

TABLE B.—NUMBER of NEW SELECTORS, and AREA taken up, from 1st April, 1905, to 31st March, 1906, and Total Amount of Revenue received during the Year—*continued*.

Nature and Tenure of Lands selected.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Average Holding.	Cash received on Past and Current Transactions.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Village settlement, cash .. .. .	39	40 0 5	1 0 4	244 11 1
" deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	71 15 5
" perpetual lease .. .. .	..	..	..	299 16 4
" occupation with right of purchase ..	2	40 3 6	20 1 23	9 7 2
" occupation with right of purchase made freehold ..	..	..	..	..
" lease in perpetuity .. .. .	55	1,934 0 34	35 0 26	1,296 14 10
Village-homestead special settlement ..	49	287 1 12	5 3 18	3,326 5 7
Special-settlement associations .. .. .	..	..	..	6,039 16 10
Improved-farm special settlements .. ..	3	547 0 0	182 1 13	4,420 11 10
Occupation leases, Mining Districts Land Occupation Act	30	1,194 0 32	39 3 9	1,087 16 8
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	13	30,942 1 37	238 0 30	27,620 18 10
Pastoral runs .. .. .	115	342,960 1 18	2,982 1 2	73,342 7 9
Thermal springs, Rotorua .. .. .	..	..	..	18 0 0
Miscellaneous leases and licenses .. ..	539	43,724 2 14	81 0 19	23,930 0 0
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	53,745 8 0
Cheviot Estate—				
Cash .. .. .	4	1 2 0	0 1 20	47 15 0
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	5,981 17 2
Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	795 19 5
Grazing-farms .. .. .	..	..	..	6,076 2 1
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	193 3 8
Miscellaneous leases .. .. .	4	34 0 5	8 2 1	295 7 4
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements Acts—				
Cash .. .. .	6	7 3 13	1 1 9	128 5 2
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	413	78,589 3 28	190 1 6	155,135 17 11
" (village) .. .. .	..	..	..	307 1 0
Special-settlement associations (lease in perpetuity) ..	..	..	..	166 19 9
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	21	37,644 2 8	1,792 2 15	21,966 10 11
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	121 13 0
Miscellaneous leases .. .. .	33	1,868 0 8	56 2 17	4,505 6 9
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	5,265 13 2
Totals .. .. .	2,227	787,927 0 11	353 3 9	£520,337 11 3

NOTE.—These figures are exclusive of Endowment, Native Township, and Rotorua Town Council lands.

The reports of the several Commissioners of Crown Lands give the details of settlement in each land district, supplemented by the tables attached to the report. It is interesting to compare the number of settlers who have selected land for close settlement from ordinary Crown lands and lands for settlement, exclusive of pastoral runs and miscellaneous tenures, during the last six years:—

	Selectors.
1900-1 .. .. .	1,767
1901-2 .. .. .	1,632
1902-3 .. .. .	1,602
1903-4 .. .. .	2,053
1904-5 .. .. .	1,581
1905-6 .. .. .	1,536

This gives a total of 10,171 persons (or, with their families, probably forty thousand souls) who have selected lands in six years, and who are adding to the wealth of New Zealand by the manly way in which they have faced the difficulties and trials inseparable from a settler's life, borne in most cases cheerfully and hopefully by man and wife in their strenuous endeavours to create a home for themselves and their children. The Crown tenants on the books of the Department have reached the very respectable number of 23,323 persons, probably numbering with their families some 92,000 souls, and holding a total area of 17,754,813 acres.

#### THE PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

Looking through the reports received from the several Commissioners of Crown Lands, one cannot help being struck with the hopeful and cheery tone prevailing throughout. I know that it may be urged that the reports are too optimistic; but a glance at the summary of inspections by Crown Lands Rangers will amply sustain the contention of the Commissioners, and prove conclusively by the value of the improvements placed upon their holdings by settlers, above what the Land Act demands, that the settlers as a whole in each land district are a prosperous and contented community.

#### INSPECTION BY RANGERS.

As indicated in the preceding paragraph, the result of the inspections made by the several Crown Lands Rangers is eminently satisfactory.