

1908.

NEW ZEALAND.

## NATIVE LANDS AND NATIVE-LAND TENURE:

INTERIM REPORT OF NATIVE LAND COMMISSION ON NATIVE LANDS IN THE COUNTY OF WHAKATANE.

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

Native Land Commission, Dargaville, 23rd March, 1908.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We have the honour to transmit a further interim report on Native lands in the County of Whakatane. Evidence was taken at Rotorua, Whakatane, and Ruatoki. This report covers 158,345 acres, and practically disposes of the larger blocks in the Whakatane County outside the Urewera Native Reserve. The lands belong to the Ngatirangitahi Tribe, of Matata; the Ngatiawa living at Whakatane, Te Teko, and Te Awaateatua; the Ngatimanawa and Patuheuheu living near Galatea; and certain sections of the Tuhoe (Urewera), the Ngatiawa being the principal owners.

The Whakatane lands were confiscated, the confiscation-line being coterminous with the southern boundaries of the Parishes of Matata, Rangitaiki, and Waimana. The lands now owned by the Maoris in the Parishes of Matata, Rangitaiki, and Waimana were granted to them out of confiscated lands under "The Whakatane Grants Validation Act, 1878." Until 1893 the titles were in a position similar to those of lands held under "The Native Land Act, 1867," the original grants having been issued to trustees who were for all purposes absolute owners. In 1893 provision was made (section 2 of "The Native Trusts and Claims Definition and Registration Act, 1893") by which the *cestuis qui trustent* could take advantage of "The Native Equitable Owners Act, 1886," and become certificated owners of the returned lands. The investigation of titles to these lands has been proceeding off and on since 1893, and at the end of last year most of the larger blocks had been subdivided into family holdings.

The Papatupu Blocks—namely, the blocks outside the confiscated area, over which the Native custom obtained, and determined ownership—consist of Matahina, Tuararangaia, Putauaki, parts of the Pokohu, and Waiohau. The value of Pokohu D, area 5,510 acres, is only £413; of Pokohu C and E, area 14,876 acres, only £115. Tuararangaia is valued at less than 5s. an acre, and Waiohau at 10s. an acre. The Matahina Block, of about 40,000 acres, is valued for pastoral purposes at £3,275. But there is valuable milling-timber on it estimated at 306,000,000 ft., the royalty for which at current prices should produce at least £75,000. For the rest, the land is suitable only for pastoral runs, to be held in large areas.

The Natives are desirous that these large blocks may be incorporated under section 28 of "The Maori Land Claims Adjustment and Laws Amendment Act, 1907," with power to dispose of the lands and timber by public auction, after making reserves for papakaingas and farms. We have put in the schedule a list of the blocks

we recommend to be dealt with in this manner. We are of opinion that more than one-half of the total area will be available for general settlement.

Within the confiscated area many parcels have been recently leased, particulars of which are set out in the schedules. In many cases portions of blocks have been leased, the balances being required for the use of the owners. We have recommended reservation of the latter, as soon as the portions leased are defined. The total area recommended for Maori occupation is 33,454 acres, or at the rate of about 35 acres per head of the Maori population of the portion of the Whakatane County affected by the report. The Maoris of the district have for years cultivated maize on their lands round the settlements, and lately have turned their attention to dairy-farming. We do not think the reservation too liberal, even if the Committees of the blocks proposed to be incorporated decided to reserve one-half of those lands. The area of these would represent a very small additional value, if the assessment made by the Valuation Department is adopted as a basis for calculation. The timber on Matahina Block is a valuable asset, and the Natives are willing to dispose of the same in open market.

Summary.

	A.	R.	P.
Lands under lease or negotiation for lease .. .. .	31,282	0	24
Lands recommended for Maori occupation .. .. .	33,454	1	16
Lands recommended to be incorporated, and of which at least one-half will be available for general settlement .. .. .	80,750	2	0
Lands recommended for lease and sale under Part I of "The Native Land Settlement Act, 1907" .. .. .	12,858	0	0
Total .. .. .	158,345	0	0

We have the honour to be,  
Your Excellency's humble and obedient servants,

ROBERT STOUT,  
A. T. NGATA,  
Commissioners.

SCHEDULE.

A.—LANDS UNDER LEASE OR NEGOTIATION FOR LEASE.

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.	Remarks.
Parish of Rangitaiki—		A. R. P.	
Part Lot 29.. .. .	109	630 0 0	50 years' term.
"    30A .. .. .	45	520 0 0	"
"    30B .. .. .	67	640 0 0	"
"    30C .. .. .	78	640 0 0	"
"    31.. .. .	229	1,848 0 0	" (negotiations pending).
"    31.. .. .		1,832 0 0	"
"    31.. .. .		1,500 0 0	"
"    31.. .. .		1,500 0 0	"
"    32A .. .. .	2	39 0 0	21 years' term.
"    32B .. .. .	10	200 0 0	13 years' term.
"    32C .. .. .	1		
"    32D .. .. .	13	1,656 0 0	50 years' term.
"    32J .. .. .	11		
Lot 32F .. .. .	2	124 0 0	21 years' term.
Part Lot 32G .. .. .	2	62 0 0	"
Lot 32E, F, G, and H (balance).. .. .	21	1,561 0 0	50 years' term.
Part Lot 32K .. .. .	8		"
"    32L .. .. .	6		"
"    32M .. .. .	16	1,505 0 0	"
"    32N .. .. .	7		"
"    32O .. .. .	7		" (part 145 acres for 21 years).

A.—LANDS UNDER LEASE OR NEGOTIATION FOR LEASE—*continued.*

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Parish of Rangitaiki— <i>continued.</i>					
Lot 33A No. 1 .. ..	5	A.	R.	P.	Under lease expiring in 5 years.
„ 33C No. 1 .. ..		140	0	0	
„ 33A No. 2 .. ..	6	110	2	0	„ „
„ 33C No. 2 .. ..					
„ 33B .. ..	31	1,005	0	0	„ „
„ 33D .. ..					
„ 33E .. ..	9	369	0	0	„ „
„ 33J .. ..					
„ 33F No. 1 .. ..	7	304	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 11 .. ..					
„ 33F No. 2 .. ..	14	411	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 12 .. ..					
„ 33F No. 3 .. ..	11	438	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 10 .. ..					
„ 33F No. 4 .. ..	17	622	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 9 .. ..					
„ 33F No. 5 .. ..	11	513	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 8 .. ..					
„ 33F No. 6 .. ..	12	607	0	0	„ „
„ 33F No. 7 .. ..					
„ 33G No. 1 .. ..	7	265	0	0	„ „
„ 33G No. 5 .. ..					
„ 33G No. 2 .. ..	14	422	0	0	„ „
„ 33G No. 4 .. ..					
„ 33G No. 3 .. ..	25	998	0	0	„ „
„ 33G No. 6 .. ..					
„ 33H .. ..	18	659	2	0	„ „
„ 33K .. ..					
Part Lot 38A .. ..	51	564	2	0	50 years' term.
„ 38B .. ..	81	640	0	0	„ „
Lot 41 .. ..	131	4,877	0	0	Under lease expiring in 5 years.
„ 42 .. ..	86	77	0	0	21 years (pending).
„ 43 .. ..	131	75	0	0	Lease expires in 10 years.
(Omataroa)—					
Lot 60A No. 1A (part) ..	9	195	1	24	25 years' term.
„ No. 1B „ ..	27	454	3	0	50 years' term.
„ No. 2 „ ..	22	393	0	0	„ „
„ No. 3A „ ..	9	196	3	0	25 years' term.
„ No. 3B „ ..	2	35	2	0	21 years' term.
„ No. 4 (part) ..	13	250	0	0	50 years' term.
„ No. 5 „ ..	32	673	0	0	„ „
„ No. 7 „ ..	42	636	0	0	„ „
„ No. 8 „ ..	27	364	0	0	Negotiations pending.
„ No. 9 „ ..	39	678	2	0	50 years' term.
Section 237, Parish of Waimana ..	..	30	0	0	„ „
Section 235, Block II, Whakatane Survey District ..	..	20	0	0	„ „
Lots 12B and 13, Whakatane Township ..	..	0	3	0	„ „
Total .. ..	..	31,282	0	24	

## B.—LANDS RECOMMENDED TO BE RESERVED FOR MAORI OCCUPATION UNDER PART II OF “THE NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT ACT, 1907.”

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Parish of Rangitaiki—					
Lot 21 .. ..	229	A.	R.	P.	Further subdivided, occupied and partly cultivated.
„ 28B .. ..	208	158	0	0	
		2,506	0	0	
Part Lot 29 .. ..	109	700	0	0	Unleased balance.
„ 30A .. ..	45	297	1	18	„
„ 30B .. ..	67	452	1	29	„
„ 30C .. ..	78	618	1	35	„

B.—LANDS RECOMMENDED TO BE RESERVED FOR MAORI OCCUPATION UNDER PART II OF "THE NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT ACT, 1907"—*continued.*

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Parish of Rangitaiki—continued.					
Lot 30D .. .. .	2	35	2	6	
„ 30E .. .. .	4	71	0	12	
„ 30F .. .. .	40	4	0	0	Site of meeting-house.
„ 30G .. .. .	8	126	0	0	
Part Lot 31 .. .. .	229	1,363	0	0	Unleased balance.
„ 32A .. .. .	}	714	0	0	„
„ 32B .. .. .					
„ 32C .. .. .					
„ 32D .. .. .					
„ 32J .. .. .					
Lot 32E .. .. .	7	248	0	0	
„ 32H .. .. .	10	385	0	0	
Part Lot 32K .. .. .	}	645	0	0	Unleased balance.
„ 32L .. .. .					
„ 32M .. .. .					
„ 32N .. .. .					
Lot 37 .. .. .	..	275	0	0	Known as Putere Native Reserve.
Part Lot 38A .. .. .	51	491	2	0	Unleased balances. Further sub- divided into family holdings. Papakaingas have been defined by the Court.
„ 38B .. .. .	81	571	0	0	
Lot 39 .. .. .	89	50	0	0	White-pine reserve.
„ 40 .. .. .	131	50	0	0	„
Lot 60A No. 1A (part) .. .. .	9	52	2	16	Unleased balance.
„ No. 1B .. .. .	27	112	1	0	„
„ No. 2 .. .. .	22	65	0	0	„
„ No. 3A .. .. .	9	47	3	0	„
„ No. 4 .. .. .	13	63	0	0	„
„ No. 5 .. .. .	32	89	0	0	„
„ No. 6 .. .. .	4	85	0	0	„
„ No. 7 (part) .. .. .	42	212	0	0	Unleased balance.
„ No. 8 .. .. .	27	94	0	0	„
„ No. 9A .. .. .	13	30	0	0	„
„ No. 9B .. .. .	13	40	0	0	„
„ No. 9C .. .. .	13	72	0	0	„
„ No. 9 (part) .. .. .	39	200	0	0	Unleased balance.
Lot 60E .. .. .	4	5	0	0	Cemetery reserve.
„ 60F .. .. .	..	5	0	0	„
„ 60G .. .. .	10	5	0	0	„
„ 60H .. .. .	10	5	0	0	„
Parish of Matata—					
Lot 72B No. 1 .. .. .	13	293	2	19	Main kaingas and cultivations on this land, which has always been con- sidered and treated as a reserve.
„ .. .. .	4	1	0	0	
„ .. .. .	112	2,230	1	21	
Motiti A No. 2 .. .. .	12	63	1	10	Being cultivated by owners.
„ A No. 3 .. .. .	19	86	2	30	„
„ B .. .. .	187	166	0	0	„
Motiti North C .. .. .	55	203	0	0	Being cultivated by owners.
„ D .. .. .	35	129	0	0	
„ E .. .. .	62	230	0	0	
„ F .. .. .	152	1	0	0	
„ G .. .. .	152	2	0	0	
Putauaki No. 2 .. .. .	207	2,416	0	0	Includes Mount Edgecumbe Reserve as “wahi tapu.”
Waiohau 1A .. .. .	158	7,464	0	0	Owned by Patuheuheu Tribe. Part owned by Mehaka Tokopounamu and party to be cut out and leased.
Parish of Matata—					
Lot 21 .. .. .	140	1,875	3	0	Poor land; 281 acres under lease.
„ 59A .. .. .	12	5	0	0	
„ 63A .. .. .	3	112	0	0	Also known as Te Mimiha-Whaka- rewa.
Parish of Waimana—					
Lot 239 .. .. .	34	40	0	0	To be incorporated under section 61 for farming purposes. Partly in Opotiki County.
„ 246 .. .. .	99	1,575	0	0	

B.—LANDS RECOMMENDED TO BE RESERVED FOR MAORI OCCUPATION UNDER PART II OF "THE NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT ACT, 1907"—*continued.*

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Parish of Waimana— <i>continued.</i>					
Lot 260A .. ..	..	A.	R.	P.	Maori kainga at Whakatane. Also called Te Aua-a-Muriwai.
„ 274 .. ..	211	8	0	0	
Waimana No. 1B 1 .. ..	25	15	2	20	Land allocated to the late Te Kooti.
„ No. 1B 2 .. ..	32	500	0	0	
„ No. 1C 1 .. ..	10	100	0	0	
„ No. 1C 2 .. ..	20	2,000	0	0	
„ No. 1C 3 .. ..	2	1,043	0	0	
„ No. 1D .. ..	8	100	0	0	
Lot 313, Parish of Waimana .. ..	..	1,250	0	0	
Total .. ..	..	600	0	0	
		33,454	1	16	

C.—LANDS RECOMMENDED TO BE INCORPORATED UNDER SECTION 28 OF "THE MAORI LAND CLAIMS ADJUSTMENT AND LAWS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907."

Name of Block.	Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Parish of Rangitaiki— (Omataroa)—					
Lot 60A No. 10 .. ..	225	A.	R.	P.	
„ 60B .. ..	90	3,536	2	0	
„ 60C .. ..	479	2,783	0	0	
„ 60D .. ..	121	5,000	0	0	
Parish of Matata—					
Lot 39A .. ..	9	3,741	0	0	
„ 59B .. ..	86	12,285	0	0	1,000 acres to be reserved.
Tuararangaia No. 1B .. ..	719	2,619	0	0	
„ No. 2B .. ..	406	713	0	0	
„ 3B No. 2 .. ..	167	1,454	0	0	
Matahina A No. 1D .. ..	517	28,795	0	0	Approximate. Valuable timber, estimated at 306,000,000 ft., on these blocks.
„ A No. 2 .. ..	149	2,000	0	0	
„ A No. 3 .. ..	500	10,000	0	0	
„ B No. 2 .. ..	63	987	0	0	
Total .. ..	..	80,750	2	0	

D.—LANDS RECOMMENDED FOR SETTLEMENT UNDER PART I OF "THE NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT ACT, 1907."

Name of Block.			Owners.	Area.			Remarks.
Pokohu C No. 3	..	..	57	A. 3,122	R. 0	P. 0	1,122 acres for Maori occupation, 1,000 acres for lease, and 1,000 acres for sale.
„ D	..	..	801	9,030	0	0	For sale.
Lot 247, Parish of Waimana	..	..	1	40	0	0	„
Matahina C South	..	..	135	333	0	0	For lease.
„ C No. 1B	..	..	43	333	0	0	For sale.
Total	..	..	..	12,858	0	0	

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