

terms of your letter, whether you desired a return of the amount previously expended; but this, if required, can, I think, be obtained at the Colonial Secretary's Office, it having been furnished on several occasions.

From Ahu to Stony River, a distance of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  miles, a section of the road has not yet been made, but I have asked Mr. Carrington to supply me with a rough estimate of the cost of opening a passable cart road to that point, including a bridge over a small river, which, from the nature of the banks, cannot be forded except at the mouth.

Mr. Carrington's estimate for this part of the road is £300 per mile. Beyond the Stony River, if my proposal should be carried into effect, little expenditure would be required except that derived from the sale of land, which also might be made to reimburse the Government for some or all of the monies already expended.

I have, &c.,  
H. R. RICHMOND,  
Superintendent.

The Hon. the Minister for Colonial Defence, Wellington.

Enclosure 1 in No. 7.

STATEMENT of Contracts entered into for work on the South Road.

Date of Contract.	No. of Contract.	Name of Contractors.	Price.	Nature of Contract.	Amount necessary to complete contract.	Remarks.
April 7, 1865	38	J. Antony Kingcome and Langman.	9d. 1s.	Earth cuttings and embankments	£560	J. Antony gave up this contract; it was then let to Kingcome & Langman. This contract cannot be finished until the bridge over the Oakuru is built, the earth being required to complete the embankment on the other side. This will cost £260, and that amount is included in this statement.
May 7, 1865	40	Chislett and Clemenson, Lethbridge and Autridge, H. Thomson	9d. 1s. 10d.	Do.	85	Let to Chislett & Clemenson, who abandoned the work; then let to Lethbridge and Autridge, who did not complete it in proper time, and it was then let to H. Thomson to finish.
Dec. 2, 1865	65 and 66	Wright and Bulshaw	9d.	Do.	135	The framed culvert at Wenuanki stream was necessary to complete this contract. The cost is included (£35.)
Jan. 7, 1866		J. Bailly	$9\frac{3}{4}$ d.	Completing and cutting embankments at the Tapuae bridge	300	The bridge cannot be used until the embankments and approaches are completed. The timber required for the approaches is estimated to cost £100, which amount is included in this statement.
					£1080	

O. CARRINGTON,  
Chief Surveyor.

Survey Office, New Plymouth, 7th February, 1866.

Enclosure 2 in No. 7.

STATEMENT of further expenditure required to complete the South Road from New Plymouth to Ahu Ahu.

NATURE OF WORK.	ESTIMATED COST.	REMARKS.
Bridges at Oakura .. .. .	£500	To cross the valley of this river in the winter time, by the present road, is a matter of great difficulty, and it has been found a serious obstruction to military operations.