## D.-No. 6. 14 REPORT BY ASSISTANT ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF.

It will be seen from the foregoing report that a large amount of work has been executed in the different districts, the full benefit and importance of which will not be fully apparent until the completion of the contracts now in progress, and the consequent opening of the several roads, which, owing to the unfinished state of the work, do not offer that convenience for traffic which might be expected from a statement of the number of miles really made. It is expected, however, that before the expiration of another summer the facilities for travelling and transport of provisions, especially to the rich gold fields now being worked on the West Coast of the Middle Island, will be enormously increased, and the full benefit of the expenditure on roads realized.

I have, &c.

JOHN BLACKETT,

Assistant Engineer-in-Chief.

To the Hon. the Minister for Public Works, &c., &c.