

7. The opening of roads by felling, culverting, &c., through Native lands recently leased by the Public Trustee, and lying between Opunake and Moutoti, and between the Waiweranui and Hangatahua (Stony River) Streams. The estimated cost of these works is £1,650.

I also beg to draw your attention to the hardships experienced by settlers who have purchased land on or near the East Road, in Block III., Ngaere district, by no bridge being as yet erected over the Kahouri Stream. Some years since a sum of £800 was placed upon the estimates for this work, but the vote was allowed to lapse. In consequence of the present low cost of timber and other materials, and also of skilled labour, I am of opinion that a bridge and approaches could now be constructed for about £500, and it is probable that a portion of this cost would be borne by the Road Board, the School Commissioners, and by the owners of blocks of land east of the confiscation boundary-line purchased from the Natives. Were this bridge erected I believe the settlers would be able to do the minor works themselves.

I have been well supported in the road-work by the overseer, Mr. R. Stanners. I cannot speak too highly of his conduct, or of the manner in which he has worked—in many cases during the summer months over seventy hours a week, and in the winter attending to his duties regardless of weather.

G. F. ROBINSON, Crown Lands Ranger.

ANNUAL RETURN OF COST OF OPENING UP ROADS through Crown Lands in the TARANAKI and WEST COAST LAND DISTRICTS for the Year ending 30th June, 1884.

Name of Road.	District.	Cost of Felling.			Cost of Culverting.			Totals.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tariki ¹ ...	Huiroa ...	202	16	3	...	...	...	202	16	3
Opunake ² ...	Kaupokonui ...	325	0	0	190	16	7	515	16	7
Skeet ³ ...	" ...	93	17	0	44	0	6	137	17	6
Manaia ⁴ ...	" ...	84	13	11	23	9	7	108	3	6
Duthie ⁵ ...	" ...	121	3	0	50	5	4	171	8	4
Hastings ⁶ ...	" ...	344	9	3	27	2	8	371	11	11
Oeo ⁷ ...	" ...	200	18	11	58	12	4	259	11	3
Palmer ⁸ ...	" ...	213	10	4	112	16	0	326	6	4
Finnerty ⁹ ...	" ...	45	5	3	13	1	2	58	6	5
Rowan ¹⁰ ...	" ...	347	8	1	...	...	...	347	8	1
Mangawhero ¹¹ ...	" ...	185	6	5	...	...	...	185	6	5
Ronald ¹² ...	" ...	183	9	11	...	...	...	183	9	11
Wiremu ¹³ ...	" ...	117	9	0	...	...	...	117	9	0
Eltham ¹⁴ ...	Kaupokonui and Opunake	34	16	5	858	2	2	892	18	7
Patiki ¹⁵ ...	Oeo and Opunake	55	13	3	247	19	0	303	12	3
Rama ¹⁶ ...	Waimate	28	19	11	...	...	...	28	19	11
Omuturangi ¹⁷ ...	"	...	...	...	112	8	5	112	8	5
Taikatu ¹⁸ ...	"	201	17	2	...	...	...	201	17	2
Tempsky ¹⁹ ...	"	67	19	7	97	11	0	165	10	7
Katetauru ²⁰ ...	"	...	...	...	68	18	0	68	18	0
Kokiri ²¹ ...	"	168	5	2	201	16	3	370	1	5
Glenn ²² ...	"	193	6	0	49	18	5	243	4	5
Fraser ²³ ...	"	...	...	...	75	14	1	75	14	1
Nopera ²⁴ ...	Hawera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kiri ²⁵ ...	Oeo	59	13	7	...	...	...	59	13	7
Watino ²⁶ ...	Opunake	155	7	8	...	...	...	155	7	8
Ihaia ²⁷ ...	"	284	17	0	...	...	...	284	17	0
Kaweora ²⁸ ...	"	237	15	7	...	...	...	237	15	7
Waiteika ²⁹ ...	"	277	9	4	...	...	...	277	9	4
Motoroa ³⁰ ...	"	465	14	4	...	...	...	465	14	4
Miscellaneous ³¹ ...	Wairoa	...	...	...	198	0	0	198	0	0
Totals	...	4,697	2	4	2,430	11	6	7,565	6	6

REMARKS.—¹ Felling road from Block-line II. and VI., Huiroa, to Waitara River. ² Felling road from Punehu Village Settlement to Rowan Road, and culverting from Manaia Road towards Rowan Road. ³ Felling road from Oeo Stream to Patiki Road, also culverting the same. ⁴ Felling road from Opunake Road to Forest Reserve, also culverting. ⁵ Felling and culverting road in Block VIII., Kaupokonui. ⁶ Felling road in Block IX., Kaupokonui, and culverting in Block XIII. ⁷ Felling and culverting road in Block VII., Kaupokonui. ⁸ Ditto, Block VIII. ⁹ Felling road in Blocks VII. and XI., Kaupokonui. ¹⁰ Ditto, Block X., Kaupokonui. ¹¹ Ditto, Block V., Ngaire and VIII., Kaupokonui. ¹² Ditto, Block IX., Kaupokonui. ¹³ Culverting between Auroa Road and Opunake, also draining and forming near Opunake. ¹⁴ Felling road in Block XI., Opunake, and draining and forming between Skeet Road and Railway Reserve. ¹⁵ Balance of road-felling, Main Road to Skeet Road. ¹⁶ Culverting Main South Road to Oeo Road. ¹⁷ Felling road from Main South Road to Skeet Road. ¹⁸ Balance of felling and culverting road from Hastings Road to Palmer Road. ¹⁹ Formation from Normanby Road towards Skeet Road. ²⁰ Felling and culverting road from Normanby Road to Skeet Road. ²¹ Felling and part culverting road from Main South Road to Skeet Road. ²² Felling road in Blocks II., Hawera, and XIV., Ngaere. ²³ Felling road, Main South Road to Skeet Road. ²⁴ Felling road through Block IX., Opunake. ²⁵ Felling road from Main South Road to Eltham Road. ²⁶ Ditto in Block X., Opunake. ²⁷ Ditto, and XII., Opunake. ²⁸ Formation in Block III., Wairoa, and Block IV., Omahini. ²⁹ Grassing roads, £158 7s. 5d.; sundries, £7 15s. 6d.; supervision, £271 9s. 9d.