1896. NEW ZEALAND.

MAORI POPULATION CENSUS OF THE

(PAPERS RELATING TO).

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

No. 1.

CIRCULAR TO ENUMERATORS.

Department of Justice, Wellington, 9th December, 1895. I am directed by the Hon. the Native Minister to inform you that you have been appointed an enumerator for the purpose of taking a census of the Maori population, and of all half-castes living as members of a Maori tribe, in the counties noted in the margin, inclusive of interior boroughs, and you are authorised to nominate such sub-enumerators as you may consider necessary to enable an accurate census to be taken of the Maori population in the district for which you are responsible. It is considered that the several counties should be the census districts, and probably one sub-enumerator had better be appointed for each county. The remuneration authorised for sub-enumerators not already in Government employ is 15s. per day, which must include all expenses of travelling. In cases where policemen are employed, they will be allowed 2s. 6d. a day with actual travelling-expenses.

You will be good enough to place yourself in communication with officers of districts adjoining your own, and arrange with them so that there will be no possibility of any Maoris being omitted from the census, or numbered more than once. You are authorised to seek the co-operation of any officers in the Government service, whose aid or information would be of value; and it is desired

that you should use your best endeavours to make the census as accurate as possible.

Books containing blank forms, on which the results of the census should be taken down by the sub-enumerators, are herewith supplied to you, to which I am to request that you will be good enough to adhere as far as possible. It will be your duty as enumerator to make up from the sub-enumerators' books a summary for your whole district, according to the printed form entitled "Enumerator's Summary," copies of which are herewith enclosed.

It is considered that the Maori census cannot be taken in the same manner as the European

census on one particular night, but it is desirable that it should be taken within as short a period of time as possible—say, the third week of February. You will then have the opportunity during the remainder of the month of February and month of March of carefully examining the returns, communicating with enumerators in other districts, and correcting any errors or omissions before forwarding the returns completed to this office, which should be done as soon as possible after the 5th of April next.

I have to request that you will accompany your returns with a report on the increase or decrease of the Natives within your district since the last census was taken, remarking also upon the general state of health of the Natives, any disease or epidemic which may have visited them, and supplying any other information bearing on the statistics of the Maori population which you I am, &c., C. J. A. Haselden, Under-Secretary. may consider of interest.

No. 2.

Mr. CLENDON, S.M., to the DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, Russell, 1st April, 1896. SIR.-I have the honour, in accordance with your request, to report on the state of the Natives in the northern counties, as follows:-

1—Н. 13в.

That, after a careful enumeration, I find the numbers in the six northern counties to be as

			 		2,461
			 		1,825
			 		1,616
			 		912
			 		657
			 		565
Making a total of			 	,	8,036

From the absence of any data in this office regarding the last Maori census, I am unable to make any comparison with the former enumeration; but I believe in 1885 the numbers were somewhere about 8,000.

There has been in a few places a distinct reticence in affording information to the enumerators, especially regarding the number of stock and area of cultivations, alleging as a reason that they were fearful lest they should be taxed upon these possessions.

In some settlements there is a noticeable decrease of the population, whilst in others there is a marked increase in the families. This may in a measure be accounted for from the fact of the Natives continually changing their residences from one place to another.

Their principal occupation is gum-digging. The return will show a very small percentage exercising agricultural and pastoral pursuits amongst them.

Their health has been fairly good during the past three or four years. There has been, as must be expected, cases of sickness in these settlements at times, of which low fever is the most prevalent; but these cases have been very few as compared with the numbers of the population. Their habit of camping in low, swampy places during the gum-digging season has also caused several cases of consumption or catarrh amongst them.

In some districts they have engaged in timber-felling and cross-cutting, but these instances are few as compared with their former occupation in this way. The labour being hard is now generally left for their European neighbours, whilst they betake themselves to the easier and, to

them, more congenial work of collecting kauri-gum.

The instances of crime amongst them for the past years have been very few, and their breaches of the law have seldom gone beyond petty larceny; but in a few instances their repugnance to the dog-registration tax has led to their being fined, and, in some twelve or fourteen instances of obstinate refusal, to imprisonment. Taken upon the whole, their behaviour has been peaceable and good.

The late Mangatoa difficulty is distinctly traceable to the counsels emanating from Te Whiti, at Parihaka, and this, together with the ambition of the leader, Hone Toia, to make a name for himself, evidently induced him to inculpate himself in various suspicious ways. Upon this matter I

need not expatiate, as the whole circumstance has already been laid before you.

Ĭ have, &c.,

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

James C. Clendon, Stipendiary Magistrate.

No. 3.

Mr. Bush, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Memorandum for the Under-Secretary.

THE return gives for Waitemata County a total of 261 persons, being 98 male and 75 female adults, 7 individuals whose ages and sex are unspecified, and 49 males and 32 females under the age of fifteen. In the adults, 12 males and 7 females are half-castes.

For Rodney County, the total is 193, made up as follows: males 73, females 60, including 14 male and 8 female half-castes all adults, and 34 males and 26 females under the age of fifteen.

For Otamatea County the total is 264: being 119 males, 61 females, including 27 male and 15 female half-castes, and 33 male and 51 females under the age of fifteen.

The grand total for the three counties is 718, consisting of 391 males, 285 females, with 27

male and 15 female half-castes.

It will be seen that the male adults are more numerous than the females, and that the male children are less in number than either the adult males or females, while the female children are in the same position. The adults exceed the children by 261. The health of the Natives since the last census has been fairly good, and they appear to be in comfortable circumstances, although, no doubt, the long duration of dry weather will affect their plantations, and probably there will be a scarcity of food this winter through failure of the crops. Regarding their health, the Natives of the Waitemata County do not appear to have suffered from any epidemic since the last census, while those of Rodney and Otamatea have suffered from measles and low fever, which caused a few deaths amongst the very old and the young, beyond this they seem not to have been visited by any serious disease. The Native population of these counties is more or less migratory, as it is chiefly a gum-digging one, which, no doubt, accounts for the increase in the Rodney County.

A few Natives appear to have been twice returned, which error has been rectified (see Book 2,

pages 7 to 9 for Waitemata, page 8 for Rodney, and page 9 for Otamatea).

The migratory nature of the population, no doubt, accounts for the small area of crops.

Magistrate's Office, Auckland, 7th March, 1896.

R. Bush, S R. Bush, S.M.

No. 4.

Mr. W. H. GRACE to the DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE.

Sir,— Kihikihi, 11th April, 1896.

I have the honour herewith to send you my enumerator's summary, and under another cover the books of the returns taken by the sub-enumerators. I will, in the course of a few days,

send you my report.

You will see, from the summary I send you, that the total population in the district given to me—that is, the Counties of Kawhia, Raglan, Waipa, Waikato, Piako, Manukau, Eden, Coromandel, Thames, Ohinemuri, and the islands adjacent, which include Waiheke, Great and Little Barrier—is 6,721.

I should perhaps tell you that I also, by arrangement, took the northern end of the Clifton County, as it could be worked from here far more easily and with saving of expense than from New Plymouth. The returns for which I forwarded immediately on receiving same to Mr. Fisher, the

enumerator for that district.

I would here respectfully point out that in future the northern end of West Taupo County should be made part of this district, as it cuts right into the Kawhia and Waipa Counties, and interferes greatly with the proper working of the two latter counties, besides which a saving in expense would be made.

I have, &c.,
W. H. Grace,

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

W. H. GRACE, Enumerator for the Maori Census.

Sir,— Kihikihi, 17th April, 1896.

Having completed my returns of the Maori census for the district allotted to me, and having forwarded to you my enumerator's summary with the census books, I have now, in compliance with your instructions, the honour to report that the work of taking the census has not been by any means an easy task, especially in those parts of the district where the Maori King has influence. It appears that quite lately he caused a census to be taken of the Maoris in all those localities where he presumes to rule, and the sub-enumerators in those parts found great difficulty in obtaining the information they wanted, and were invariably told that Mahuta, "The Maori King," had already taken a census of the people, and therefore no other was required, consequently they refused to give any particulars respecting themselves, their stock, and crops, &c. In other parts some Natives refused to give any information, being under the impression that the Government wished to ascertain the number of stock they owned for taxing purposes, and that their cattle and pigs would be taxed in the same manner as their sheep were, and also because it was only lately that enumerators went amongst them collecting information for the agricultural statistics, and they could not understand why the information respecting their stock and crops should again be required.

I should here inform you that the printed circulars in the Maori language, issued by you on the 3rd February last for distribution amongst the Natives, a number of which were intended for me, were addressed to Mr Wilkinson, at Otorohanga, who was away in lower Waikato on land-purchase work at the time they reached their destination, the result being that I did not receive them until after the census-work was finished, and therefore were no help to me and my sub-enumerators, for which I am very sorry, as I believe had the Natives received them before the sub-enumerators went amongst them many doubts as to the object of the census being taken would have been removed.

Had it not been for the personal knowledge of the sub-enumerators, for in every case but one I appointed as sub-enumerators men who were resident in the district allotted to each and well acquainted with the Natives therein, and also with the assistance of some exceptions amongst the Maoris, the work would have been far more difficult. However, taking all things into consideration, I believe everything has been done to make the returns as complete as possible, the sub-enumerators having done their best to make them correct.

In the Piako County and the southern half of the Waikato County, where Mahuta and the chiefs under him reside, Mr. Sub-Enumerator Runciman had much trouble, and was everywhere refused any information whatever. He was told wherever he went that none would be given unless with the permission of those in power, so Mr. Runciman went and interviewed some of Mahuta's chiefs with the hope of getting the required permission, but he was disappointed.

Respecting the appointments of sub-enumerators, I have somewhat exceeded the number suggested in your letter of instructions—namely, one sub-enumerator to each county—but I feel

sure that the work could not have been properly done with so small a number.

The short time between my appointment as enumerator and the time for taking the census was a cause of some anxiety to me, as it left me so little time for appointing subenumerators, and I found it so, especially in the case of the district allotted to Mr Runciman. It was my endeavour to appoint a good, intelligent Native or half-caste resident in that district and living amongst the Maoris, but no one would undertake the duties. Under the circumstances, I consider I was most fortunate in procuring the services of Mr Runciman, for he is the only European I know of who is well acquainted with the Natives in that district, and who would undertake the work for the remuneration offered. I also had some trouble in getting suitable subenumerators for Eden County and for Great Barrier Island, and I must here render my special thanks to Mr. George Brown, interpreter, of Auckland, who was instrumental in my being able to appoint sub-enumerators for those two districts. The trouble with Eden was on account of the pay being considered insufficient by those to whom the position was offered, and that with the Great Barrier was owing to the person who had previously taken the census having died, and also on account of there being only one mail a week to that place, and I was placed in some-

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what of a dilemma as to how I could possibly get some one on the island to undertake the duties before the time arrived for taking the census. Mr. Brown, however, as I have stated, overcame the difficulty for me.

The sub-enumerators all report very little sickness amongst the Natives at the time they visited them, and from all that I can learn the death-rate does not appear to have been greater than in the past. The greater number of deaths appear to have been amongst the old people, and I have to record the deaths of some of the old and most influential chiefs who were most prominent during the troublous times, and just subsequent when negotiations for so many years were being carried on for the amicable settlement of the Native difficulty. Amongst those whose deaths I have to record are, first and foremost, Tawhiao, otherwise known as "The Maori King," although he was not what might be called a shrewd and clever Native, nor was he one of the turbulent kind, still, he was the type of the true old Maori Rangatira, and when he would not altogether come under our pakeha rule, he did so out of no dislike to us, but for what he thought was his right, and good of his people, and, although most of his chiefs forsook him one by one and took Government pensions, he remained firm to his convictions to the last. About three months before Tawhiao's death Rewi Maniapoto passed over to the great majority. He was the head of the Ngatimaniapoto Tribe, and also a great chief of the Ngatiraukawa, being over eighty years of age when he died; and perhaps I am quite right in saying he was the most prominent man prior to and during the Waikato war, and, indeed, subsequently, for it was not until only a short time before his death that he gave up taking an active part in matters affecting his people. On his death-bed his last exhortation to his people was, "Show kindness at all times to your pakeha neighbours, and whenever any disputes arise settle them amicably, submitting to the law and authority of the Queen."

One of the next to follow was Te Ngakau, a chief of the Ngatihaua Tribe, of which William Thomson, "The King Maker," as he was called, was the head chief. Te Ngakau was a fine specimen of his race, and about as clever and perhaps cunning a Native as I ever knew. He was Tawhiao's right-hand man when Sir George Grey and the late Hon. John Sheehan met the Kingite Natives at the big meeting held at Kopua in 1879. From appearances at the time it seemed that he, Te Ngakau, was mainly instrumental to the terms offered by Sir George Grey not being accepted. For some years prior to his death he took no part in politics. Another chief whom I should mention as having died within the last five years is Taonui, one of the highest in rank of the Ngatimaniapoto Tribe, a man of a kind and inoffensive disposition, although with a considerable amount of determination; he was highly respected by all who knew him, and took a leading part in throwing open to the pakeha, the country now called the Rohe-potae, but formerly known as the King-country. Last, I would mention the death of Major Te Wheoro, a chief of the lower Waikatos, well known to most Europeans, who, during the Waikato war, fought on the side of Her Majesty the Queen, and for some years sat in

Parliament as representative of the Western Maori Electoral District.

During the year 1895 influenza was somewhat prevalent, and was the cause of some deaths, especially amongst the old and very young people, but otherwise there has been no serious outbreak of any epidemic. There were a few cases of a mild form of low fever about Otorohanga and Te Kuiti, in the Kawhia County, last autumn, but I am not aware of any deaths therefrom excepting in one instance.

The Natives in the district allotted to me seem to be fairly industrious, and in the Kawhia County a good many seem to be devoting more attention to the raising of stock, especially since the Native Land Court has not been sitting so continuously, thereby enabling them to devote more time to industrial pursuits. Only four cases of persons being destitute have been reported to me, and those in the settlements called Te Waiu, Matahuru, and Ruahine, situate in the northern end of the Waikato County, the persons being very old and two of them blind. enumerator found them in a most deplorable condition, and is sure that, if not provided with

food and clothing, they cannot live through the coming winter.

You will see by the summary of the returns I have prepared, and have already sent to you, that the total number of the Maori population in the district allotted to me is 6,721, which, when compared with the total number for the same district in 1891, shows a decrease of 934 persons. This decrease I do not consider can be fully relied on; there is a decrease I have no doubt of, but not of so large a number. I am of opinion that, owing to the action of the Kingite Natives in the Counties of Waikato and Piako, the returns for those counties cannot be taken as correct. At last census these two counties were returned with a population of 565 and 846 respectively, this time with 324 and 290 each. There is no doubt there has been a considerable decrease in the Piako County, owing to the railway-works being finished, on which a number of Natives were employed, but not to so great a number as above shown. It is my belief that a large number of Maoris were so scattered—gum-digging in the swamps and in out-of-the-way places, grass-seed gathering, and harvesting for European farmers-that their whereabouts could not all be ascertained by the subenumerator unless their relatives and friends in the settlements and camps visited would condescend to give the required information; besides, it is well known a considerable number have left the district for the gumfields North of Auckland. The sub-enumerator informs me that many settlements he visited were practically deserted, and at Maungakawa, the principal and the largest settlement in those parts, where the Maori King and his Government reside, there were not more than a dozen people, so that the above conclusion may be taken as fairly correct.

The decrease is accounted for partially in many other ways, and I will refer to some. First, Te Kooti and all his followers, numbering some two hundred, and comprised of people from all the tribes resident to the eastward of this district, and extending as far as Poverty Bay and Hawke's Bay, removed about four years ago to the East Coast, he (Te Kooti) dying soon after his arrival there. Second, from the fact that as no Native Land Court has been sitting at Otorohanga for a year, or nearly so, the Natives have therefore felt themselves more at liberty to leave the district: for instance, a number went to Parihaka only a few days before the taking of the census was started,

and quite a number have gone away to the gumfields North of Auckland to join relatives of theirs who have been digging gum there for some years. When the census was taken in 1891 there was and had been a Native Land Court continuously sitting on and off at Otorohanga, which was the cause of bringing a considerable number of Natives into the district from outside parts, thereby increasing the number of the Natives in this district at that time, but who now have returned to their homes, thereby causing a considerable decrease in the population. On looking at the census returns for 1891, it is there shown that there were 127 Arawa residing in the Kawhia County; these, I know, have all left with, perhaps, the exception of half a dozen. They were all followers of Te Kooti, and left the district when he did.

I will not speak of the decrease in some of the counties, as I think what I have stated respecting the decrease in the whole census district practically explains how the decreases in the counties

have been caused.

I would here respectfully point out for your information that the north end of the Taupo West County lies between the Waipa and Kawhia Counties, being a long narrow wedge-shaped piece, and should really be part of this census district, greatly interfering with the proper working of the two last-named counties, and if included in this district would be a considerable saving of expense.

In conclusion, I would like to record my thanks to the sub-enumerators who worked under me for the manner in which they carried out their duties, and especially to those who were embarrassed by the attitude taken up towards them by the Maoris, and I have every confidence that they did all

they could to make their census returns as complete as possible.

I have, &c., W. H. GRACE,

Enumerator for the Maori Census.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice. Wellington.

No. 5.

Colonel Roberts to the Department of Justice.

Tauranga, 6th April, 1896. SIR,-I have the honour, in compliance with instructions contained in your letter of 9th December, 1895, to forward herewith enumerator's summary of the Maori census, 1896, compiled from the

returns furnished by the sub-enumerators appointed for the Counties of Tauranga and adjacent islands, Whakatane, Rotorua, and East and West Taupo.

I am unable to report definitely on the increase or decrease, for I have no recorded data to compare with, but, from a general supervision of the Natives, I am of opinion that they are not decreasing. During last winter a considerable number of them suffered from a kind of low fever throughout the district generally, and some of the cases ended fatally. Medical assistance was rendered when considered necessary. At present there is no unusual sickness amongst them.

The Natives in several settlements appear to be more industrious, and are generally acquiring

European habits in their mode of living, especially in the erection of dwellings: for instance, at Waitangi, near Te Puke, several small but well-built sawn-timber cottages have been erected, which gives the settlement quite a civilised appearance. Some of them take contracts for ploughing and other agricultural work, and are fairly supplied with modern implements. In some instances they rent land from Europeans for cropping purposes. At Tauranga there is a fife-anddrum band and a brass band, consisting entirely of Native members.

Although a considerable area of land has been planted during the season the returns are likely to be unusually light, owing to the dry summer, and I would not be surprised if in some cases there

should be a scarcity of potatoes.

Most of the sub-enumerators have reported that they had great difficulty in obtaining the information required, as the Natives were very reticent, unwilling, and particularly suspicious. They stated the Government had some ulterior project in view, and the prevailing idea is that the information is wanted for taxation purposes.

The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, passed last session, prohibiting the sale of liquor, &c., to Native females, is being carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the result is very marked as regards their general conduct and behaviour when contrasted with the past.

I have, &c.,

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

J. M. ROBERTS, S.M.

No. 6.

Mr. Booth, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Magistrate's Court Office, Gisborne, 5th May, 1896. I have the honour herewith to forward census returns of the Maori population in the SIR,-Counties of Waiapu and Cook. You will see by the accompanying sheet that there has been a slight increase in the population since 1891—viz., in the County of Waiapu, 166; in the County of Cook, 76; half-castes, County of Cook, 58; half-castes, Waiapu, decrease, 22.

You will also notice the disparity between males and females: In Waiapu—Males in excess, 80; under fifteen, males in excess, 32; half-castes, males in excess, 12. In Cook County—Males in excess, 141; under fifteen, males in excess, 35; half-castes, males in excess, 27.

The general health of the Natives is at this time very good, but since the census was taken in 1891 we have had two epidemics, one of tyhoid fever, and one of influenza, which were fatal to a very large number of Natives, the majority being youths and children.

In crops and sheep there is a slight increase in both counties.

As a rule, the Natives are very comfortably off. Most of the young and middle-aged men find occupation on the different farms in the district, in bush-falling, sheep-shearing, grass-seed cutting, &c., at which they make good wages, and many of them are now successful sheep-farmers.

Native schools are well attended, and seem to be very popular.

I am, &c.,

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

J. BOOTH, S.M.

No. 7.

Mr. Turnbull, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Magistrate's Office, Napier, 27th April, 1896. SIR,-

I have the honour to inform you that, in compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 9th December last, a census of the Maori population for the districts comprising the Counties of Wairoa, Hawke's Bay, Waipawa, and Patangata, was taken during the latter weeks in February and first week in March last, and I now beg to forward herewith my summary thereof as enumerator for the above-named districts.

From the scattered nature of the settlements in the district, I found it necessary to appoint more than one sub-enumerator for each county, and, with one exception, I am of opinion that the sub-enumerators have done their work satisfactorily.

With regard to the computation of the Native population, I do not doubt the substantial accuracy of the figures arrived at, but as to the cultivations and stock, owing to the opposition of the Natives in most cases, I do not consider that the figures can be accepted as accurate.

In reference to your request for a report on the increase or decrease of the Maoris in my district since the last census was taken, I have to inform you that in the absence of any records in this office of the last census I am unable to furnish the information asked for.

As regards the general health of the Natives and the other matters alluded to by you, I append

extracts from the sub-enumerators' reports so far as they have been furnished.

I have to add that, generally speaking, the Natives showed considerable reluctance in giving any information, and absolutely refused to do so in many cases; but I understand that the subenumerators were able to obtain the information required fairly accurately from other sources.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

I have, &c., A. Turnbull, S.M.

EXTRACTS from the REPORTS of Sub-Enumerators for Maori Census, 1896, for the Counties of Wairoa, Hawke's Bay, Waipawa, and Patangata. Mr. Deighton, sub-enumerator for part of Wairoa County, states:—

"Matiti Settlement.—The Natives of this kainga have decreased considerably, but principally

through natural causes. Their crops are very much blighted by drought.
"Pakowhai and Ramoto Settlements have been visited by a great deal of sickness, through epidemic of influenza, fever, and other ailments. Their crops are likewise very much blighted; in fact, much of it is a total failure.

"Rangi Ahua Settlement.—Suffering the same as others through the continued drought. Are

in a healthy condition, and have been free from epidemics.
"Arimawha Settlement.—The cultivations are the same as others above mentioned. Their

condition appears healthy, having been comparatively free from epidemics.

"Waikare-moana Settlements.—The cultivations are very small as to extent, and are suffering from drought, but not as much as other settlements mentioned. As regards the health of these Natives, there has been a large mortality among them since last census, having been visited by numerous epidemics. The elder people appear to be healthy, but the children do not have the appearance of strong constitutions. The principal deaths have occurred among the children and young people.
"Mohaka.—This settlement appears in a healthy condition, not having had any severe

epidemics. The crops appear to be suffering from drought.

"Waikare, Arapawanui, and Tangoio.—These settlements appear in a healthy condition, not having been visited by any serious illnesses. Their crops are also suffering from drought."

Mr. Flint, sub-enumerator for part of Wairoa County, states: "I made careful inquiries about the health of the Maoris in the different settlements, and find that fever, whooping-cough, asthma, and old age have taken away a great many since the last census was taken. I attribute the cause of their trouble to want of cleanliness. The dry season has almost destroyed their crops, and I anticipate that during the winter they will be short of food. I was particularly impressed at the small percentage of young children in the district, and believe that the race is gradually decaying.

Mr. Richardson, sub-enumerator for Petane Riding and part of Wairoa County, states:

"The paucity of children and old people, especially amongst the Ngatihineuru, was very marked. On inquiry, I found the death-rate amongst children had been very heavy, which I attribute in a great measure to want of sufficient nutritious food, which would also account for the scarcity of very old people. The country they occupy is very poor.

"The Ngatikahungungu, who live at Petane, have during the last year been afflicted with an epidemic of a typhoid character which proved fatal in a great many cases—want of sanitation, and indifferent water-supply, would probably account for this. There were no cases at the time of my visit. These people have considerable cultivations of maize, oats, potatoes, with patches of

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kumaras, pumpkins, melons, &c. With the exception of potatoes (which are a partial failure owing to the very dry season), the crops are looking well, the oats have been harvested in excellent condition, and are now being converted into chaff, for which they have a ready sale.

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"In conclusion, the condition of the Native people in this district is not so flourishing as might

be desired, more especially in the northern part, where the food-supply is not very abundant."

Constable Rutledge, sub-enumerator for Puketapu, Meanee and Clive Ridings, County of Hawke's Bay, states: "There has been no epidemic or disease amongst the Maoris since the taking of the last census."

Constable Jones, sub-enumerator for Erewhon Riding, County of Hawke's Bay, states: "I find that in the settlements visited there has been no sickness of any kind, and there have been only two deaths in this district during 1894 and 1895, and both from natural causes—old age. There has been no epidemic since last census was taken.

Constable Brosnahan, sub-enumerator for Patangata and part of Waipawa Counties, states: "The general health of the Maoris in the settlements which I have visited is good, and no epidemic or disease has broken out amongst them since 1891."

No. 8.

Mr. T. W. FISHER to the DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE.

New Plymouth, 31st March, 1896. Sir,— I am forwarding you under separate cover returns of the several counties for which I was

appointed enumerator, vide your letter of the 9th December last.

The package contains twenty-six books, which have been used by the various sub-enumerators for their respective districts. The sub-enumerators were in all cases qualified to act, and enabled to get the fullest information obtainable, from having a direct knowledge of the district allotted them.

In the Parihaka part of the Taranaki County, as also amongst Parihakaites who were in other counties, some trouble and difficulty took place to obtain information.

The part of my district on the Mokau River was undertaken by the sub-enumerator acting under Mr. G. T. Wilkinson for his district, and also in the case of Waitotara Natives on Whanganui River, were collected by the sub-enumerator acting under Mr. H. W. Brabant for Whanganui County.

There has not been any epidemic or sickness to any extent amongst the Natives in my

districts.

I am satisfied that the returns as shown by my books, as far as population is concerned, may be considered pretty accurate. The information as to crops and sown grasses seem to be somewhat a difficult matter to arrive at. I have forwarded them as returned to me by the sub-enumerators, but I doubt if grasses returned as "sown" have really been sown down by Natives, and in cultivations I am inclined to think they are held more in common than individually.

The return for Stratford County will show a number of Natives on this occasion (and usually a Native is rarely found there), a great number of whom are from Parihaka, having been working

grass-seeding and fungus-gathering for some time past.

The immediate vicinity of Parihaka will, I assume, show a considerable decrease on the previous census, owing to a great number having of late years returned to their various homes; and the subenumerator for Clifton County advises me a difference of some extent will be found there, owing to the number of strangers who on last occasion were there-mostly Parihakaites-who have now I have, &c., THOMAS W. FISHER, returned to their various settlements.

Reserves Agent, West Coast Settlement Reserves.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

No. 9.

Mr. Brabant, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

SIR,— Magistrate's Office, Whanganui, 16th May, 1896. I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with your instructions, I have taken a census of the Maori population in the Counties of Whanganui, Rangitikei, Oroua, Kiwitea, Pohangina, Manawatu, and Horowhenua, and I enclose herewith the enumerator's summary of the same.

I have on this occasion had considerable difficulty in taking the census owing to the want of co-operation, and in some cases active obstruction, of the Natives themselves, and the difficulty of finding sub-enumerators capable of acting in the face of such obstruction. I believe, however, that after considerable delay the Maori census in these counties is now as correct and complete as it is possible to make it. The summary I send shows that there are now more Natives in these counties taken together than there were in 1891, and that in this district the Maori population is not decreasing. The Counties of Rangitikei, Oroua, and Manawatu, it is true, show a decrease, but I have ascertained that a number of Natives who were returned last census in Rangitikei are now in Whanganui, and that some who in 1891 resided in Manawatu and Oroua are now in Horowhenua. This partly accounts for the increase in the latter county; but I think I should draw special attention to the apparent increase in the number of half-castes.

At Otaki Europeans and Natives are living in the same township, and it is difficult to say to which side some of the half-castes belong. When I saw the number returned on the Maori side I

directed my sub-enumerator to go over them again, but he informed me that they themselves claimed to be members of the Native tribe. I suspect, however, though I have not returns to refer to, that a number of them were included in the European census in 1891.

Probably you will think proper to draw the Registrar-General's attention to this, so that these

people may not be enumerated twice over.

The Natives along the West Coast continue to visit Te Whiti's settlement at Parihaka from time to time. I have, &c.,

HERBERT W. BRABANT, S.M.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

No. 10.

Mr. Hutchison, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Masterton, 16th April, 1896. Sir,—

I have the honour to transmit herewith the results of the Native census taken by me in the Counties of Wairarapa South, Wairarapa North, and Pahiatua. The books of the sub-enumerator for Wairarapa South have been collated with those of the sub-enumerator for the adjoining (Hutt) district; but it has been found to be impracticable to do likewise with those of the Pahiatua County, for the reason that, as Mr. Turnbull informs me, no names have been taken by the sub-enumerator at Woodville. I am satisfied of the accuracy of my sub-enumerators count in Pahiatua

In the absence of any system of compulsory registration no accurate information is obtainable of the birth- and death-rates respectively of the Natives during the past five years; and it is a matter for the consideration of Government whether such a system might not now be brought into operation in the Wairarapa, or some parts of it. Nor have I any data upon which to institute a comparison between the results of the present and the last-preceding census; but observation seems to show that the Native population of the Wairarapa is stationary, if not actually decreasing; and, when it is taken into consideration that no epidemic or other extraordinary cause has been at work to reduce their numbers, the reasonable conclusion is that the tendency is in the direction of a

No epidemic, as I have just said, has of late years visited the Natives of the Wairarapa, but a liability to those diseases which are statistically classed as "diseases of the respiratory organs" lies upon them. This is, perhaps, largely the result of the insanitary conditions under which they still live; for although, especially in Central Wairarapa and (but to a less extent) in the Pahiatua County, the standard of living is high—the Natives are better housed and clothed than in former times—practically hygiene is unknown, or its principles are neglected. The raupo whare has given place to the wooden building, but the evils of overcrowding and promiscuous living still remain. The settlements are, probably, more cleanly than they once were; but the Native has yet no adequate conception of the necessity of getting rid of the excretions and waste matters incident to his living.

While outwardly the Natives appear to be in comfortable—in some cases affluent—circumstances, closer observation shows that, as a rule, they are not industrious, but, on the contrary, dislike work. With few exceptions they follow no regular employment. Some few might be classed as sheep-farmers; a number of the young men go out shearing once a year; but, for the most part, the cultivation of a potato patch and the keeping of a pig or two seem to satisfy the Natives' inclination for work. The lavish hospitality freely given by Hamuera Tamahau Mahupuku, the leading chief at Papawai, to all may have something to do with encouraging a disinclination in the

Natives to work.

The love of horse-racing is strong in the Wairarapa Natives. A few of them possess race-horses, and it is said that the race-meetings in the Wairarapa are largely attended by Natives. The gambling, seemingly inseparable from such meetings, has also laid a strong hold on the Native, and instances are told of Natives hypothecating their rents, and selling their property, to obtain means to gratify their passion for gambling on a racecourse. The leading men among them, however, are using their power and influence to restrain this proclivity in their fellows. At a meeting at Papawai the Natives came to a resolution lately to fine any member of the settlement who went to a race-meeting.

Inebriety is not, I think, a vice of the Wairarapa Native. Drunkenness, it is true, on occasions occurs, although here, again, the influence of the leading Natives is used to discourage it; but an amenableness to law and order 18, I believe, a marked characteristic in the Wairarapa Native.

Education is not neglected. A Native school at Papawai is attended by all the Native children there within school age; and in the Pahiatua County the Natives are said to send their children to the State schools.

I attach the reports of my sub-enumerators.

I have, &c.,

T. HUTCHISON, S.M.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

Featherston, 26th February, 1896. DEAR SIR,— I have the honour to report on the state of Natives in the Wairarapa South County, as

I am unable to say positively whether the Natives are decreasing in the South County, there being some twenty or so that have come from the South Island to live here since the last census was taken. The births seem to balance the deaths, but I think it must be admitted that they are steadily decreasing.

H.-13B.

The want of proper medical aid in cases of sickness is much felt; and I would respectfully suggest, as the best way to gain this, that the Government appoint a trustworthy man or men in each settlement to pass the doctor's account, that the Natives be allowed to call in any doctor available, whose account, when passed by the appointed men, shall be paid by the Government. This would insure proper attendance, and would, I think, prove better and cheaper than appointing one or more doctors to attend them.

No epidemic has visited the district, unless influenza may be termed one. Directly or indirectly most of their deaths can be traced to it. There was an epidemic of measles about four

years ago, but I do not think any deaths were caused by it.

At Turanganui, Kohunui, Te Hapa (Awaawaroa), Kehemene, Papawai, Te Uruotane, and Te Waipoapoa the Natives have built European houses, and were it not for the fact that they crowd into them so much would be very comfortable. At other places they still have the old raupo whares.

The Natives seem to have almost entirely given up cultivating their land, as the returns will

show, and seem to depend mainly on European food, which they buy whenever possible.

They are somewhat reluctant to give the information required for the census, because they say it is being obtained in order that a tax of some sort may be imposed upon them. When told that the European census will be taken shortly they reply, "Yes; then it will be seen that we are the fewer, and we shall all be killed off by the pakehas." I think it would be almost useless for a stranger to attempt to obtain the information from them.

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE T. F. HUTTON,

Sub-Enumerator, South Wairarapa.

T. Hutchison, Esq., S.M., Masterton.

Sir,-Masterton, February, 1896. I have pleasure in forwarding you Native census returns for Wairarapa North County for the period ending with this month. I made a point of getting through the work with the least delay possible, as suggested by yourself, and completed same in eleven days from starting. I can vouch for the accuracy of the names sent in, but am unable to state whether there has been an vouch for the accuracy of the names sent in, but am unable to state whether there has been an increase or decrease since last census, not having the figures before me. The health of the Natives generally has been good. There has been no epidemic, but several Natives on the coast suffer acutely from chest complaints. They are generally well housed, and, judging from appearances, I should say well fed.

I have been asked by the Natives, as a whole, to have overtures made to the Government I have, &c., W. Iorns, Sub-Enumerator. respecting a medical officer being appointed.

Thomas Hutchison, Esq., S.M., Masterton.

Magistrate's Court, Pahiatua, 24th February, 1896. SIR,-

I am forwarding herewith the Maori census, complete, for Pahiatua County (Ngaawapurua and Tutaekara Pas), and part Wairarapa North County (Hamua Pa). I could not do the work

in less than four days, as I had to visit one pa at a time.

I have made full inquiry into the condition of the Maoris generally in this district, and find,— (1.) That on the whole the number of Natives is about the same as at last census. (2.) There has been no epidemic or disease among them, and the death-rate has only been nominal. (3.) Speaking generally, the health of the Natives is good, and the pas are well looked after and kept clean. (4.) The children are sent regularly to the public school. (5.) The Maoris at all the pas seem to be fairly industrious, and have always got plenty of food, and entertain visiting Natives a good deal. (6.) They are at the same time on extremely friendly terms with the Europeans.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM J. REEVE, Sub-Enumerator.

T. Hutchison, Esq., S.M., Masterton.

No. 11.

Mr. G. H. Davies to the Department of Justice.

Department of Justice, Wellington, 14th March, 1896. SIR,-In accordance with instructions contained in your circular and letter dated the 9th December, 1895, I have the honour to forward a return of the census of the Maori population in the Hutt County, contained in five books herewith. The total is only 4 below that of the last Hutt County, contained in five books herewith. The census, viz.: For 1891, 259; for 1896, 255: difference, 4.

This is only an apparent equality in numbers as there were several visitors in Wellington who were included in these returns. Against these, however, several Natives were absent during the specified period for taking the census, attending sittings of the Native Land Court at Otaki and elsewhere. The members, too, of the late Wi Tako's family, who formerly lived at the Waiwhetu,

have left the district, and are now living with their connections at Waikawa (Picton).

It will be noticed that the numbers of persons whose ages are over fifteen is much in excess of those under that age. This is partly explained by the fact that there appear to be a number of elderly people who live an isolated life, whilst there are several Natives who have large families of young children. At the same time, the fact that the death-rate is higher among the young than the old must not be overlooked. This would seem to indicate that the older Natives retained more vitality than the rising generation appear to possess. The health of the Natives has been generally good; there have been no epidemics amongst them. Some of the Natives have nice holdings, the produce of which is sufficient for their maintenance, surplus products finding a ready market at the European centres.

2—Н. 13в.

In my former report I drew attention to the effect that prison confinement had on our Native prisoners. After saying "that confinement such as the Native prisoners are subject to, who, while they have every possible care, kindness, and attention, pine for freedom and droop," I went on to say, "confinement to them means more than it does to their white brethren—the product of modern civilisation—and should, I venture to think, be taken into consideration when sentence is passed on them. It is not punishment in such a case, but the infliction of great cruelty." I refer to this now, again, because since the above was written there has been another death, the result, no doubt, of confinement, where the prisoner evidently lost heart, and so, giving himself up to death, moped and died. For it is well known that the same disposition is strong in the Maori which I am informed also exists amongst natives of the Islands in the South Seas. It is somewhat of the same character as the "home-sickness" of the Swiss. So intense is that feeling in those people that it is recorded that certain tunes were forbidden to be played in their hearing for fear of awakening the latent sympathetic cord, and causing them, too, "to mope and die." The existence of this malady is authenticated by equally well-known instances among other European people, though, perhaps, not to the same extent.

In dealing with problems affecting a race such as the Maori, the influence of heredity ought to be considered, and as it has been laid down as an axiom that "it is the average of the ancestors which is of chief importance," then, knowing as we do what the characteristics of the Maori ancestry must have been-warlike, fearless, generous, hospitable, lovers of freedom, and living an untrammelled life—we should make some allowance for those whose fathers, little more than fifty years ago, led a free life, and are now compelled to obey laws which to them are so re-

strictive in their operation.

If the influence and peculiarities of ancestry are transmitted to their offspring, then, knowing what their ancestors must have been, some measure of consideration should, I think, be accorded to their descendants, for our boasted civilisation is, after all, only a thin veneering, and when we find peoples to-day ready to fly at one another's throats over the wording of a congratulatory telegram, or a disputed boundary, as even a so-called savage might do, one is driven irresistibly to the conclusion that there is a striking as well as instructive similarity in racial tempers.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE H. DAVIES.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

No. 12.

Mr. Robinson, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, Nelson, 7th March, 1896. Sir,-Referring to the return of Maori census for the counties of Waimea and Collingwood

and islands adjacent, which I forward in separate envelope, I have the honour to report as

So far as I can learn, there has been no noticeable increase or decrease in the numbers of Maoris in any locality in the two counties since the last census was taken. The general health of the Natives appears to be satisfactory; on the whole also, they are in a prosperous condition. The Natives at Croixelles rear cattle, sheep, and pigs, cart and sell firewood, and work for Europeans in sawmills, &c. At Motueka some find employment at hop-picking in the season. At Wakapuaka sheep and cattle are kept in large numbers, and there is a considerable area sown in grass.

I have, &c. H. W. Robinson, S.M.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

No. 13.

Mr. Allen, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Blenheim, 19th March, 1896. Sir.— I have the honour to enclose you herewith a summary of Maori census returns for the Counties of Marlborough and Sounds, and by parcel post I have this day returned you the books of forms received, less one that has been spoiled.

I enclose you Mr. Kenny's report, and I have nothing to add. Although the greater part of his report is as to his movements while taking the census in order to show that he had done the work with as little delay as possible; still I think you will glean from his report all the information

I can give you.

Of course, the usual difficulty has been met with, viz., the objection of the Maoris to give any information, and unless I had sent some one round who was well acquainted with the Maoris in the district, the report would have been of far less value than it is in the present form.

It is, of course, incomplete and not altogether reliable, but it is as correct as it was possible to make it. Mr. Kenny has taken a great deal of trouble in the matter, and has induced natives to give information in cases where almost any one else would have failed. I enclose you Mr. Kenny's I have, &c., J. Allen, S.M. voucher acting as sub-enumerator.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

The Rocks, 14th March, 1896. SIR,— Having completed the enumeration of the Natives in the Counties of Marlborough and Sounds, I beg to report as follows:--

11 H.-13B.

I cannot express any opinions as to the "increase or decrease" of the Native population of my district, as I do not know what the numbers were when the last census was taken. I may say, however, that the numbers shown in my returns will be less than the real population, because some of the people have gone away to Land Courts, &c., while on the other hand there are but very few strangers included; indeed, I understand that with one or two exceptions all the strangers intend to reside permanently in the district. The health of the people appears to be good, as a rule; there was, however, an epidemic years ago which caused considerable mortality among them. I am of opinion that the Natives of Queen Charlotte Sound are increasing, there being a very high percentage of children under the age of 15 years. These children, as a rule, appear to be very healthy, more so than in any other part of my district. This, I think, is partly due to the fact that in nearly all the families there is more or less pakeha blood. This does not appear to be the case in other places where there is a smaller percentage of children. I may say, also, that the children whose parents are both halfcaste are as numerous and healthy as in the cases where one of the parents is full-blooded, either pakeha or Maori. The Natives of Queen Charlotte Sound appear to be awakening to the fact that they can no longer live without working, and are now beginning to clear and improve their land where they can do so without danger of losing it afterwards. I may say here that one of the chief causes of poverty and indolence among these Maoris appears to be the fact that they cannot improve their land, in many cases, without the fear of losing it when the blocks are subdivided and allotted to the various owners, many of whom reside in other parts of the colony. The best remedy for this would probably be for the Government to compel the owners of such land to let it in small blocks on long leases, at reasonable rentals, giving the resident owners the right to take up the lease in preference to any other persons. There appears to be a strong feeling among many of the Maoris in favour of the strict enforcement of the law prohibiting the sale of intoxicants to Maori women. I am told, however, I regret to say, that in Picton the Maori women can obtain drink without difficulty, but not, I understand, from the hotels. I may say that within the last two months and a half I have seen intoxicated Maori women, as well as men, in the streets of Picton. I regret to say that there appears to be less industry, and consequently less prosperity, among the Natives of the other parts of my district than is the case in the Wairau and Queen Charlotte Sound. I have also to note that in many cases the Maoris showed a strong disinclination to give me the necessary information; in some cases, indeed, I was met by an absolute refusal, although in every instance I was able to overcome the objections raised, one of the chief of which was the fear that the information was required for taxation purposes. In some cases the Maoris were willing to give the information, but wished to be paid for it. I was much surprised to find that a large proportion of the younger Maoris were unable to distinguish between the "iwi" and the hapu. In many cases they did not know to what iwi they belonged, and it was only in rare instances that they knew their hapu; indeed, this was often the case with the older people, many of whom had to refer to other Maoris for the information, and I found that in some cases the members of the same iwi pronounced the name of it quite differently. In the case of the crops, the information can only be considered approximate, and from what I saw, I think that, as a rule, the figures are over- rather than under-estimated. I regret to have to say that in most cases the crops are bad. There appears to be no land in common cultivation, each family, and in some instances each member of a family, having a separate piece of ground under Should you desire it, I will be glad to give you a table showing the proportion of pakeha blood in the half-caste population. I have, &c.,

John Allen, Esq., S.M., Blenheim.

AYLMER KENNY.

No. 14.

Mr. Greenfield, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Magistrate's Office, Westport, 15th April, 1896. In compliance with instructions contained in your letter of the 9th December last, I caused a census of the Maori population and of all half-castes to be taken in the Counties of Buller and Inangahua the third week in February last, and I herewith enclose summaries and the subenumerator's books.

I have also to report that since the last census was taken there have been four births and one death in the Buller County, and two Natives have left the district.

The general health of the Natives appears to be good, and, so far as I can learn, no disease has visited them. I may also remark that they appear to be very industrious.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED GREENFIELD, S.M.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

No. 15.

Mr. Bishop, S.M., to the Department of Justice.

Christchurch, 5th April, 1896. I have the honour to forward to you herewith the completed return of the census of the Maori population of that portion of the South Island allotted to me.

According to my returns, it would appear that there is an increase of 304 persons since the last census. I cannot hope that this correctly represents the true facts, for after carefully analysing the figures I have come to the conclusion that a considerable number of half-castes, not included in the Maori census of 1891, are now returned as "Half-castes living as members of a Maori tribe." It is, of course, very difficult to check the returns of the sub-enumerators in this respect. In my own opinion, strictly speaking, there are no half-castes in this Island living as members of a Native tribe. The conditions of life here amongst the Maoris are so utterly different to what they are in the North Island that one can scarcely say that even they themselves live as members of Maori tribes. For instance, there is no such thing as communism as we understand it in the North Island. I am inclined, therefore, to think that in future, to ensure absolutely accurate returns, it will be necessary in this Island to adopt some different basis of collection.

I have, &c., H. W. Візнор, S.M.

The Under-Secretary, Department of Justice, Wellington.

TABLE I.—Comparative Return of Maori Census, 1896 and 1891.

			Total Persons, 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total Persons, 1896.	Males.	Females.	Increase.	Decrease.	Actual Decrease, 1891-96.
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Totals			41,993	22,861	19,132	39,805	21,545	18,260	345	2,533	2,188

Note.—The above figures for 1896 are subject to revision. The final return will be prepared and published in the Registrar-General's department.

SUMMARY Of MAORI CENSUS for 1896.

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SUMMARY of MAORI CENSUS for 1896-continued.

ivation.	Other Crops.	Acres. 164. 1103.	6,2903
In Common Cultivation.	Wheat.	Acres	1,528
In Con	Potatoes.	Acres	3,708
	Pigs.	2, 1 12,82,4 12,82,4 12,82,8 12,82,8 13,82,8 14,82,8 14,83,8 1	50,781
Live-stock held.	Cattle.	2688 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1	29,125
ផ	Sheep.	15,395 4,713 929 929 929 1,692 1,692 1,1020 1,150	314,406
-	Sown Grasses,	Acres. 2,459 2,459 2,486 2,1647 2,381 2,069 4,198 108 2,069 4,198 108 2,069 4,198 108 2,069 4,198 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 10	66,8743
tion.	Other Crops.	Acres. 241. 122. 123. 124. 125. 125. 125. 125. 125. 125. 125. 125	7,306
Individual Cultivation.	Maize.	A Pores. 114.2	9,2408
Indivi	Wheat.	Acres. 195 185 185 185 187 187 188 189 189 189	2,223
	Potatoes.	A Acree 2993	8,957
	Total Persons.	1, 1, 285 285 285 286 386 386 387 387 387 387 387 387 387 387 387 387	39,805
tion.	s living abers Tribes.		1,577
Maori Population.	Half-castes living as Members of Maori Tribes.		1,924
Mac	ris.	F. C.	16,683
	Maoris		19,621
	Counties (inclusive of Interior Boroughs).	Wanganui Waitotara Patea Hawera Stratford Stratford Stratford Stratford Gollingwood and adjacent islands Gollingwood and adjacent islands Buller Westland Kaikoura Marlborough Selwyn Akaroa Levels Waitaki Waitaki Waitaki Waitaki Waitaki Golutha Peninsula Southland Wallace Stewart and adjacent islands Goluthan Bands (Moris) Chatham Islands (Moricis) Chatham Islands (Moricis) Maori wives living with European census	Totals for colony

Nore... The above figures for 1896 are subject to revision. The final return will be prepared and published in the Registrar-General's Department.

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