

detachment stationed at the latter place, pending the calling for fresh tenders for their re-erection by the District Engineer. A large foot bridge, 30 feet span, was thrown across a gully in the centre of the Clyde township, and a small boggy creek bridged on the opposite side of the river, close to the residence of the Resident Magistrate. A culvert was made in the piece of road before mentioned, between Te Kapu and the Scamperdown Creek. Four culverts have been made on the Te Ariki Flat by the detachment at that station.

At Onepoto, the bridge over the Mangakiokio Creek, mentioned in last year's report as having been commenced, has been completed, and is acknowledged by competent judges to be the finest work of the kind in the district; the span is 60 feet, and the width 10 feet. A smaller bridge also has been built over a minor creek in the same locality. Three culverts have been built between that station and Te Ariki.

*Building Houses, Stables, &c.*—At Te Kapu, a barrack room 30 × 18 feet, 9½-foot studs and 12-foot rafters, has been erected, handsomely ornamented at the gable ends, floored and painted. A district office 18 × 12 feet, 7-foot studs and 8-foot rafters, with brick chimney, and also floored and painted. These two buildings are composed of sawn kauri and shingled with kahikatea. A harness-room and tool-house under one roof, 20 × 12 feet, 6-foot studs and 8-foot rafters; a cook-house 20 × 12 feet, 7-foot studs and 9-foot rafters, also with brick chimney; and a public store 12 × 10 feet, 6-foot studs and 7-foot rafters. These three are built of kahikatea slabs, and shingled. A library and sergeant-major's quarters 35 × 12 feet, 8-foot studs and 8½-foot rafters, is now in course of erection, of sawn kauri. A magazine 10 × 6 feet, and 8 feet high, has been excavated in the bank of a terrace, built up with kahikatea slabs, plastered over with mud, and sodded on top, a two-railed fence enclosing it to keep off cattle, &c. Other minor buildings have also been put up of kahikatea slabs.

At Te Ariki, two whares have been built of raupo, one 12 × 8 feet for quarters, and one 8 × 6 feet for stores.

At Onepoto, a library, 22 × 13 feet has been erected of rimu slabs, with stone chimney. Mess-house and stable are now in course of erection.

*Fencing Paddocks and laying down in Grass.*—A small paddock of about one acre has been fenced in, grubbed, ploughed, and sown with oats at Te Kapu, and the paddocks surrounding the buildings have been laid down with Poverty Bay rye-grass seed. Portions of the large paddock have also been grubbed, cleared, ploughed, and sown with grass seed. Two acres have been grubbed, cleared of fern, &c., and sown with grass seed, at Te Ariki. At Onepoto, a 10-acre paddock has been obtained by cutting off the supply of water from the small lake Kiri o Pukoi, by means of a large race 200 yards in length, with an average depth of 9 feet, width 8 feet, and a tunnel 45 feet in length. Three acres have been cleared, grubbed, fenced, and sown with oats for green feed in winter time, intermixed with grass and clover seed. A small paddock has been fenced in at Maru Maru, and will be sown with oats for green feed. Posts and rails are now being split for fencing in a larger one for grass.

*Miscellaneous.*—In addition to the above, office furniture, consisting of tables, forms, book-cases, shelves, and pigeon-hole cases, have been made for the District Office, at Te Kapu; and at Onepoto fittings for the library (comprising tables, forms, stools, &c.) have been made, also a gymnasium, consisting of parallel and horizontal bars, with hand-swing, has been erected. Gardens have been made at all the stations, and a plentiful supply of vegetables obtained from them all the year round; a quantity of potatoes, sufficient to last the station till next summer, has been dug from the garden at Onepoto. The inner paddock at Te Kapu has been laid out in gravelled walks leading to the several buildings, and a flagstaff erected in the centre, with rigging.

At Onepoto, a reservoir has been made, and a race one mile in length carries water right into the camp for cooking, washing, and other purposes. Before the completion of this work the water for the use of the station had to be procured from the large lake, a distance of about 150 yards, and up a very steep hill. Sufficient timber has been sawn for a boat 30 feet long, for use on Lake Waikare Moana.

*Remarks.*—I wish to draw attention to the fact that Te Kapu, the head-quarters station, has been entirely built during the last twelve months; previously all that existed to denote a Constabulary station was an unsightly blockhouse, and one or two whares equally objectionable to the eye; the buildings lately erected are so arranged that the blockhouse can scarcely be seen from any distance, and as it has been painted recently its appearance is slightly improved. The station now presents the appearance of a small town. The other stations have each been considerably improved, and I consider that the quality and quantity of the work performed does high credit to the officers and men. There are seventy-seven wet days recorded in the diary of Duty Book, at Onepoto. I would also bring to notice the improved attitude of the Urewera during the last twelve months; they have apparently laid aside all hostile intentions, and desire only to cultivate a closer acquaintance with the Europeans; they are always anxious to be of service to the Government, and lately they have been engaged on a portion of the road from Te Kapu to Waikare Moana, which they have executed in quite a European style, their sections bearing favourable comparison with those in the hands of the Wairoa Natives; in fact I believe the overseer has recommended that a gratuity be given to one of the Urewera for the excellent manner in which he has carried out his contract.

Many of the Urewera have left Ruatahuna, and have settled in the vicinity of Onepoto with their wives and families; those living on the lake have likewise congregated round the Armed Constabulary Station. Although recently a little stir has been made by some of the old chiefs relative to petitioning the Government to abandon this post, yet I may safely state that this desire is not held by the majority. I consider the satisfactory state of the Urewera Tribe attributable to the judicious treatment exercised in the first place by the late Sub-Inspector McDonnell, and of late by Sub-Inspector Ferris, who has attended several Native meetings in Ruatahuna, and has been mainly instrumental in getting them to agree to, and work at, the roads. Sub-Inspector Maclean also had charge of Onepoto during my recent illness.

In concluding this report, I may mention that this district, once the most disturbed on the East Coast, is now one of the most peaceful; and the Waikare Moana country, a short time ago regarded as a *terra incognita* and very nest of Hauhauism, is now an easy thirty-mile canter from Te Kapu, and can be traversed in perfect safety.