

1885.
NEW ZEALAND.

CROWN LANDS FOR FUTURE SETTLEMENT.

(STATEMENT OF AREAS AND LOCALITIES.)

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

MEMORANDUM for the Hon. the MINISTER of LANDS.

REFERRING to the question of opening Crown lands for future settlement, the accompanying statement of areas and localities will show in what direction efforts should be made to keep up a supply of suitable Crown lands for selection in districts throughout the colony,

JAMES McKERROW,

General Survey Office, Wellington, 20th July, 1885.

Surveyor-General.

CROWN LANDS already AVAILABLE for SETTLEMENT, or which could easily be made so by Survey and opening of Road-lines.

AUCKLAND.		Acres.	
1. North of Hokianga	20,000	Hilly bush land, with good valleys, very well adapted for fruit-growing and dairy-farms, from twelve to twenty miles from Herd's Point, Hokianga, by bridle-track, which could be made a good dray-road. Steamer once a week from Herd's Point to Auckland.
2. Head of Kaihu Valley, Maunganui Bluff, and Waiuku plateau		100,000	About 8,000 acres open, the rest bush with some valuable kauri. The most accessible part of this country, including the open, is withheld for the purpose of being given to the promoters of the Kaihu Railway from Dargaville. The country is very well adapted for small settlers. The open country is surveyed, and a good bridle-track is formed through it, on grades which will admit of widening track into dray-road. This country would have been settled on two years ago, had the land not been withheld for railway.
3. Between Kawakawa and Whangarei		100,000	A fine extent of open and wooded country, includes the extensive and valuable kauri forest of Puhipuhi. A good road, recently formed runs through from Whangarei to Kawakawa. Gum-digging is a principal industry. There is room for a large accession of settlers in this district, which is particularly well adapted for fruit-growing.
4. West of Huntly and Churchill, Waikato		100,000	Hilly bush country, suitable for settlers occupying 50 to 600 acres; road-lines surveyed in from Huntly and Churchill, and bridle-tracks formed. A few thousand acres surveyed, and settlers gradually going in.
5. South of Maketu and in and towards Rotorua		50,000	Open fern country, 20,000 acres surveyed, and cart-road formed through land; land suitable for holdings of 100 to 1,000 acres. It is all withheld at present, and for the last two years, in connection with proposed Tauranga-Rotorua Railway.
6. North of Gisborne, Waimata and Arikahi		40,000	Open and woodland country, very well adapted for arable and pastoral farms of about 600 acres and upwards. Road formed into the Waimata Block, but not into the Arikahi.
7. South of Gisborne, on road-line Gisborne to Wairoa, Hawke's Bay		40,000	Open country with bush in gullies, about one-fourth suitable for farms under 300 acres, remainder in larger holdings up to, say, 2,000 acres. Several thousand acres surveyed and now open for selection.
Total for Auckland ..		450,000	
TARANAKI.			
8. Near Opunake, Eltham Road		20,000	Level bush land, from six to fifteen miles from Opunake by a level line of road, which requires more formation for winter-traffic. The land is at present withheld for special settlements.
Behind Mount Egmont and mostly east of railway-line, and in the Waitara Valley		100,000	Bush land, very well adapted for small settlers, but requires roads to open it out.
Total for Taranaki ..		120,000	