

APPENDIX III.

REPORT ON VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS.

DURING the year ending the 31st March last 51 sections, with an area of 1,825 acres, were taken up under village-homestead regulations, and 31 sections, with an area of 654 acres, under other tenure.

For the same period 25 sections, with an area of 886 acres, were forfeited or surrendered under village-homestead regulations, and 18 sections, with an area of 386 acres, under other tenure.

The total number of settlers under all systems on the 31st March last was 2,021, holding an area of 42,653 acres, an average of 20 acres 3 roods 27 perches each. The annual rent and interest on advances was £6,562. The amount actually paid during the year was £6,632 12s. 2d.

The position of village settlements is classified as under :—

Number of Settlers.

	Resident.	Non-resident.	Total.
Under village-homestead regulations ...	975	471	1,446
Under other tenure ...	338	237	575
Totals ...	1,313	708	2,021
In the North Island ...	610	269	879
In the Middle Island...	703	439	1,142
Totals ...	1,313	708	2,021

Area held on the 31st March, 1903.

	A.	R.	P.
Under village-homestead regulations ...	31,008	2	3
Under other tenure ...	11,644	3	15
Total ...	42,653	1	18
In the North Island ...	18,916	1	7
In the Middle Island ...	23,737	0	11
Total ...	42,653	1	18

Annual Rent and Interest.

	£	s.	d.
Under village-homestead regulations ...	5,087	2	10
Under other tenure ...	1,475	12	8
Total ...	£6,562	15	6
In the North Island ...	2,787	1	4
In the Middle Island ...	3,775	14	2
Totals ...	£6,562	15	6

Sections taken up during the Year.

	Number.	Area.	Rent.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Under village-homestead regulations ...	51	1,825 0 37	471 2 10
Under other tenure ...	31	654 2 34	59 13 2
Totals ...	82	2,479 3 31	530 16 0
In the North Island ...	54	2,010 2 7	479 3 8
In the Middle Island ...	28	469 1 24	51 12 4
Totals ...	82	2,479 3 31	530 16 0

Forfeitures and Surrenders during the Year.

	Number.	Area.	Rent and Interest.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Under village-homestead regulations ...	25	886 2 0	80 14 11
Under other tenure ...	18	385 3 17	28 6 8
Totals ...	43	1,272 1 17	109 1 7
In the North Island ...	20	710 3 25	67 10 9
In the Middle Island ...	23	561 1 32	41 10 10
Totals ...	43	1,272 1 17	109 1 7