14	7	44	10	5	...		
Signal Stations ...	220	0	0	233	6	10	...			13	6	10
<i>Special—</i>												
Sheep Inspection ...	1509	10	0	1416	14	11	92	15	1	...		
Weights and Measures ...	160	0	0	148	16	8	11	3	4	...		
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>												
Messengers ...	237	18	0	237	18	0	...			...
Fuel for Offices ...	35	0	0	24	11	2	10	8	10	...		
Printing, Advertising, & Stationery ...	600	0	0	648	7	1	...			48	7	1
Miscellaneous Contingencies ...	1000	0	0	1072	15	1	...			72	15	1
<i>Public Works & Undertakings—</i>												
Land Department ...	1210	0	0	1027	0	10	182	19	2	...		

	Appropriation.			Expenditure.			Balance Unexpended.			Expenditure in Excess.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Survey Department, present Staff...	5900	0	0	4653	17	0	1246	3	0	...	...	...
" arrears ...	4100	0	0	3987	11	5	112	8	7	...	...	...
Engineer's Department ...	700	0	0	750	4	4	...	...	...	50	4	4
<i>Sundry Undertakings—</i>												
Rent of Offices ...	170	0	0	170	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Insurance Government Buildings...	170	0	0	185	12	6	...	...	...	15	12	6
Ferries ...	600	0	0	602	3	10	...	...	...	2	3	10
Assessment of Province ...	1000	0	0	149	13	9	850	6	3	...	...	...
Provincial Government Buildings...	3000	0	0	1157	1	9	1842	18	3	...	...	...
Erection of Toll Bars ...	500	0	0	214	16	5	285	3	7	...	...	...
<i>Roads—</i>												
Repairs and completion of Main Line ...	5000	0	0	4808	7	3	191	12	9	...	...	...
Bull's to Rangitikei River ...	400	0	0	...	...	...	400	0	0	...	...	...
" Oroua ...	1800	0	0	30	14	0	1769	6	0	...	...	...
Palmerston—northward ...	1500	0	0	...	...	...	1500	0	0	...	...	...
Palmerston to Fitzherbert ...	1000	0	0	...	...	...	1000	0	0	...	...	...
<i>Bridges—</i>												
Repairs Turakina Bridge ...	250	0	0	301	5	0	...	...	...	51	5	0
Bridge near Featherston ...	310	0	0	302	19	0	7	1	0	...	...	...
Hutt Bridge ...	4000	0	0	4475	19	0	...	...	...	475	19	0
Tauherenikau, Waingawa, and other Bridges in Wairarapa ...	8000	0	0	157	18	6	7842	1	6	...	...	...
Contingencies for Public Works ...	1000	0	0	995	19	4	4	0	8	...	...	...
<i>Amounts provided for by special Acts—</i>												
Interest ...	1750	0	0	1333	15	5	416	4	7	...	...	...
Wallace Annuity ...	150	0	0	150	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Supplementary Estimates—</i>												
Punt, &c., Hutt River ...	645	0	0	614	19	11	30	0	1	...	...	...
Contracts, Rimutaka Hill ...	150	0	0	156	0	0	...	...	...	6	0	0
Masterton to Castle Point Road ...	420	0	0	370	8	5	49	11	7	...	...	...
Wanganui-Rangitikei Road ...	700	0	0	...	...	...	700	0	0	...	...	...
Ngahauranga Bridge ...	300	0	0	195	10	0	104	10	0	...	...	...
Wanganui Wharf—repairs ...	60	0	0	...	...	...	60	0	0	...	...	...
Lock-up—Marton and Palmerston ...	250	0	0	200	0	0	50	0	0	...	...	...
Removing Pilot's house, Wanganui ...	50	0	0	85	11	6	...	...	...	35	11	6
Immigration ...	250	0	0	177	10	0	72	10	0	...	...	...
Legal Expenses ...	100	0	0	3	5	6	96	14	6	...	...	...
Sub-Treasurer, Wanganui, 1st Jan. to 31st March ...	25	0	0	25	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purchase of Land—Mr. Waterhouse ...	160	0	0	155	10	0	4	10	0	...	...	...
" Mr. Masters' ...	150	0	0	...	...	...	150	0	0	...	...	...
" R. Bright, C. Jeffcott, & W. Crozier ...	90	0	0	...	...	...	90	0	0	...	...	...
" Bradey & Davey ...	60	0	0	30	0	0	30	0	0	...	...	...
Bridge over Tinui River ...	100	0	0	133	0	0	...	...	...	33	0	0
Moorings at Ureti anchorage ...	20	0	0	...	...	...	20	0	0	...	...	...
Dog Registration ...	25	0	0	25	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Expenditure incurred by the Land Purchase Commissioner in the Land Purchase Department from 17th January, 1862, to 1st May, 1867</i>												
Provincial Government Buildings	5000	0	0	...	...	...	5000	0	0	...	...	...
Furniture for do.	1000	0	0	...	...	...	1000	0	0	...	...	...
Provincial Government Printing...	200	0	0	200	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Return of Deposit, F. H. Irwin ...	50	0	0	50	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Liabilities—</i>												
Legal Expenses ...	450	0	0	126	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Patent Slip Site ...	550	0	0	47	2	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Deposits Refunded—</i>												
Ordinary ...	...	...	...	301	10	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manawatu S. F. Association ...	...	...	...	2367	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
At interest ...	...	...	...	265	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...

Provincial Treasury, 26th April 1872.

CHAS. P. POWLES,
Assistant Provincial Treasurer.

WILLIAM DORSETT, Provincial Auditor.

REPORT of Crown Lands Commissioner on Land Revenue.

Crown Lands Office,

Wellington, 16th April, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to report for your Honor's information that the Land Revenue of the Province of Wellington for the year ending 31st March, 1872, amounted to £14,864 15s. 1d., which sum was made up as follows:—

Cash Payments	...	....	....	£11,594	15	1
Volunteer and other Scrip	....	....	....	3,270	0	0
				<u>£14,864</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>

A Return furnishing the necessary details is herewith enclosed.

In addition to the sales included in the above Return, a selection of 100,000 acres of Crown Land in the Manawatu District has been made by Colonel Feilding on behalf of the "Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation, Limited," of London, under an arrangement with the General Government, the terms and conditions of which you are acquainted with.

By your Honor's Proclamation of June last, nearly the whole of the Crown Lands in the Province were withdrawn from sale, pending the completion of the surveys for the proposed rail and tramway lines, and it was not until the 26th February of the current year that this restriction was removed.

During the past year the difficulties which had so long debarred the members of "The Hutt Small Farm Association" from obtaining the land selected by them on the Rangitikei-Manawatu Block have been satisfactorily removed. The conditions of "The Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871," having been complied with by the Association, the members are now in legal occupation of their land.

Two Reports from the District Surveyor, Mr. Kelleher, have been forwarded to your Honor, with respect to the block of unsold Crown Land, situated between Masterton and the Seventy-Mile Bush, and estimated to contain 45,000 acres, a considerable portion of which is admirably adapted for a Special Settlement.

In order to give effect to Part I. of "The Wellington Special Settlements Act, 1871," the following blocks of Crown Land have, by your Honor's Proclamation of 25th January, 1872, been reserved for sale on deferred payments, viz:—

10,000	acres	Township of Fitzherbert, Manawatu
5,200	"	" Palmerston, "
4,800	"	" " "
5,943	"	" Carnarvon, "
2,900	"	" Sandon, "
16,317	"	" Rangitumau Block, Wairarapa.

The survey of some of these blocks is in progress, and it is proposed at an early date to throw them open for selection.

The preparation and issue of Crown Grants is a work which has been all but suspended for some months in consequence of the draughtsmen and clerks being engaged on the schedules and maps required by the Government for the use of the Assessors under "The District Highways Act, 1871."

The enclosed Report from the Chief Surveyor, Mr. Jackson, will supply full information relating to the Survey Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOS. G. HOLDSWORTH,

Commissioner Crown Lands.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

REPORT of Chief Surveyor on Progress of Surveys, &c.
Survey Office,
Wellington, 16th April, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to forward the following Report on the works performed by the Survey Department during the past financial year.

In the Wairarapa District 3000 acres have been laid out in 60 acre sections, and 9000 acres of old surveys (40 acre sections) have been readjusted. Also, traverses of 8 miles of district roads, and sundry other works of a desultory character, have been executed.

In the Manawatu Block 2,800 acres have been surveyed, in 20 and 40 acre sections, and surveys of about 12,000 acres are in progress.

In the Rangitikei-Manawatu Block sectional surveys of 12,224 acres have been completed, and of about 120,000 acres, inclusive of Colonel Fielding's block, are in progress. There have also been 14,000 acres of Native Reserves surveyed. The sectional surveys in this district, where the majority of our field parties are employed, were obstructed in the month of October, and they remain so, pending the completion of the Native Reserve surveys, of which about 5,000 acres remain in various stages of progress.

In the Wanganui and Rangitikei Districts, 60 miles of traversing have been completed, preparatory to laying off the unsurveyed selections between the Wanganui and Wangaehu rivers.

In the Wellington Districts, 10,000 acres of old surveys, principally the Harbor and Horokiwi sections, have been readjusted. A trigonometrical survey, which covers some 150,000 acres, has also been executed, and a partial trigonometrical connection between the Wellington and the East and West Coast trigs.

A major triangulation to effect a rigid connection between the East and West Coasts of the Province, is in progress. This work will complete the trigonometrical survey of the Province, as far as Crown Lands are concerned.

Since the commencement of the last financial year, the strength of the Survey Staff has been gradually increased by one District Surveyor, four Assistant Surveyors, two Cadets, four Draughtsmen, and one Lithographer.

The Office Staff have chiefly been engaged in preparing a collated plan of the surveyed lands in the Province, on a scale of one inch to the mile.

The surveys of the following districts have been so reduced:—East Coast, Wairarapa, Rangitikei-Manawatu, Rangitikei, Wanganui, Waitotara.

The surveys of the Wanganui and Rangitikei districts were found to collate imperfectly, and those of the districts around Wellington were quite incapable of being collated. Perfect plans were produced of the East Coast, the Wairarapa, and the Rangitikei-Manawatu districts, which are now in progress of being lithographed.

In recapitulation—There have been surveyed during the year 51,024 acres, and there are 132,000 acres in progress.

There are thirteen parties in the field now, as compared with seven at the commencement of the year. The general plan of the Eastern portion of the Province has been completed, and the Office Staff has been efficiently increased. I have every reason to hope that during the current financial year, a large amount of arrears of surveys and office work will be brought up.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY JACKSON,

Chief Surveyor.

J. G. Holdsworth, Esq.,
Commissioner Crown Lands, Wellington.

MEMORANDUM by the Chief Surveyor with reference to the desirability of Compiling a New Geographical Map of the Province.

THE Chief Surveyor begs to submit for the consideration of His Honor the Superintendent the desirability of compiling a new Geographical Map of the Province, on a scale of four miles to the inch, for the purpose of being lithographed.

The existing map was drawn in 1862, prior to the execution of any triangulation in the surveys. The information it affords is therefore necessarily very scant, inaccurate, and altogether deficient in topography.

Since the above date triangulation has covered the whole of the Province, excepting those portions situate within the 39th degree of latitude, the western boundary of Hawke's Bay Province, and the outskirts of the Waitotara, the Wanganui and the Rangitikei Districts.

From those data the geodesical positions of the principal points have been fixed, and as by far the largest portion of the surveys have been executed during the past ten years, the positions of the mountain ranges, rivers, streams, road, and telegraph lines, and a mass of other topographical information can now be accurately mapped.

An important public want would be supplied by the publication of a map such as has just been described. With the exception of a reduction of the existing map to a scale of $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles to an inch, which appears as part of the lithographed map of New Zealand designed by Dr. Hector and Mr. Bowden, and also in that of Mr. Owen, no map of the Province of Wellington is in existence. The maps referred to do not adequately meet existing requirements, and the desideratum could only be supplied by the publication of one such as has been here indicated.

It may fairly be anticipated that a good map of this Province would meet with a ready sale to the public, when it has been found that in Otago 1,000 first impressions of a similar map were speedily sold, and of 3,000 copies subsequently printed the greater portion have been disposed of.

A lithographer being now attached to the Survey Department, the proposed new map could be produced at a very moderate cost, as the sole outlay would be for the requisite stones, together with the charges for printing off the copies.

The Chief Surveyor would further submit to His Honor, that whilst lithographing the map of this Province it would entail comparatively little additional labor to include within it the Provinces of Hawke's Bay and Taranaki, as far as the 39th degree of latitude. By so doing the value of the map would be considerably enhanced in a public point of view, because it would then comprise the southern half of the North Island, thus affording considerable facilities to the other Provinces situated therein for getting their surveys lithographed at a moderate cost. To effect this, the Chief Surveyor would require to be supplied with authentic tracings of the surveys of those Provinces on a scale of one inch to the mile, and with copies of the triangulation which has recently been performed by the Inspector of Surveys under the Native Lands Act.

In the case of these propositions meeting with the approval of His Honor the Superintendent, and of arrangements being made with the Provinces of Hawke's Bay and Taranaki, the Chief Surveyor would willingly undertake the whole of the labor attending the publication of the map.

HENRY JACKSON,

Chief Surveyor.

Wellington, April 18, 1872:

ADDENDUM.

The lithographic expenses in preparing such a map would probably amount to £175, viz., the salary of lithographer for six months, and the cost of the stones, £25. The compilation of the map could be performed in the Survey Office without employing extra assistance, and it would occupy about six months in executing, by which period, pending the preparation of further work for the lithographer, his services could be spared for this duty.

The sale price of the map should be twenty-five shillings. The probable addition to the Estimates for surveys on this account would be £25.

HENRY JACKSON,

Chief Surveyor.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Provincial Surgeon, Wellington Hospital.

Wellington, 22nd April, 1872.

By the accompanying statement of the number of patients attended at the Provincial Hospital during the year ending the 31st ultimo, it will be seen that the number of out patients is very large; a few years ago applications for medicine and advice at the

Hospital by out-door patients were uncommon, but for the last three or four years such applications have been gradually increasing, at last it became so general for people to come to the Hospital for gratuitous advice and medicine, in order to avoid paying doctor's bills, the private practitioners complained that many of their patients were getting such attendance, while well able to employ a private practitioner. In order to avoid this abuse I enforced an old regulation, to the effect that all persons applying at the Hospital for advice, &c., should bring a note from a Minister of religion, or a Justice of the Peace, to say that such person could not afford to pay for such advice and medicine; this had at once the desired effect (by appealing to the self-respect of the people) of reducing considerably the consumption of drugs, &c.

The domestic economy of the establishment has been efficiently managed by Mr. Monteith, whose attention to the cleanliness and propriety of the behaviour of the patients has tended to their moral and physical improvement.

Mrs. Green, the female attendant, has been in the service of the Hospital since its establishment, twenty years ago; she is now getting old, and, although as willing as ever to do her duty, age begins to tell upon her, and I am afraid a change must soon be made. I shall always feel unwilling to advise her removal, as she has been a good and faithful servant to the Hospital. The rest of the Hospital staff during the past year have been much improved, in consequence of accounts and salaries being punctually paid. A more competent cook, and more respectable wardsmen have been obtained; and although it is difficult (on account of the oftentimes irksome and disagreeable duties they have to perform) to keep an industrious and respectable man in the wards, yet I am happy to say that one has kept his situation for nearly three years, and is very trustworthy. But I have lately been obliged to discharge several, after short periods of service, for inattention, rough conduct, and drunkenness!

During the late dry weather the Hospital was destitute of water, the drains became very offensive, especially in the women's ward, which is situated close to the great cesspool, constant attention was required to keep the Hospital clean and healthy. This cesspool is an abomination which should be cleared away, and as I have before advised, the sewerage and drainage of the Hospital should be kept separate, and a thorough system of dry earth closets maintained. If the proposed waterworks are not in operation before the next dry season, some steps should be taken to ensure a proper supply of that essential element.

Kerosine oil, at present used to light the Hospital, has many disadvantages, such as continual breakage of chimneys and lamps, much time lost every day in trimming and cleaning, and the uncertain quality of the oil supplied by the contractor. I feel certain that gas would be found to be as economical and much more convenient, and I therefore earnestly desire its introduction.

Several additions and alterations to the buildings are necessary for their convenience and efficiency. At present there is only one ward for women, in it there is now lying a poor creature in the last stage of Phthisis, whose peace is often broken by two insane women in the room, who, although generally quiet and docile, occasionally break out. Last week a girl, very ill, who should have been admitted, could not be reconciled to enter the ward with such inmates.

A fever ward is much required, and also a new dining room, the present one being too small for the purpose, in wet weather being crowded, close, and unhealthy; the roof of the building is sadly at fault, the wards all leak more or less, and require to be immediately shingled; but before this is done a competent surveyor should be employed to inspect and report upon the condition of the building, as I fear the stripping of the roof of the shingles will expose an amount of dry rot and decay not to be expected in a building of comparatively recent date.

I am happy to be able to report that the past year has been singularly free from epidemics and casualties of all kinds. The increasing work of the Hospital, arising chiefly in the rapid growth of the out-patient department, has enabled me by strict economy to keep the annual expenditure within the sum voted by the Provincial Council last year, and trusting that the next year may prove as favorable as the one now past, I have reduced my estimate of the expenditure for the approaching year to the lowest sum possible, with the efficient working of the establishment upon its present footing.

ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, M.D.,

Provincial Surgeon, Wellington.

ACCOUNT of PATIENTS admitted into the HOSPITAL during the Year ending
31st March, 1872.

Admitted.		Discharged.		Died.		In Hospital on the 31st March, 1872.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
100	19	69	11	12	3	19*	5*

* The lowest number left in the Hospital for the last two years.

The number of out-patients during the past year has been over 500 receiving advice and medicine for terms varying from one week to six weeks, and even two months. This kind of relief is a great boon to the really needy, and comparatively inexpensive to the Government. On this account I have devoted much attention to it.

ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, M.D.,

Provincial Surgeon.

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

REPORT on Lunatic Asylum, by Dr. France.

Wellington, February 3, 1872.

SIR,—

As a new Lunatic Asylum is about being built, it is desirable that the usefulness of the present establishment should be known, as very erroneous opinions have been held by many people regarding it, arising from false reports and the suspicion that generally attaches to such institutions by the public, although very few take the trouble to see for themselves.

The present Asylum, I believe, originated in the necessity for providing better accommodation for the five or six lunatics then in Wellington; as the number of patients increased the authorities have enlarged the accommodation as far as their means would allow, and taking into consideration the unsuitableness of the present site it would have been unwise to proceed further when it became necessary to build a larger one. Hence the overcrowding and outcry. But in spite of all this the percentage of cures, as shown in the accompanying table, has been equal to the average of England.

The conclusion which Dr. Thurman came to on the basis of his careful statistics was, that as regards the recoveries a proportion much exceeding 45 per cent. was a high proportion. He also estimates that 50 per cent. of recoveries from the first attack relapse and die insane sooner or later. The table I have referred to shows that upwards of 50 per cent. of those admitted during the past ten years have been discharged as cured. Out of 54 admissions 32 have been discharged. Of the 23 patients remaining on January 1st, 1872, I consider 20 to be incurable, suffering principally from Dementia, the least curable of all forms of insanity. No doubt one half of these could be as easily cared for in any Benevolent Institution.

These facts show that the much-abused Karori Asylum is as curative as the larger ones in England. I think it probable that other Colonial Asylums may be able to show a larger percentage of cures arising from the reception of many temporary cases, originating in drink, being, in fact, merely bad cases of *delirium tremens*, accompanied with maniacal excitement, but really not cases of insanity. These are very likely to be met with in gold producing districts.

Maudsley says "there cannot be any settled system of treatment of insanity in general. Provided the bodily health is good the main treatment consists in moral control and a generous diet; remove any bodily condition which is likely to keep up the mental irritation or depression; give as much fresh air as possible, and also liberty, combined with occupation and amusement, as far as is compatible with the safety of the patient."

This is the course of treatment pursued at Karori, and has been for years past. No doubt there is great room for improvement in the surroundings of the patients, with the view especially of hastening cures, as well as making the lives of many

incurables more agreeable; but the per centage of discharges depends more upon the character of the cases received.

In spite of all the disadvantages under which the Karori Asylum has labored no case of suicide has occurred, neither has any patient escaped permanently since I have been in attendance, and I may add no patient has received any injury.

Several of those who have died were in a hopeless condition upon admission, suffering from general paralysis, the others having died from old age.

All patients suffering from primary acute mania have left apparently cured.

CHARLES FRANCE,

Medical Superintendent,
Karori Lunatic Asylum.

TABLE of ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, and DEATHS, during past years, Karori Asylum.

Years.	Remaining over from previous years.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged.	Died.
1862	10	4	4	None.
1863	10	4	None.	3
1864	11	3	2	None.
1865	12	7	3	1
1866	15	11	5	2
1867	19	2	2	None.
1868	19	5	5	2
1869	17	6	3	None.
1870	20	6	5	1
1871	20	6	3	None.
10 years.	...	54	32	9

CLASSIFICATION JANUARY 1ST, 1872, KARORI ASYLUM.

No.	Name.	Age.	Condition.	Date of Admittance.	Remarks.
FEMALES—					
1	Rebecca Parnell	44	Mania	January 17, 1857	Incurable.
2	Margaret Twine	44	"	February 6, 1862	"
3	A. Dermott	38	"	December 17, 1862	"
4	Helen Lenhan	64	Dementia	April 18, 1856	"
5	Mary Lee	54	"	March 19, 1858	"
6	Mary Smith	54	"	January 10, 1860	"
7	Mary Noble	46	"	March 13, 1865	"
8	Jane Slow	57	"	January 10, 1866	"
9	Jane Moore	52	"	February 2, 1866	"
10	Mary Robertson	37	"	April 22, 1866	"
11	Emma Garn	60	"	April 4, 1871	Doubtful.
MALES—					
12	Martin Higgins	50	Dementia	June 12, 1866	Incurable.
13	Alex. M'Intyre	49	"	January 1, 1854	"
14	William Blake	39	"	January 31, 1858	"
15	John Curtis	35	"	April 5, 1864	"
16	J. E. F. Briscoe	31	"	November 28, 1868	Doubtful.
17	Thos. Coffee	45	"	November 1, 1864	Incurable.
18	John M'Kenzie	41	"	February 15, 1869	"
19	A. N. Wilson	27	"	October 25, 1870	"
20	Alfred Webb	24	"	October 27, 1870	"
21	William Blake (2)	35	"	January 13, 1871	Doubtful.
22	Patrick Cruise	44	"	September 18, 1871	"
23	Michael Maloney	35	"	November 25, 1871	"

GENERAL STATEMENT, JANUARY 1ST, 1872, KARORI ASYLUM.

Amount of Accommodation.				Patients in 1871.														Number of those who having entered before 1871, still remain.	
Number of Wards.	Aggregate Number of cubic feet in Wards.	Number of Beds.		Remaining in Asylum on January 1, 1871.		Admitted during year.		Discharged during year.		Died during year.		Remaining on 31st December, 1871.							
		For Male.	For Females.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.		Supposed curable.		Supposed incurable.			
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
17	16,400	13	11	10	10	5	1	3	...	...	...	12	11	4	1	3	10	9	10

REPORT by the Provincial Engineer on the various Public Works undertaken during the Past Year.

Provincial Engineer's Office,
Wellington April 23, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to forward for your information the following report upon the various public works undertaken during the last year.

The Rimutaka Hill, which suffered so severely by the heavy downfall of rain last autumn, has been thoroughly repaired. The removal of the slips, and the rebuilding of the bridges, were undertaken in small contracts; nearly the whole of the latter were more or less damaged, five of the largest being entirely swept away. The road has been considerably improved by the work, several of the points and narrow places have been widened. The total cost of the repairs amounted approximately to £1,050, a portion only of this expenditure is charged to this year. It was not deemed advisable to rebuild the bridges at the foot of the hill and at Abbott's creek, (the latter one was destroyed by the falling of a tree and fire) as there were good fordways in the river, and on account of the washing away of the banks new sites would have to be selected, necessitating considerable expenditure in approaches. It would, however, be of great service to the public if a bridge was erected over the creek, at the last crossing nearest Featherston, as the approaches are necessarily bad and the ford itself very uncertain. Upon the completion of the bridges over the Tauherinikau and Waingawa rivers, this will be the only place where there is likely to be any delay during freshets to the ordinary traffic between Wellington and Masterton.

I will briefly remark upon the bridges erected, and at present in course of erection, in the order in which they were let.

At bottom of through cutting near Featherston, a bridge 60 feet span has been constructed. It is a combination of wood and iron, the stringers being trussed with iron rods. Mr. Petherick, of Greytown, was the contractor, and it has cost £302 19s.

TINUI BRIDGE.

The piles for this bridge were driven some years ago; it has now been completed. It has three spans of 35 feet, 25 feet, and 20 feet each. Mr. W. Francis, of Taratahi, was the contractor, and it has cost £133. In connection with this contract was repairs required to be executed to the Whareama bridge, the piles of which were in a very shaky condition. It has now been thoroughly strengthened, at a cost of about £40. The water, during the heavy flood, was seven or eight feet over the top of this bridge.

NGAHAUBANGA BRIDGE.

The old bridge was carried away by the same flood that destroyed the Hutt bridge. It has now been rebuilt upon piles, 2 spans of 20 feet each, with a moulded and pannelled handrail. Mr. S. Brown, of Wellington, was the contractor; it has cost £195 10s.

TURAKINA BRIDGE.

This bridge was also considerably damaged by the March floods, and plans were prepared by Mr. Hales for its repair. It consists of a new approach and protective wings. Mr. McNeil, of Wanganui, was the contractor, at £301 5s. Before the contract was well completed another heavy flood came down, which necessitated a still further extension, costing £250, which has not yet been completed. The same contractor undertakes this work, also under the supervision of Mr. Hales.

HUTT BRIDGE.

Considerable pains were taken in fixing the site for this bridge, as the old structure had been a source of constant and heavy expense, and the nature of the banks was of such a character as almost to defy any successful means for their preservation. J. Blackett, Esq., Acting Engineer-in-Chief for the Colony, inspected and reported upon three sites, and upon a plan to protect the banks. Ultimately a committee of the Provincial Council decided and fixed upon a site which was approved of by Mr. Blackett and myself, it was very nearly identical with No. 3 site mentioned in Mr. Blackett's report placed before the Council last Session. As the protection of the banks was always the bugbear of the old structure, it became a question what plan should be adopted. Mr. Blackett was asked to report, and the result was a very

full and able report recommending a succession of groins built of logs and filled with boulders (see his Report of the 24th July, 1871). I fully agreed with the plan suggested, and it was decided that the protection of the bank and construction of the bridge should go on simultaneously. From the nature and ever changing character of the former, it was decided, upon my recommendation, to carry it out by day labour; and, from experience, I am decidedly of opinion it was the best and only way to do such work, as it frequently happened from the rotten nature of the bottom of the river the groin in course of construction would, after a freshet, be pitched out of its true place, and require additional work and labor to bring it right. It will be at once seen that contracts entered into for such constructions would be broken, and, probably, altered several times during the course of the work, and would only lead to complications. Five groins have been fixed on the Hutt bank, three on the Wellington bank below bridge, and two independent ones some distance above bridge, with a view of cutting off the gravel beach which was forming on the Hutt side and was throwing the water over on Hobb's ground. They have considerably altered their position since they were first fixed, but I believe they will all do good service; of course, they must be constantly watched, and repaired at once should they shew any signs of decay or displacement. The last heavy flood has done some damage to them, which we are now repairing. It will also, I think, be necessary to place one more on the Hutt bank, a little above first pier of bridge, in order to keep the water from cutting in behind the pier; and, probably, three some distance up the river to keep it from cutting in at the point and coming down on the Wellington bank. Mr. Blackett proceeds to-morrow with me to inspect the changes, afterwards I shall have the honor to report the result of our inspection. Between each groin, whenever we can, and when opportunity offers, I have had willow stakes driven into the ground, so as to form a living and permanent protection. To accomplish this with any degree of success it has been necessary to purchase a strip of land both above and below bridge. It should be the constant aim and care of the Government that this strip should be carefully planted and fenced off. Nothing, in my opinion, will be as effectual in preserving the present bridge as the banks well planted with willows. Those already planted are progressing very well, scarcely one not growing. Another, and equally important matter, is the removal of snags and drift timber. We have already removed a considerable number from below bridge, in fact quite sufficient to account for the encroachment of the river at the old bridge. We have taken out about 20 piles of the old breastwork, which were very injudiciously cut off level with the water, and of course served as a breakwater, upon which the drift wood and shingle accumulated, forcing the water exactly where it was not wanted. I had hoped while the river was low to get the whole of these removed, but fear that the recent flood will put a stop to that work in the meantime. What has been done has had a most beneficial effect, the course being much more direct. The cost of these works is considerably above the amount first anticipated, but, I think they are of such a character as to justify the outlay. The fact is the works have grown upon our hands, it being found necessary to do far more than at first intended. The bridge is of timber (totara), thoroughly well built—a credit to the contractor, Mr. W. Wallis, and Mr. C. B. Vine, the clerk of works, whose ability and careful supervision I have much pleasure in testifying to. It consists of four spans of 70 feet each, two approach spans of 35 feet, and one of 30 feet, altogether some 380 feet. The contract price was £2,941, the sum of £77 was spent in extras, which included the 30 feet approach on Hutt side. In connection with the bridge a toll gate and house has been erected, at a cost of some £180. The bridge has now been in use sometime, and proves itself fully equal to the requirements of the traffic. The late flood has also shown that the piers offer very little resistance to the water. It would be as well during the forthcoming spring that all the bolts should be screwed up, and the bridge painted, it would not only add to the appearance but also to its durability. It would not cost more than £100.

TAUHERENIKAU BRIDGE.

Has not yet been completed. It consists of two lengths, one of 10 spans and the other of 20 spans, each 33 feet in length, or altogether 999 feet. The island between each length will have a road constructed over it so as to join both approaches. It is seldom or ever completely covered in floods, so that it will be perfectly safe. The bridge is built upon piles, which it was intended to drive into the ground 10 feet, but owing to the nature of the bottom it has been found impossible to do so. The shortest pile driven is 6 feet 9 inches in the ground, the average being 8 feet 3 inches or thereabout; at this depth the bridge is perfectly safe, as this river does not scour to any great depth. The late flood is one of the highest ever known, and no damage has been done. Upon the suggestion of Mr. Blackett, who reported upon the work,

arrangements have been made which will be the means of carrying out the contract in its integrity at only a small additional cost to the Government. The contract price for the bridge is £3,430; Messrs. Barry and Co. are the contractors, and Mr. Vine clerk of works. It will take four months yet to complete the bridge.

WAINGAWA BRIDGE.

This bridge is exactly the same design as the Tauherenikau, the only difference being in the length, this is of 13 spans or 429 feet; the same remarks apply to the pile driving in this as to the Tauherenikau bridge. Mr. W. Francis is the contractor, and Mr. Thomas Gibson the clerk of works. The cost will be £1539.

The above are the most important bridge works carried out or in progress during the past year. Besides these, the whole of the small bridges have been more or less repaired. The Waiohine bridge has been replanked, a portion is not quite completed yet. Several of the bridges on main line from Bull's to Wanganui have also been replanked and otherwise repaired. Notwithstanding what has been done, the majority of the small bridges, especially in Greytown and near Porirua, are in a very shaky condition; they are now, however, handed over to the contractors for repairs to roads, who are responsible to the Government for their safe condition, and I believe that it has only been on account of press of work and the unavoidable delay in starting a new thing that they have not all been put in good repair.

ROAD WORKS.

A considerable amount of new formation and metalling has been undertaken during the past year. All the unformed portion of the Great North Eastern line of road has been or is now in course of construction. The first mile from Ray's to the bend in road was done by day labour, under the able supervision of A. Renall, Esq. A second section of 22 chains has been constructed by the settlers who were burnt out of their homes in Carterton, also under the same arrangement. The remainder has been let in contracts, portions of which have been completed, and the other is still in progress. I am also glad to state that the road from the Waipoua river on to the Opaki plain has been undertaken, so that by winter the settlers in that large district will have, comparatively speaking, a good road made on to the plain. Great additional traffic may be anticipated on this line owing to the Scandinavian settlement about to be established in the Forty Mile Bush. On the line to Castle Point several places have been greatly improved by the roadmen, who have been kept on throughout the summer. In order to make this line good for winter traffic it is necessary it should be metalled, the formation is nearly all clay, and mostly through bush, that is on the Taueru end. The Castle Point end suffered very severely with the rain and heavy floods last autumn, but is now, I believe, in very fair condition. The thanks of the Government are due to Mr. J. Bennett and Mr. F. Maunsell for their supervision and attention to the requirements of the line. Owing to the threatening aspect of the Waiohine river last spring a contract was entered into with Messrs. Strawbridge and Co. for the supply of fascines and stakes, in order to construct a groin near the inlet of the creek at Kempton's bridge. During the course of the work and before we had commenced in the river bed, a flood came down and completely altered for the better the course of the river—it was not necessary to continue the work. Although the road will always be liable to be covered with water during freshets, I do not apprehend that any considerable damage will be done. We have driven stakes on the lower side, and twisted manuka between them to keep the metal on the road, it answers its purpose admirably. The amount of Messrs. Strawbridges' contract was £65.

During the autumn floods last year the Hutt river completely washed away the road near Mr. Smith's, Silver Stream. It was necessary to purchase from Mr. Sykes and Mr. Smith a portion of land in order to make a deviation, the price was fixed by two arbitrators, one on behalf of the Government and the other for the above named parties; the award was equal to, or approximately £140. The road formed and metalled was 22½ chains long. This part of the line has always been of great expense to the Government. As I have before reported, the road should have been taken round the hill, avoiding two bridges and the low flooded flat that is continually being washed away. To make the deviation now would be a very expensive matter, as the cuttings are heavy, and the land would have to be purchased. The present deviation will, if watched and attended to, serve its purpose. The contract amounted to £101 5s., this included the fencing. On the West Coast line a mile of road is now in course of construction between Bull's and the Rangitikei ferry; this work was undertaken by Mr. Bull upon a guarantee of ten per cent. on outlay, it has not yet been completed. I believe it is the intention of the present Government to pay Mr. Bull the cash as soon as he completes the work. This line will be used by the settlers upon the Ran-

gitikei-Manawatu block, more particularly the Hutt Small Farmers; the price to be paid is £400. Several small sums have been expended in repairing portions of the line between Scott's and Bull's, and on towards Wanganui, independently of the road parties. Mr. W. A. Fitzherbert is at present engaged in pegging off the line of road from the Rangitikei towards Palmerston and Foxton. During my late visit I levelled nearly six miles, which can be let at any time, as all particulars have been obtained, and it is only required to have specifications written out. It has been decided that the first 37 chains which commences at the top of side cutting, Rangitikei river, should be constructed at once. Tenders have been called for the work. When that is completed, there will be a passable road from the Small Farm block to Bull's: before it was almost impassable. Should the Road be made through to Palmerston, a large traffic would arise, especially when the road undertaken by the General Government is completed through the gorge; it would become the through route from West Coast to Napier. The part to be formed passes through a splendid block of Government land, which would be greatly enhanced in value, and I have no doubt be readily settled upon if a road was made.

Under Mr. Hales' supervision, a sum of £90 10s. has been expended upon the improvement of the road near Kai-Iwi.

The general repairs to the main roads have now, by your Honor's direction been let by contract. The Great North Eastern, as far as Ray's, was divided in eight sections, advertised, and tenders received. The lowest was from Mr. S. Brown, of Wellington, for the whole length, at £2,480 per annum. He is responsible for the entire work, with the exception of the main structure of the principle bridges. The time he has had them in hand has not yet been sufficient to enable him to properly organise his staff of roadmen and other arrangements necessary for the proper and efficient working of the contract. He is getting a stone-breaking machine from Melbourne, and the non-delivery of this has thrown him back some time; however, he had advice of its shipment by the Gothenburg next trip. From Ray's to Masterton has not yet been let as it was thought better to complete the whole of the formation before receiving tenders for this length. It is now in course of completion.

From the Ngahauranga to Paikakariki Hotel, on the Great North Western line, was divided in four sections, and tenders received; that of Mr. Taylor, for the sum of £1,335 per annum was accepted. The same remarks are applicable to this (in a greater degree) as to the former contract; the road having only been in the contractor's hands some few weeks. Both contracts are for a period of three years.

From Bull's to Wanganui the tenders have not yet been considered, but it will also be let by contract.

I am decidedly of opinion that the works will be as satisfactorily performed, the roads be in better condition, and at less cost, than under the old system. We have, whenever it was possible, and are still in negotiation for the purchase of gravel reserves by the side of the main roads. Mr. Renall has purchased several in Wairarapa, and Mr. W. A. Fitzherbert is selecting sites on the Manawatu-Rangitikei Block. I cannot over-estimate the benefit which will accrue from these gravel reserves. Hitherto we have been obliged to grub for it wherever we could. Often through the difficulty of obtaining metal the surface of the road was neglected, and it got into as bad a state as if there was no formation whatever. Below I attach Schedule of roads formed during the year.

The Ferries throughout the Province have been put upon a better footing. Although I have not had much to do in the management myself, part of the work has been done through this department, and plans were prepared and the tender accepted for the construction of a new punt for the Foxton Ferry, on the Manawatu River. Mr. Mollier is the contractor, and the cost will be £140.

SCHEDULE of ROADS completed and in course of construction, all formed and metalled.

District.	Length in chains.	Contractors.	Cost, Approximate.
Opaki	30	Bently and Son*	£90 0 0
"	24	M'Killop and M'Kenzie*	72 0 0
"	32	W. Welch*	96 0 0
Masterton	15	M'Killop and M'Kenzie†	48 15 0
Manaia	35	Burgess and Co.†	87 1 3
Taratahi	101½	Burgess and Co.*	265 19 0
"	42	Geo. Peck*	114 9 0
"	22	By day labor‡	80 0 0
"	81	By day labor§	327 0 0
"	22½	Cudby and Till†	140 0 0
Silver Stream	80	Jas. Bull*	400 0 0
Bull's to Rangitikei Ferry			
Rangitikei Ferry towards Oroua	37	Not yet let|| ... ..	..
465 chains in course of construction and completion, 37 chains not yet let,			£1,721 4 3
Total—522 chains, or 6 miles and 5 chains.			

* Not yet completed. † Completed. ‡ Completed; this was undertaken by the burnt out settlers. Carterton. § This work was undertaken when the road was almost impassable, and was most difficult || Tenders to be received 3rd of May.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. BAIRD,

Acting Provincial Engineer.

His Honor the Superintendent.

REPORT by the Inspector of Police.

Police Office,

Wellington, 18th April, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to report that the strength of the Police Force on the 31st March last was as follows:—One Inspector, two first-class Sergeants, two second-class Sergeants, and twenty-four Privates. Nine of the privates are stationed in the city, four in Wanganui, and eleven in various up-country districts.

Two new police stations have been erected during the past twelve months, one at Marton, and one at Palmerston, and each station is occupied by a mounted constable. It is a notable fact that since the advent of the police in these districts, rowdyism and drunkenness, which had hitherto been of frequent occurrence, has now almost disappeared, and good order and security to property established.

At the present time there are eleven police districts in the Province, exclusive of Wellington (city), and Wanganui; four of these, namely the Hutt, Featherston, Palmerston, and Marton, are supplied with police quarters and lock-up. The remaining seven are unprovided with such necessary buildings. The inconvenience arising, caused by such a want as this, is incalculable, and it may fairly be anticipated that the necessity of such buildings will be made more apparent still as immigrants flock in, together with those who will be attracted by the various public works now in progress throughout the Province.

The want of stations at Masterton, and at Bull's, Rangitikei, is a pressing and urgent necessity, and it would be advisable to erect stations in these districts with as little delay as possible.

My attention has also been drawn to the increasing importance of the district of Kai-Iwi, and the desirableness of a police constable being stationed. In the event of such an appointment being made, a station in that district will also be required.

It has been decided to hold half-yearly sittings of the Supreme Court at Wanganui. This will greatly facilitate the prosecution of offenders, and at the same time will diminish the expenses under the head of Departmental Contingencies; as heretofore persons committed for trial at Wanganui were sent to Wellington, and the expense of conveying constable and prisoners to and from Wellington was a heavy item in that vote.

The converting of the Rutland Stockade at Wanganui into a commodious gaol, and quarters for the police, is a work of considerable importance, and the results that will arise therefrom I anticipate will be of a most beneficial character. The officers of the gaol will now be in a position to classify the prisoners, and to enforce the necessary discipline as required by law. Two additional constables, to act in the capacity of warders in the gaol, will have to be provided for, as it is evident that the present force of one sergeant and four privates are inadequate to perform the police duties of so large a district as Wanganui, and to take charge of the gaol as well.

As a large number of criminals hitherto were sent here from Wanganui, caused by the want of a proper gaol, and the non-sitting of a Supreme Court, now, as these wants no longer exist, I am sanguine in the belief that a decrease of crime in that district will be the result.

All classes of crime have steadily decreased throughout the Province during the last twelve months, and the up-country districts, especially, have been remarkable for the good order observed by the inhabitants, and the almost entire absence of any serious crimes.

It is my pleasing duty to record my approbation of the efficiency, zeal, and good conduct of the men under my command, and I may fairly say that the decrease of crime is mainly attributable to their zeal and efficiency in preventing and detecting crime.

I enclose, herewith, an estimate of salaries and contingencies for the year commencing 1st April, 1872, and ending 31st March, 1873.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

FREDERICK ATCHESON,

Inspector of Police.

Henry Bunny, Esquire,

Provincial Secretary, Wellington.

ANNUAL REPORT by the Warden of the Wellington Gaol.

Gaol Department,

Wellington, 22nd April, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for your information the following report relative to this department, for the year ending 31st March, 1872.

The amount appropriated by the Provincial Council for the year was	£2,870 17s 6d.
The total cost of the maintenance of the Gaol has been	£2,018 18s. 11d.
Amount expended less appropriation	£851 18s 7d.

In consequence of the want of accommodation at the Karori Asylum, it has been the practice for some years past to commit lunatics to this gaol; there are three here at the present time. The average for the year has been about two and a half

(2 $\frac{1}{2}$). The cost of their maintenance is thus made to fall upon the Gaol Department instead of the Lunatic Asylum, and although the result is the same as far as the Provincial Government is concerned, it increases the expenditure of this department without giving any return. The cost for the maintenance of these persons might fairly be deducted from the expenditure of the Gaol.

The health of the prisoners has, as usual, been very good; there have been no serious cases of sickness during the year, and no death has occurred.

The general conduct of the prisoners has been satisfactory; as a rule, they have worked willingly and well. Only eleven of their number have been punished by order of the Visiting Justices, mostly for slight offences. There has been one attempt to escape from the public works by a convict under sentence of penal servitude, which was happily prevented by the courage and promptitude of the officer in charge, Under Turnkey Dennis Reardon.

The boots worn by the prisoners have, as in previous years, been made in the gaol—the man now employed has been taught the trade here. As a proof of the strength and durability of these articles, I have great pleasure in informing you that, although the wear and tear is very great, in consequence of the nature of the work at which the prisoners are employed, the total cost for both men and women has only amounted to £25 4s 3d.

The library books, provided by the liberality of the Provincial Government, have been much used by the prisoners, and have been productive of most beneficial results as far as the peace and good order of the establishment is concerned. Instead of the men sitting down together in small groups and concocting schemes of villainy, or relating their previous exploits to each other, and thus inciting the younger and less hardened among them to a life of crime, the most of their spare time is occupied in reading quietly to themselves, and in other cases reading aloud to those of their fellow prisoners who are unable to do so.

A considerable portion of the books having been in use for many years, are almost unfit for further service; if a small sum could be placed upon the estimates to obtain a fresh supply, I think it would be very desirable to do so.

The copy books and spelling books have also been well used, and I am happy to be able to state that there is great improvement in the reading and writing of many of the prisoners.

The Provincial Surgeon or his Assistant visits the Gaol regularly once a week, and oftener when requested to do so. They have always paid the most prompt attention, and their services have proved very valuable to me, more particularly in cases of malingering, as without their assistance it would be almost impossible for me to tell whether a prisoner was really ill or only feigning sickness to avoid work. This offence, which was formerly very prevalent, has now become rare, and is generally at once detected by the Medical Officer.

Divine Service is regularly performed on Sundays by the Venerable Archdeacon Stock and the Reverend Father Petit Jean, and sometimes on other days, the conduct of the prisoners on these occasions is very attentive and orderly, and I am sure that both these gentlemen will agree with me in saying, that a better behaved congregation could not be found in the City of Wellington.

Mr. David Hall, City Missionary, also attends and addresses the prisoners every Saturday afternoon.

The establishment has been frequently visited and inspected by the Visiting Justices; their opinion of the discipline and management will doubtless be found in their reports to your Honor, though perhaps it would not be altogether out of place for me to say, that they have frequently expressed their approval and entire satisfaction, with the discipline and general arrangements, I am deeply indebted to these gentlemen for their advice and assistance on many occasions.

I have great pleasure in drawing your attention to the steady decrease of crime in the Province of Wellington, as will be seen by the returns for the past three years, (already furnished to the Provincial Government); from these returns which are made up to the 31st December in each year, it will be found that the total number of committals from all causes in the year

1869 was	...	...	...	...	244
1870 "	....	...	...	....	238
and in 1871 only	....	....	....	...	196
giving a daily average for each year as follows					
1869	....	....	....	....	57
1870	....	....	....	...	53 $\frac{1}{2}$
1871	...	...	....	....	45

These facts (which are very gratifying), taken in connection with the general good conduct of the prisoners, have enabled me to dispense with the services of one overseer of hard labour gang for eight months of the year, and after careful consideration, I am of opinion that it will only be necessary to place one overseer on the Estimates for the coming year instead of three as heretofore, thus effecting a saving to the Province of £255 10s.

It is an extremely difficult matter to ascertain correctly the value of the Prison labour, the men being employed in making, metalling, repairing, and cleaning the streets in the City and constantly shifting from one job to another. Visitors to this Province from other parts of the Colony, and members of the House of Representatives have frequently spoken to me on the subject and expressed their gratification at the manner in which the prisoners performed their work, some of them remarking that they had often seen prisoners at work in other parts of the Colony but in none had they seen them work so well as in this City.

During the past year there has been an average of twenty-two (22) men employed for 300 days, the Penal Servitude gang averaging twelve men daily, have been employed at Te Aro, and the hard labour gang averaging ten men daily, at Thorndon, Lambton Quay, and other parts of the town.

The gang employed at Te Aro is composed of men under long sentences of Penal Servitude, most of them have been many years at the work, they are competent to perform any kind of labour in connection with road making, and as there are several carpenters amongst them, can also make culverts and repair bridges; they are strong able bodied men, and are equal in all respects (as far as labour is concerned) to any of the free labourers in the town, and superior to many. I have every reason to believe that if an equal number of these men were employed at the same kind of work with free labourers paid by the day, that at the end of the week the amount of work performed would be greatly in favour of the prisoners.

Taking the rate of wages paid to free labourers at six shillings per day, and making every allowance for the time lost in going and returning from work, and also considering the fact that the prisoners leave work at noon on Saturdays in accordance with the "Prison Regulations," and likewise that the working hours are shorter in the winter by one hour each day, I think that the value of the labour of these men cannot be estimated at less than four shillings each, per day, being two thirds only of the wages of free labourers

Twelve men 300 days at 4s.	£720
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About half the gang employed at Thorndon and other parts of the town, is composed of men of a similar class, under long sentences of hard labour; while the other portion is composed of men who are in most cases new to the work, and who have been committed by the Magistrates for short terms of imprisonment only, the labour of this class of men is worth very little, possibly not more than two shillings and sixpence per day; but taken in connection with the longer sentenced prisoners working with them, I think the labour of the whole of this gang may be fairly estimated at three shillings and three pence each man per day,—

Five men at 4 shillings	....	....	20s.
Five men at 2 shillings and sixpence	....	....	12s. 6d.

amounting together to the sum of thirty two shillings and sixpence, exactly the sum I have stated.

Ten men 300 days at 3s 3d	£487 10 0
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As I wish to put this matter fairly before your Honor I feel bound to state that two overseers and two gangers are paid by the City Council to go with these prisoners, the duty of the ganger is to direct the work, he also works, or ought to work himself and by so doing earns the wages he receives, the only other duty required of him is sometimes to take a gun for a few moments while an officer retires to obey a call of nature.

The overseers are paid at the rate of 6s 6d per day, the wages of both these men would therefore amount to £203 9s, being 313 days for each at the above rate.

	£	s.	d.
Appropriation for Gaol
Total expenditure
Expended less appropriation

Value of prison labor on roads	...	..	1,207	10	0
Received for maintenance of Naval prisoners	...	...	190	9	11
" " Maori prisoners	...	...	245	19	8
" " Debtors	...	...	22	16	0
" " Mary Maloney, a vagrant	...	...	3	0	0
Received for picking oakum	...	...	14	15	0
One Shoemaker 309 days at 4s.	...	...	61	16	0
One Cook 365 days at 3s.	...	...	54	15	0
Two Wardsmen 730 days at 3s.	...	...	109	5	0
One Wardswoman 365 days at 1s.	...	...	18	15	0
One labourer 365 days at 3s.	...	...	54	15	0
Scraping and whitewashing men and women's gaols, officers' quarters, &c.	...	...	12	0	0
Sweeping chimneys	...	...	3	12	0
Emptying cesspools	...	...	2	10	0
Cutting and splitting 72 cords firewood at 5s. per cord	...	...	18	0	0
Carpenter's work, repairing flooring, lining, roofing, and shingling kitchen, mending barrows, &c.	...	...	10	0	0
Painting windows, doors, &c.	...	...	5	0	0
Repairing stays and brickwork to well 140 feet deep	...	...	11	6	0
Washing and repairing gaol clothing and bedding	...	...	180	0	0
Due from Mr. Gannaway for picking oakum	...	...	15	1	11
Due from Taranaki for maintenance of prisoners to 20th March	...	...	124	6	8
			<hr/>		
			£2,365	13	2
Deduct wages paid by City Council to Overseers	...	...	203	9	0
			<hr/>		
			£2,162	4	2
			<hr/>		
Entire cost of Gaol	...	...	£2,018	18	11
			<hr/>		
Balance in excess of cost of Gaol	...	...	£143	5	3

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

MICAH READ,

Warden of the Gaol.

His Honor the Superintendent.

G.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Wellington, 4th April, 1872.

SIR,—

I herewith enclose for your Honor's information copy of Mr. Grindell's report of his recent visit to the West Coast of the Province of Wellington, dated the 25th March instant.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

W. GISBORNE.

MR. GRINDELL'S REPORT.

SIR,—

Wellington, 25th March, 1872.

In pursuance of your instructions, directing me to visit the Native Settlements on the West Coast, and endeavour to make arrangements (as desired by the Minister for Public Works) with the various hapus and tribes for sending applications to the Native Lands Court to have their title to all lands, of which they are desirous of disposing to the Government, investigated.

I have the honor to inform you that I left Wellington on Tuesday, the 5th March instant, and arrived at Otaki on the 6th.

I found a considerable number of the Ngatiraukawas there awaiting my arrival.

They had heard of my coming, and had mustered from Waikawa, Ohau, Horowhenua, Poroutawhao, and Manawatu, to meet me. I had a preliminary meeting with them on the afternoon of my arrival, and again met them on the morning of the 7th inst. Tamihana Rauparaha, Matene te Whiwhi, Parakāia, Karanama te Kapukai, and other leading men were present. A number of speeches were made, as usual on such occasions, principally bearing upon the claims put forward by Rangitane and Muaupoko to the lands in their (Ngatiraukawa) occupation on the West Coast. They characterized these tribes and their connections, Te Ngatiapa of Rangitikei, as a scheming dissatisfied lot, desirous of obtaining possession of the whole country under the shelter of the law, which they and their fathers had not been able to hold by force of arms.

They had, they said, shown much forbearance to them for a long time, had given up lands to preserve peace, and had made many submissions to them, but they found the more they got the more they wanted. They were, however, at last determined they would give way no longer, they would allow of no further aggressions.

They would sell the mountains to the pakeha, and would oppose any claims those tribes might make. They seemed to think the Government favoured these people.

I told them the only way to settle these long standing disputes would be in the Lands Court; that the Government could buy no land until the title had been properly investigated; that applications should be sent in to have their title investigated to all lands of which they wished to dispose, and that when the Court sat all parties would be able to state their case, and that no doubt matters would be amicably arranged. I assured them the Government favoured no party in particular, but were anxious that these matters should be settled on a principle of fairness and justice; that the Judge or Judges appointed would take every care and pay every attention to the statements of the claimants; that the Government said the same to the opposing tribes as to them, namely, that they must prove their claims before the Court. I asked them if they were willing to have the Horowhenua dispute decided in the Court. After much talking and many speeches on their part, and explanations on mine, it was finally agreed that, in so far as they were concerned, all disputes and claims to land on the coast extending from the sea to the boundary of the 70-mile Bush purchase should be left entirely to the decision of the Lands Court. Te Roera Hukiki and his friends being very urgent for me to accompany them to view the land claimed at Muhunua on the Ohau river, I started with them on the same day (7th) for that place, promising to again meet the Otaki natives on my return, to discuss and arrange preliminary matters in connection with getting their land through the Court.

Finding, on arrival at Muhunua, that some of the people I wished to see were at Horowhenua waiting for me, I returned to the beach by way of Waiwiri lake, and slept at a small fishing settlement that night.

The next morning (Friday, 8th), I proceeded to Foxton, at Manawatu, having first sent a message to the Ngatiraukawa people, located at Horowhenua, that I would call at their settlement on my return. I had, whilst at Otaki received a telegram, from Hoani Meihana, who was then at Masterton, in the Wairarapa, informing me that he would arrive at Foxton by the Coach on the following Monday. This man possesses very great influence with his people of the Rangitane (owners of the Mangatainoka block of 62,000 acres reserved from sale in the 70-miles bush), is honest and upright in his dealings generally, clear in judgment, temperate in discussion, possessing great force and power of argument, is a staunch supporter of law and order, and is an advocate for the sale of all waste lands, and the introduction of European population. I therefore deemed it advisable to wait for him before interviewing the Rangitane, Muaupoko, and Ngatiwhakatere who, I was informed, had assembled at Huru's place, up the river, in expectation of my arrival.

On Wednesday, 13th, accordingly, Hoani Meihana and I proceeded to the place of meeting. We found there Mikaera te Rangiputara (the only remaining old chief of Rangitane) and some of his friends; they had come from their residence at Tutaekara, an open plain in the 70-mile Bush on the 62,000 acre block, to consider with the Rangitane residents at Manawatu what course should be adopted with reference to Wi Waka and some thirty others from Masterton in the Wairarapa, who, encouraged by Nireaha, a relation of Mikaera, had just located themselves on the block in question by virtue of their relationship to the Rangitane people, and who had declared their intention of selling it to the Government.

They were about to formally establish themselves by clearing a portion of the bush for the cultivation of potatoes. On their arrival there Mikaera and the resident Natives had called a meeting at Tutaekara which had been attended by Peeti te Awe Awe and others opposed to selling, and they had now just returned from that meeting to consider the matter with the rest of the tribe. Huru had not been present at the meeting, being in Wellington at the time it was held.

The Rangitane we met at this place were principally those opposed to selling the block on the occasion of my visit in January last. Of those in favour of selling Kerei te Panau, with the principal men of Muaupoko, were absent at Whanganui, and

others were at their settlements above the Oroua Bridge. The "korero" at this meeting was of a very diffusive nature, and extended throughout the day and all the following night.

Huru te Hiaro commenced the business by stating that certain lands situate at the head of the Waingawa and Waiohine rivers in the Wairarapa belonged to the Muaupokos (eight or ten of whom were present), that the Wairarapa Natives had acknowledged their right and surrendered all claims in their favour, and concluded by requiring me to ask the Government to advance them £200 on account of it. Others followed in the same strain.

I told them I was not clear that there was any unpurchased land at all in that locality, and that if there were they must first prove their title to it in the Lands Court before thinking of asking for advances.

They were not satisfied, however, until Hoani Meihana told them that Major Kepa had made a similar request to the Native Minister at Whanganui on behalf of Te Muaupoko, but was unsuccessful. With respect to the settlement of the Horowhenua dispute in the Native Lands Court, the Muaupoko present said that although they themselves were willing to submit that matter, and their claims generally to the decision of the Court, they must nevertheless withhold their consent until the return of their friends from Whanganui, who were consulting Major Kepa on the subject.

Hoana Meihana and I told them that, although the dispute should be considered by a convention of the tribes as proposed by Major Kepa, to ensure a final settlement a legal title would be necessary, which could only be obtained through the Lands Court, and that it would be better to submit the matter at once to the Court, as the Ngatiraukawas had agreed to do.

The Ngatiwhakaterere then spoke of Kaihinu West Block, on account of which I had made them an advance of provisions when last at Manawatu. They said they had heard that various parties had made, or were about to make, applications to the Government for advances in respect of that block, and they strongly deprecated advances being made to anyone without their knowledge and consent.

A friendly discussion then ensued between them and the Rangitane; the Rangitane asserting their right to claim conjointly from their ancestry and prior occupation, and the Ngatiwhakaterere their right by conquest; both agreeing only on one point, viz., that the Lands Court should decide the matter.

The debate respecting the occupation of the 62,000 acre block in the Seventy Mile Bush by Wi Waka and his supporters, was kept up till an early hour in the morning. Huru te Hiaro and Peeti te Aweawe advocated forcible expulsion, declaring that the first tree felled by the intruders should be the signal for firing upon them.

Old Mikaera said he approved of this course, and was willing to die in defence of his property. The proposal, however, did not appear to meet with general approval. Hoani Meihana objected strongly to any such procedure, saying he never knew or heard of any such disputes being settled definitely or satisfactorily by force of arms. He instanced passages in their own history in which feelings of anger and revenge so implanted had not been allayed up to the present time. He said the law had decided that the land in question belonged to Rangitane, and there was therefore no occasion for them to trouble themselves about Wi Waka and his proceedings; their right to the land had been decided by the Court, and Wi Waka and his clan were powerless to oust them. And so the matter was left in abeyance, no decision being arrived at either way. I saw plainly from the temper of mind they were then in, that I should not be likely to come to any arrangement with them about the sale of the block. I told them nevertheless, that although I was a Government pakeha, and consequently supposed to be influenced by land purchasing proclivities, my impartial opinion was that the best thing to be done under the circumstances would be to get rid of the apple of discord by selling it to the Government and obtaining a title from the Queen to any portion they might wish to reserve for their own occupation, thereby securing themselves from the encroachments of Wi Waka or any other man or tribe. I pointed out to them the certainty of their being continually annoyed by the efforts of surrounding "hapus," who considered they had claims to the land, and advised them to turn over my suggestion in their minds and communicate with me if they determined to follow my advice.

I believe my words were not without effect, as I found from private conversations that some of those who had strongly declared their determination not to sell were privately inclined to dispose of some portion of the block in due time.

Hoani Meihana and I subsequently had a private conference on the subject of the sale of this block, when he acknowledged his conviction that it would eventually be sold. He said also, that at a fitting time he would do all in his power to forward the sale; that it was a matter which required to be delicately handled at any time but in the present frame of mind of the Natives more particularly, it would probably only retard the sale by pressing the subject. It was, he said, the last piece of land of any extent they had left,—their dead were buried upon it,—it was endeared to them by many old remembrances and associations, and it would require time to undermine their prejudices against parting with it.

I obtained at this place two formal written applications to the Land Court from the Rangitane for investigation of their title to the blocks called Tuwhakatupua Nos. 1 and 2, containing together perhaps 10,000 acres, bounded by Manawatu river on the west,

and portion of the boundary of the Ahu-o-turanga block on the North, and Kaihū West Block on the East, being in fact properly a portion of the Kaihū West Block. Both these blocks are offered for sale. Huru te Hiaro also gave me an application on behalf of Muaupoko for land before mentioned on which they asked for an advance of £200; situate at source of Waingawa and Waiohine rivers in the Wairarapa. . . . I also obtained an application from Ngatiwhakaterere for Kaihū West.

They said they had already forwarded an application, but I thought it advisable to have another one drawn up.

The Oroua block in this locality, extending North of Manawatu river and East of Oroua river, estimated to contain 20,000 acres, is also offered for sale by Rangitane and Ngatiraukawa at Te Awahuri conjointly.

Mr. Carkeek is at present engaged finishing survey of this block.

On the 14th I returned to Foxton. I was anxious to see Ihakara Tukumarū in reference to his claim South of Kaihū, but he was absent at Waikawa. I was informed, however, that he intended to sell.

On Friday, 15th, I left Foxton, accompanied by Hoani Meihana to visit the Ngati-hūia at Poroutawhao on my return journey. These people, like the other hapus of Ngatiraukawa, expressed their willingness that the law should decide the Horowhenua question and all existing differences and claims to land as between them and the Muaupokos and others of the original inhabitants of the coast. I obtained from them an application to the Court for an investigation of their title to the land in their vicinity, from the sea coast on the west to the boundary of the 70-mile bush purchase on the East, and portion of Ihakara's claims on the North. They offer the mountains only for sale; but I told them the Government would require a strip of the flat at the base of the hills for location of settlers and for roads. Although they did not fully consent to this, I believe there will be little difficulty in obtaining a portion of the flat for these purposes.

The soil of the lower hills all along the coast is remarkably good and well adapted for cultivation. Our business at this place being concluded, we came on to Horowhenua the same day, at which place we arrived late at night. We could do nothing here with the Muaupokos. They objected as I said before, to send any applications to the Land Court, until they had consulted their friends who were absent at Whanganui. They are in favour of selling the hills, and would sell if the Government would acknowledge their claim, and purchase without requiring their title investigated by the Court.

We slept at this settlement that night, and in the morning (Saturday 16th) we came on to the Ngatiraukawa settlement west of the lake. We found here Watene Tewaewae, Te Roera Hukiki, Nrehana te Paea, Nepia Taratoa, and many others.

These are the people whose houses were burnt by Ngatiapa and others, which act very nearly resulted in bloodshed, and a serious collision of the tribes. These people too, stated their readiness to refer to the Court for adjudication all disputes relative to land claims. I obtained from them an application to the Court for investigation of their claim to land from the coast eastward to the boundary of the Seventy Mile Bush.

They offer for sale a portion of the level land as well as the mountains.

We remained at this place all day, and in the evening came to Otaki, accompanied by the greater part of the Natives from Horowhenua and one or two of the Muaupokos, who came to hear the discussions of Ngatiraukawa. On the 18th, 19th and 20th, the Otaki people were engaged in disputing and wrangling amongst themselves about the claims of the respective "hapus". Eventually I obtained nine applications from them, comprising claims extending from Kukutauaki, the southern boundary of Tamihana te Rauparaha's run. Te Horo, as claimed by him, to Kaihū west block of Ngatiwhakaterere on the north, and from the coast eastward to the Seventy Mile Bush purchase. Matene te Whiwhi and his sister Rakapa Topiora, wife of Karanama te Kapukai, applied for the whole of the above district in one application on behalf of the Ngatiraukawa people generally. In it is included Ihakara's claim, south of Kaihū west; they admit Ihakara's title and say it can be marked off by the Court. The other hapus do not agree to this sweeping investigation, and each has applied to have their claims investigated separately. In some cases the boundaries of one party infringe on those of another, and in others two applications are sent in by different parties in respect of the same block.

Ihakara had returned to Manawatu whilst I was inland. I did not therefore see him, but I was informed at Otaki by Nepia Taratoa and Kiharoa te Moroati, who claim with him, that he intended to sell to the Government but would reserve his until all the others had sold. I explained to them the necessity of getting their claims investigated at next sitting of the Court, and gave them a form of application to get filled up. They went off to Manawatu to see him on the subject, promising to send the application on to me at Wellington.

If I do not receive it shortly I shall write him, as I wish himself to join in the application. Whilst I was at Otaki, the Ngatitehihi and Ngatiwehiwehi Natives of Waikawa and Ohau sent me a message to visit them at their settlement. I expected they would have come on to Otaki, but they objected to do so, fearful of some advantage being gained over them by the others. This feeling of jealousy is prevalent among them all along the whole coast, not only in respect of Rangitane and Ngatiapa tribes, but amongst themselves also. Matene te Whiwhi and Tamihana te Rauparaha strongly

urged them to unite, on the principle that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." It was in this spirit that Matene included the whole coast in his application on behalf of the whole tribe of Ngatiraukawa.

On the 19th I went to Waikawa, as requested by the Natives of that place. Tamihana te Rauparaha, Hoani Meihana, Manahi son of Paora of Waikawa (deceased), and a number of others, accompanied me. I found about forty people encamped in tents about a mile from the beach, awaiting my arrival. They strongly objected to have their title investigated by the Court, saying there could be no doubt of their being the proper owners, and so forth. They refused to send applications, and declared their resolution unalterable. They said they would sell their land as they would a pig by the lump "me hoko a poaka." I told them the Government were perfectly willing to buy their pig, but must be sure of the owner. I said we did not dispute their right to the "poaka," but if we were to pay them money for it without first duly ascertaining the ownership, they would be secure, having received the payment, but we should, in all probability, be landed in a difficulty, as it was likely this and that hapu would come forward, each claiming and taking a slice, till at last we should be left with nothing but the bones. For our own protection, therefore, we required the title to be investigated.

The discussion continued all day between them and the natives who accompanied me, these latter advocating the passing of the land through the Court. In the evening, as I was about to leave, they said they would take their "pig" to Wellington, and offer it to the Government. I told them they of course could do so if they liked, but I warned them that if they did so, they would have the trouble of driving it back again, and reminded them of what the Hon. the Native Minister had told them when they were in town; namely, that they were to send applications to the Court for investigation of their title before the land could be purchased.

I then gave them some forms of application, advising them to consider the subject carefully. I promised to wait a day at Otaki for their decision, and left them. On Thursday, the 21st, after a very violent debate, as I was informed, a deputation from them came to Otaki, and had a consultation with Matene Te Whiwhi, which ended in their joining with him in his general application in respect of the whole coast.

Whilst we were at Otaki Hoani Meihana received two telegrams from Major Kepa at Whanganui asking him to proceed forthwith to attend a meeting at Putiki respecting the Muaupoko claims. Accordingly I made arrangements for his passage by the coach, and he started from Otaki on the 21st inst. He intends to advocate strongly, as the representative of Rangitane, the settlement of all disputed claims in the Land Court as agreed to by Ngatiraukawa. If he find the Whanganui Natives (who are relations and allies of Rangitane, Muaupoko and Ngatiapa) in any way inclined to resort to unlawful means in support of their claims, his line of argument will be that Major Kepa and his followers have hitherto been supporters of law and order, that they have earned a reputation and a name by their deeds in assisting to put down anarchy and rebellion, and supporting the Queen's authority, and that they cannot therefore now object to submit their grievances to the decision of a legally constituted Court under the same authority of which they have hitherto been such staunch supporters. If they do object, the honor which they have gained will have departed from them, and the Ngatiraukawa will have become the more legal and orderly people.

He says if they determine upon any illegal proceedings he will withdraw from them and return at once. I apprehend good effects will result from his visit.

All parties, Ngatiraukawas and others, have expressed their determination to sell the hills, extending along the whole coast, and some are willing to part with a portion of the flats. I told them all the hills would be useless to the Government without a strip along the base for a road; and I think it can be arranged that the boundaries of the portions to be sold be taken from point to point of the hills so as to enclose considerable portions of the flat, and many desirable valleys and gullies; many of the lower hills and slopes are by no means steep, and are composed of very excellent soil.

To guard against the natives imagining that favor is shown to any particular party, I would suggest that a Court be held both at Otaki and at Manawatu, taking in detail the lands at both places, according to their proximity to the place where the Court sits.

As the questions to be considered are of a complex and delicate character, and will require much care and thought, I venture to suggest that the assistance of an extra Judge would be judicious, the natives generally appear to be in favour of Mr. Rogan, and said that they considered it to be most important for their interests that the Native Assessors assisting should be unconnected in any way with the tribes or hapus whose claims were to be investigated.

To avoid repetition I have up to this point purposely abstained from touching upon the question of surveys. This subject was discussed at each meeting which I attended.

The natives everywhere declare their inability to bear the expense, saying if they had to do this they would be unable to pass their land through the Court at all. I explained to them that I proposed getting a general map made of the whole district, with rivers, lakes, native settlements, boundary posts, and all prominent features of the country clearly marked, and as many maori names of places, positions and boundaries inserted as possible, so as to enable a division of the various blocks to be made on the map in the Court by the Surveyor. They enquired particularly if a charge would be made against them for preparing this map, and when I told them the Government would

have it done by their own surveyors without charging them, they asked if this expense would not be taken into consideration by the Government when offering a price for the land; to which I replied that the Government would offer what they considered a reasonable price, and it would be at their own option whether they accepted it or not. It was then agreed that any surveyors which the Government might send should be permitted to make the survey. A map of the above description could be prepared in a short time, and at a comparatively trifling expense. It could, I believe, be completed so as to allow of the Court sitting in the early spring. Surveyors, however, should be set about it at once. An exact survey is not required. It would be sufficient to roughly traverse the rivers with a pocket compass for a sufficient distance to mark their general direction, and their sources could be shown as seen in the hills from the flats below. The Manawatu river has already been surveyed, and the Ahu-o-turanga block would form the northern boundary.

All the claims extend to the boundary of the 70-mile Bush purchase on the Tararua range, which would form the Eastern boundary. I would furnish the surveyor with a translation of the boundaries as given by the natives in their written applications to the Court, as many as possible of the names of which should appear on the map in order to facilitate the subdivision of the map. In this way a map might be prepared at a trifling cost which would answer all the purposes of the Court.

I would suggest that the services of Mr. Carkeek be obtained for the purpose. He understands the Maori language tolerably well, and is acquainted with the country. Doubtless the Provincial authorities would not object to his being detached from the Provincial service for a short time.

I am informed that Mr. Jackson, the Chief Provincial Surveyor, is anxious to have a trigonometrical survey made of the district in question, but has hitherto been unable to get it done, owing to the opposition of the Natives.

As they have now consented to allow of a survey being made for the Court, there is no reason why this should not be done at the same time.

I have now given every information that occurs to me, to enable the Government to see the exact position of affairs at the present moment on the West Coast up to the Manawatu river, in so far as concerns the claims of the Ngatiraukawa (the invaders of the district) on the one side, and the Muaupoko, the Rangitane, and Ngatiapa (the original inhabitants) on the other. I may mention that demands for advances of money on account of their claims were everywhere made, which I invariably discountenanced.

I think it inadvisable, as a rule, to make advances on land to which there are so many adverse claimants before their titles have been investigated by the Court.

If one party receive money, the other will expect it also, or they will say with reason that favour is shown, and that the rights of one party is being acknowledged to the prejudice of the other.

I left Otaki on the evening of the 21st, and arrived in town on Friday, the 22nd inst.

I have, &c.,

G. S. Cooper, Esq., Under Secretary,
Native Department.

JAMES GRINDELL,
Native Department.

H.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 26th April, 1872.

SIR,

With reference to your Honor's letter of the 22nd November last, in which you recommend the purchase of Parae Karetu Block I have now the honor to inform you that the land has been purchased from its Native owners and the deed extinguishing the title signed on the 16th of March ult.

The Notice extinguishing the title will be published in the *New Zealand Gazette* at an early date, meanwhile I forward to your Honor a description of the boundaries.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

His Honor the Superintendent,
Wellington.

W. GISBORNE.

SCHEDULE.

Province of Wellington.

PARAE KARETU BLOCK.—Estimated to contain about 46,975 acres. Bounded on the north by a line from Haumakariri, on the Turakina river, to Tiriraukawa Hill, and thence to the Valley of the Pourewa; on the East by lines in the valley of the Pourewa and the Pourewa stream to the boundary of the Taraketi Block; on the South, the

boundary of the Taraketi Block and a portion of the Parae Karetu Block, reserved from this sale, and known as Tapui Pareteo, and the boundary of the Turakina-Rangitikei purchased block to Te Poroporo, near the Turakina river; and on the West by lines to the Turakina river, and by the Turakina river to Haumakariri, with the exception of a small portion of Ngapuna not included in the original map of the Parae Karetu claim, and of 150 acres between the lakes Namuhamu and Ngaruru.

I.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 26th April, 1872.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform your Honor that the working survey of that portion of the Wellington and Wairarapa line, which extends from Pipitea to the Upper Hutt, a distance of fifteen miles is sufficiently complete to enable me to state that immediately on Mr. Brogden's return from the South, which is expected in the early part of next month, the data for the contract will be furnished to that gentleman's firm.

I take this opportunity of further informing your Honor that a difference has arisen between Messrs. Brogden and the Government on some of the conditions incidental to all contracts, but I have reason to believe that these conditions will be finally settled on Mr. Brogden's return.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

His Honor the Superintendent,
Wellington.

W. GISBORNE.

K.

STATEMENT showing the average nett amount, after deducting Interest on Loans, contributed out of General Revenue, and available for Annual Appropriation by the Provincial Council.

	Customs.	Consolidated Revenue.	Surplus Revenue.
Year ending 31st March, 1857	£11,978 14 4	...	...
" " 1858	13,074 15 4	...	2,803 10 8
" " 1859	16,794 0 9	...	1,898 6 2
" " 1860	12,660 14 6	...	3,988 1 0
" " 1861	12,575 19 1	..	5,500 0 0
" " 1862	14,228 9 5	...	475 0 6
" " 1863	14,981 0 11	...	...
" " 1864	16,556 13 7	...	...
" " 1865	19,759 12 4	...	...
" " 1866	30,499 17 2	...	1,456 2 1
" " 1867	35,573 11 8	...	...
" " 1868	17,235 1 8	17,233 4 7	...
" " 1869		23,471 19 0	...
" " 1870		16,247 12 5	...
" " 1871		1,098 1 10	...
	215,968 10 9		
	58,100 17 10		
	16,121 0 5		
	£290,190 9 0	58,100 17 10	16,121 0 5
Annual average for fifteen years	...	...	£19,346 0 0
Annual Interest	...	...	9,468 0 0
Nett annual average	...	...	£9,878 0 0

CHAS. P. POWLES,

Assistant Provincial Treasurer.

Provincial Treasury,
Wellington, 29th April, 1872.

L.

Amount of Capitation Allowance to be credited to the Province in 1871-2, under "The Payment to Provinces Act, 1871"	£18,000	15	0
Amount of Special Allowance	750	0	0
Total credit	18,750	15	0

Charges on the above:—			
Interest and Sinking Fund—			
New Zealand Loan Act, 1856,	27,000	at 6 per cent.	Per annum 1,620 0 0
Consolidated Loan Act, 1867,	133,403	"	8,004 3 7
Consolidated Loan Application Act, 1869	72,000		
Less chargeable to T. Corporation 31,000—41,000		"	2,460 0 0
Defence Loan Act, 1870	17,000	"	1,020 0 0
Wellington Loan Act, 1862	2,000	at 8 per cent. and 4 per cent. Sinking Fund...	240
Wellington Loan Act, 1866	10,327	10s. at 8 per cent. and 2 per cent. Sinking Fund	1,032 15 0
Provincial Auditors' Salaries			14,376 18 7
Carriage of Inland Mail, as voted			150 0 0
			2,400 0 0
			<u>£16,926 18 7</u>

In addition to the above there is chargeable Interest and Sinking Fund under "The Wellington Debts Act, 1871," and any payments which may be made on account of services of the preceding year.

M.

AMOUNT of Loans taken into account in Estimates of Income available for Provincial Undertakings during fifteen years ending 31st March, 1871.

Total	£	s.	d.
Less Land Purchase Loan	261,956	10	0
	27,000	0	0
	<u>£234,956</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
Average Annual Amount	£15,663	14	0

CHAS. P. POWLES,

Assistant Provincial Treasurer.

Provincial Treasury,

Wellington, 29th April, 1872.

RETURN of Land Sold from the 29th March, 1853, to the 31st March, 1872.

Year.	Extent.			Payment.						Remarks.	
				Cash.			Scrip.				
	A.	B.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
1853	37,106	2	0	}	264,970	10	2	87,124	0	0	
1854	63,099	1	0								
1855	20,943	0	0								
1856	10,289	0	0								
1857	17,783	1	0								
1858	38,566	1	0								
1859	30,114	3	0								
1860	56,354	2	0								
1861	65,396	2	0								
1862	69,539	0	0								
1863	40,298	0	0								
1864	131,229	1	0								
1865	140,097	0	0								
1866	92,299	0	0	40,960	15	2	2,795	0	0	To 31st March. Alienated by the New Zealand Company.	
1867	35,735	1	0	17,815	7	9	407	10	0		
1868	34,706	3	0	15,144	11	9	1,180	0	0		
1869	13,951	0	0	7,095	1	0	229	0	0		
1870	18,584	2	0	5,321	3	1	6,650	0	0		
1871	17,414	3	0	13,448	16	9	2,295	0	0		
1872	7,969	3	0	6,372	2	10	1,545	0	0		
	268,000	0	0				
	1,209,468	0	0	371,128	8	6	102,225	10	0		
Average per year	£19,533	1	6	£5,380	5	9		For 19 years.

NOTE—100,000 acres have been sold to Colonel Feilding in addition to the land included in this Return, the payment for which, £75,000, has not reached the hands of the Receiver of Land Revenue. This will increase the yearly average to £23,460 10s.

Crown Lands Office,
Wellington, April, 1872.

JOS. G. HOLDSWORTH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

O.

STATEMENT of Lands purchased from the Natives and sold by the Government and New Zealand Company, and showing the balance remaining for sale.

	Acres.
Purchased from Natives and handed over to the Provincial Government for sale	2,360,000
Sales of Land effected by the Government and New Zealand Company, to 31st March, 1872	1,209,468
	1,150,532
Sale to Colonel Feilding on behalf of "The Emigrant and Colonists Aid Corporation, Limited, of London	100 000
Remaining for sale	1,050,532

Crown Lands Office,
Wellington, 17th April, 1872.

JOS. G. HOLDSWORTH,
Commissioner Crown Lands.