

1877.

NEW ZEALAND.

DEFERRED PAYMENT SYSTEM IN SOUTHLAND, (REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE).

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

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS, Invercargill, to the Hon. SECRETARY for CROWN LANDS.

SIR,—

Crown Lands Office, Invercargill, 7th July, 1877.

In furtherance of the instructions contained in the resolutions of the Waste Lands Board, passed on the 29th instant, a copy of which I annex, I have the honor to enclose the returns referred to in these resolutions, and in reference to the last of these to transmit a copy of the letter of the officer appointed by the Board to visit and report upon the *bona fides* of settlement under the Deferred Payment Regulations in force in this land district.

The first of these Returns, marked A, indicates the quantity of land set apart for settlement under the Deferred Payment System, the locality in which the blocks are situated, the amount already taken up, and that which remains available, with a memorandum showing what is now under survey for settlement, and which will be open for selection in about three months.

The return marked B shows the acreage in possession of each individual and the nature and amount of improvements effected by him. And here I would ask your attention to the gratifying fact that out of the total number of 82 individuals who have taken advantage of the system, only two have had their licenses forfeited, and five have abandoned their selections. Of the remainder the Board feel justified in concluding, that with probably but one or two exceptions, all are *bona fide* settlers. It is gratifying to find that no less a sum than £10,000 has been expended by these settlers on their selections as a glance at the return will show, and that there are no arrears of payment.

All this, so far as this land district is concerned would, in the Board's opinion, justify the belief that in the vast majority of cases there is an honest settlement going on, advantageous to the colony, and profitable to the settlers themselves, and yet circumstances occasionally occur which give force to a suspicion that the Act is not complied with in its integrity in all cases, and that a combination to defeat the residence clauses, if not guarded by evidence on oath, with its penalties for false testimony, may, at no distant date, introduce the paralyzing principle known as "dummyism." Again there are great difficulties in obtaining evidence; the inspector has no right of entry; the definition of residence is obscure, and his observations may not extend over such a period as to justify eviction, while the opposing evidence may be that of other settlers themselves before the Board on suspicion of not fulfilling the conditions of settlement.

In another communication of date quoted in the margin, I have, by direction of the Board, pointed out certain alterations in the existing land laws which, while protecting the *bona fide* settler who honestly endeavours to fulfil his obligations, would assist towards deterring speculators.

The Board desires me to add, that their attention has been for some time greatly directed to the necessity of guarding against an invasion of the law, and of thus giving completeness to a system capable of a large amount of good.

I have, &c.,

WALTER H. PEARSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

The Hon. Secretary of Crown Lands, Wellington.

Extract from Minutes of Meeting of Waste Land Board, Invercargill, 29th June, 1877.

Moved by Sir J. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Lumsden, "It being probable that the Government may desire information as to the working of the Deferred Payment System in the land district of Southland, the Chief Commissioner of the Board is requested to prepare and forward to the Honorable the Secretary for Crown Lands, a statement in the following form:—

- " I. The acreage set apart for settlement under the Deferred Payment System, mentioning each locality.
- " II. The acreage already occupied by settlers.
- " III. The acreage under survey.
- " IV. The number of defaulters and the causes.

“2. Accompanying this statement, a Return exhibiting the information lately supplied by the Inspector of Deferred Settlements in conformity with the directions given him, by resolutions of the Board, as to expenditure on each section.

“3. Such information as may be gathered from official and other sources as to the *bona fides* of Deferred Payment Settlement in accordance with the provisions of the statutes.”

W. H. PEARSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MR. D. CAMPBELL, Inspector of Deferred Payment Settlements District, Invercargill, to the
CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

SIR,—

Invercargill, 27th June, 1877.

Having received the following copy of a resolution passed by the Waste Lands Board, and signed by the Chief Commissioner:—“That the Inspector of Deferred Payment Settlements be directed to forward a Supplementary Report expressing his opinion, derived from personal observations, and communications with Deferred Payment settlers and others, whether the system termed dummyism prevails in any of the Districts under his inspection, and whether the settlers may be generally regarded as *bona fide* permanent settlers.”

I have the honor to report that in obedience to the instructions therein contained, I visited the Oteramika, Hokonui, Taringatura, New River, and Oreti, Deferred Payment Settlement Districts, and find it my duty to state, that after a very careful inspection and thorough enquiries into the whole matter, that the system of dummyism does not prevail in any of these Districts; on the contrary, I feel it due to the settlers to say, (with the three undermentioned exceptions), that they are proceeding with the improvement and cultivation of their respective selections with an energy and spirit of industry highly commendable, which, I believe, will not only do good to themselves, but set an example to many others around them. In my opinion they are *bona fide* permanent settlers.

I regret I must report the three following individuals who have not complied with the provisions of the Act as to residence:—William Mackintosh, Alex. Robson, and — Commerford.

I have, &c.,

D. CAMPBELL,

Inspector Deferred Payments Settlement Districts.

The Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

DEFERRED PAYMENT RETURN A.

DISTRICT.	AMOUNT OF LAND APPROPRIATED.		AMOUNT SURVEYED.		AMOUNT SETTLED ON.		AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR SETTLEMENT.		REMARKS.
	A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.	
Oteramika Hundred...	2,584	0 0	All	1,234	1 17	1,349	0 0	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.	
New River Hundred	3,000	0 0	All	2,966	3 14	...	...	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.
Forest Hill Hundred	3,500	0 0	All	1,501	0 0	7,765	0 00	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.	
Oreti Hundred	5,766	0 0	All	...	...	...	...	Do. 16th May, 1876.
Hokonui District	3,291	0 0	...	2,752	0 29	4,134	0 0	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.	
	5,270	0 0	5,070	1,136	0 0	5,245	0 0	2750 acres on Run 116 to be advertised open for sale on deferred payment in one month, the balance to remain in abeyance.	
	5,245	0 0	2,750	...	...	...	...	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874; revoked 13th July, 1875.
Eyre District...	1,080	0 0	...	...	...	...	...	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.
Taringatura District...	2,285	0 0	All	3,272	3 18	4,142	0 0	Do. 11th July, 1876.	
	2,130	0 0	All	...	...	...	...	2,000 acres on Run 135, and 1,000 on Run 181, to be advertised open for sale on deferred payment in three months.
	3,000	0 0	All	...	...	...	...	Proclaimed 11th July, 1874.
Wairio	3,230	0 0	All	3,163	0 14	5,000	0 0	On Run 153, to be advertised open in three months.	
Waiau	5,000	0 0	...	...	...	1,910	0 0	Two sections applied for.
	1,910	0 0	None	...	...	...	...
Total	47,291	0 0	7,820	16,026	1 12	29,445	0 0	9,750 acres to be open for selection in three months.	

WALTER H. PEARSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

RETURN B.

NAME.	HUNDRED OR DISTRICT.	SECTION.	BLOCK.	AREA.	AREA FENCED.	AREA CULTIVATED.	VALUE OF HORSES.	VALUE OF OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF LICENSE.	CONDITIONS COMPLIED WITH TO DATE.
William Shaw ...	* Oteramika.	No. 17	No. I.	A. R. P. 64 0 10	A. R. P. 35 0 0	A. R. P. 12 0 0	£ 60	£ 100 0	March 1, 1876	Living on section.
John Birss ...	Do.	27	"	129 2 16	100 0 0	15 0 0	5	187 12	" 15, "	Living on section.
Alexander Dykes ...	Do.	28	"	89 0 17	60 0 0	12 0 0	36	100 0	" 14, "	Living on section.
Archibald Sellars ...	Do.	29	"	94 1 9	94 1 9	0 1 0	30	100 0	" 18, "	Living on section.
William Martin ...	Do.	30 & 31	"	185 1 9	185 1 9	38 0 0	55	205 0	Feb. 29, "	Living on section.
William Martin, jun. ...	Do.	33	"	77 3 14	None.	None.	None.	None.	Nov. 21, 1874	Abandoned.
John Drake ...	Do.	34 & 35	"	200 0 0	200 0 0	35 0 0	95	270 0	March 2, 1876	Living on section.
Thomas Curran ...	Do.	36	"	107 1 24	30 0 0	10 0 0	40	60 0	Sept. 27, "	Living on section.
Richard Munro ...	Do.	1	II.	105 1 25	None.	None.	None.	None.	March 20, "	Abandoned.
Stuart Stevenson ...	Do.	2 & 3	"	172 2 20	50 0 0	16 0 0	95	100 0	Oct. 4, "	Living on section.
Peter Power ...	+ Hokonui	452	"	200 0 0	200 0 0	50 0 0	55	150 0	June 30, "	Living on section.
Henry Peard Campion ...	Do.	453	"	200 0 0	100 0 0	50 0 0	30	130 0	May 25, "	Living on section.
John Keown ...	Do.	454	"	200 0 0	200 0 0	60 0 0	50	210 0	" 22, "	Living on section.
James Roche ...	Do.	455	"	200 0 0	100 0 0	12 0 0	20	100 0	June 29, "	Living on section.
John Dillon ...	Do.	456	"	136 0 0	15 0 0	None	25	50 0	Oct. 9, "	Occasionally living on section.
William Terry ...	Do.	457	"	200 0 0	100 0 0	30 0 0	20	150 0	July 20, "	Living on section.
James Mackintosh ...	+ Oreti.	80	"	198 1 17	198 1 17	None.	25	92 14	March 21, "	{ Declared forfeited through non-residence.
James Mackintosh, jun. ...	Do.	81	"	200 0 0	20 0 0	None.	15	50 5	" 21, "	Not living on section.
William Mackintosh ...	Do.	82	"	200 0 0	20 0 0	None.	15	50 5	" 21, "	Living on section.
Donald McFarlane ...	Do.	83	"	200 0 0	140 0 0	0 2 0	28	89 0	" 15, "	Living on section.
Joseph Sharp ...	Do.	84	"	200 0 0	5 0 0	None.	28	23 0	Oct. 16, "	Living on section.
John Evans ...	Do.	85	"	200 0 0	200 0 0	50 0 0	80	188 16	March 13, "	Living on section.
John Comerford ...	Do.	86	"	200 0 0	130 0 0	None.	15	69 15	" 20, "	Not living on section.

* NOTE.—In this District the settlers are complying with the Act in its integrity.

+ NOTE.—In this District selectors are also complying with the Act, and making large improvements.

‡ NOTE.—In this District the land is very swampy, and requires a great deal of draining before the selectors can get any ploughing done.

(Signed)

D. CAMPBELL, Inspector.

RETURN B.—(Continued.)

NAME.	HUNDRED OR DISTRICT.	SECTION.	BLOCK	AREA.	AREA FENCED.	AREA CULTIVATED.	VALUE OF HOUSES.	VALUE OF OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF LICENSE.	CONDITIONS COMPLETED WITH TO DATE.
John McFarlane	*Oreti.	No. 87		A. E. P. 200 0 0	A. E. P. 120 0 0	A. E. P. 1 0 0	£ 30	£ s. 55 0	Feb. 29, 1876	Occasionally living on section.
P. C. C. McLeish	Do.	88		200 0 0	200 0 0	None.	25	112 0	March 9,	Living on section.
Alex. Robson	Do.†	89		200 0 0	180 0 0	None.	15	69 15	" 21,	Not living on section.
Francis Robbie	Do.	90		100 0 0	100 0 0	None.	80	144 15	" 13,	Living on section.
James Smith	Do.	91		100 0 0	100 0 0	None.	30	92 15	" 1,	Living on section.
David Lyon	Do.	92		200 0 0	200 0 0	None.	100	126 10	" 13,	Living on section.
Charles McKenzie	Do.	93		200 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	60	52 10	" 14,	Living on section.
Israel Craig Turnbull	Do.	94		200 0 0	140 0 0	20 0 0	30	115 0	" 13,	Living on section.
John Brown	Do.	95		177 0 32	177 0 32	25 0 0	5	232 0	" 13,	Living on section.
John Walker	Do.	97 & 98		174 3 37	174 3 37	22 0 0	50	117 0	" 11,	Living on section.
John McNaughton	Do.	99		125 2 0	None.	None.	None.	None.	Oct. 17,	Not living on section.
James Millar	† Forest Hill.	180		200 0 0	200 0 0	15 0 0	30	...	March 9,	Living on section.
Andrew Macdonald	Do.	186		166 0 0	211 chains.	50 0 0	420	17 10	Feb. 21,	Living on section.
Sophia Kidd	Do.	188		174 0 0	147 0 0	12 0 0	130	...	March 13,	Living on section.
Henry Kidd	Do.	191		182 0 0	182 0 0	20 0 0	40	...	Feb. 25,	Living on section.
William Butler	Do.	194		199 0 0	105 chains.	30 0 0	45	106 0	March 2,	Living on section.
Mark Starbuck	Do.	227		200 0 0	27 chains.	6 0 0	35	30 12	Oct. 6,	Living on section.
John Scott	Do.	228		200 0 0	Fencing on ground.	None.	...	...	March 12,	Living in a tent on section.
William Scott	Do.	229		183 0 0	30 chains.	None.	30	30 0	Feb. 27,	Living in a tent on section.
David Cumming	† New River.	39		196 0 0	196 0 0	25 0 0	30	91 10	March 5, 1875	Occasionally living on section.
Angus McDonald	Do.	40		200 0 0	25 0 0	None.	40	35 0	Sept. 21, 1876	Living on section.
William Blackwood	Do.	41		200 0 0	200 0 0	26 0 0	100	145 0	March 16, 1874	Living on section.
Donald Hamlyn...	Do.	42		192 0 0	192 0 0	20 0 0	20	82 15	Oct. 9, 1876	Occasionally living on section.
David Henderson	Do.	43		196 1 0	196 1 0	23 0 0	90	154 0	March 1,	Living on section.

* NOTE.—In this District the land is very swampy, and requires a great deal of draining before the selectors can get any ploughing done. (Signed) D. CAMPBELL, Inspector.

† NOTE.—I believe the settlers in this District to be *bona fide*, and did not suspect any of them of dummyism. (Signed) CHAS. ANDERSON, Inspector.

‡ NOTE.—In this District the selectors have built good houses, and are making large improvements. (Signed) D. CAMPBELL, Inspector.

RETURN B.—(Continued.)

NAME.	HUNDRED OR DISTRICT.	SECTION No.	BLOCK.	AREA.		AREA FENCED.		AREA CULTIVATED.		VALUE OF HOUSES.	VALUE OF OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF LICENSE.	CONDITIONS COMPLIED WITH TO DATE.
				A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.				
Allan McDonald	*New River.	44		196	0 0	60	0 0	25	0 0	£ 40	£ 73 0	July 26, 1876	Living on section.
Duncan Campbell	Do.	45		188	1 0	188	1 0	24	0 0	100	108 0	March 1, "	Living on section.
Robert Tait	Do.	46		200	0 0	200	0 0	50	0 0	120	240 0	" 31, "	Living on section.
William Thomas Tait	Do.	47		200	0 0	200	0 0	20	0 0	20	150 0	April 3, "	Living on section.
Charles McKenzie	Do.	54		199	2 28	199	2 28	35	0 0	70	176 10	March 1, "	Living on section.
James Oliver Baskin	+Taringatura.	205		200	0 0	None.		20	0 0	5	20 0	Aug. 25, 1876	Occasionally living on section.
James Kean	Do.	206		200	0 0	10	0 0	20	0 0	20	20 0	Oct. 16, "	Living on section.
Samuel Shepherd	Do.	212		200	0 0	15	0 0	15	0 0	100	40 0	Nov. 27, "	Living on section.
James Burgess	Do.	213		199	2 31	26	0 0	40	0 0	120	150 0	" 27, "	Living on section.
Patrick Murphy	Do.	214		200	0 0	15	0 0	None.		120	15 0	Jan. 8, 1877	Living on section.
(a) David McNaughton	Do.	215		200	0 0	None.		None.		None.	None.	"	Abandoned.
(a) William McNaughton	Do.	216		200	0 0	None.		None.		None.	None.	"	Abandoned.
(a) John McPherson	Do.	217		200	0 0	None.		None.		None.	None.	"	Abandoned.
Hugh Downey	Do.	219		200	0 0	4	0 0	None.		50	30 0	Jan. 2, "	Living on section.
Louis Downey	Do.	220		28	3 04	None.		None.		None.	None.	" 2, 1877	House erected on dividing line between sections No. 219 & 220.
Jeremiah Murphy	Do.	145		197	2 26	15	0 0	None.		15	20 0	Nov. 28, 1876	Living on section.
George Sewell	Do.	146		104	2 37	None.		None.		130	10 0	Dec. 18, "	Living on section.
Archibald Finlayson	Do.	192		200	0 0	200	0 0	20	0 0	120	175 0	Jan. 4, 1875	Living on section.
Nenian Finlayson	Do.	193		200	0 0	200	0 0	20	0 0	20	125 0	" 4, "	Living on section.
Andrew Craig	Do.	195		200	0 0	200	0 0	10	0 0	60	147 0	Aug. 11, 1876	Living on section.

* NOTE.—In this District the selectors have built good houses, and are making large improvements.

+ NOTE.—In this District the selectors have built good houses, and are making improvements, and nearly all the sections are taken up. This District will become a very important one on account of its proximity to two railway stations, and I beg to recommend that all the land available for settlement in this District should be reserved for the deferred payment system.

(Signed) D. CAMPBELL, Inspector.

(a.) These sections have been since taken up and considerably improved.

RETURN B.—(Continued.)

NAME.	HUNDRED OR DISTRICT.	SECTION.	BLOCK.	AREA.		AREA FENCED.		AREA CULTIVATED.		VALUE OF HORSES.	VALUE OF OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF LICENSE.	CONDITIONS COMPLIED WITH TO DATE.
				A.	P.	A.	P.	A.	P.				
Thomas Knight ...	*Wairio.	No. 39		200	0	0	0	28	0	0	6	Jan. 25, 1876	Living on section.
Donald Manson ...	Do.	40		200	0	0	0	40	0	0	40	Dec. 17, 1875	Living on section.
Alexander Manson ...	Do.	40A		164	3	28	0	164	3	28	20	March 27, 1876	Living on section.
Andrew McMenamin ...	Do.	41		200	0	0	0	20	0	0	20	Oct. 31 "	Abandoned.
Robert Campbell ...	Do.	42		200	0	0	0	30	0	0	30	Dec. 17, 1875	Living on section.
James Gallaher ...	Do.	43		199	3	37	0	44	0	0	12	Sept. 26, 1876	Living on section.
John Ford ...	Do.	45		200	0	0	0	1	0	0	12	Oct. 26, "	Occasionally living on section.
John Duggan ...	Do.	46		200	0	0	0	60	0	0	8	Oct. 9, 1876	Occasionally living on section.
Alexander Pyper ...	Do.	47		200	0	0	0	200	0	0	50	Dec. 17, 1875	Living on section.
Joseph Beck ...	Do.	48		199	0	16	0	None.	0	0	8	Dec. 21, 1876	Not living on section.
Clarke R. Martin ...	Do.	49		200	0	0	0	None.	0	0	20	" 18, "	Not living on section.
Joseph Beck, jun. ...	Do.	50		199	1	21	0	None.	0	0	70	" 5, "	Not living on section.
Samuel B. McDonald ...	Do.	51		200	0	0	0	None.	0	0	70	" 15 "	Not living on section.
William Mackintosh ...	Do.	52		199	2	32	0	None.	0	0	250	" 15 "	Not living on section.
Roderick Mackintosh ...	Do.	53		200	0	0	0	60	0	0	250	" 18, "	Living on section.

* I believe the settlers in this District to be *bona fide*, and no appearance of dummyism, as far as I could see.

(Signed)

CHAS. ANDERSON, Inspector.

W. H. PEARSON,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

