

1888.  
NEW ZEALAND.

## INTERIM RETURN OF SHEEP IN THE COLONY ON 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 1888.

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

SIR,—  
Crown Lands Department (Stock Branch),  
Wellington, 27th August, 1888.

I have the honour to furnish an interim return of sheep. The total number in the colony on the 31st May, 1888, as compiled from the returns, was 15,010,825; and in addition to this it is estimated there will be about 30,000 more to include, for which returns have not yet been received, making in all 15,040,825, as against 15,155,626 for 1887, or a deficiency of 114,801.

I have added a table at the foot showing the increases and decreases in the several districts throughout the colony.

I have, &c.,  
B. P. BAYLY,  
Superintending Inspector.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

TABLE showing Increase or Decrease in the Number of Sheep in each District throughout the Colony.

District.	Number of Sheep.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887.	1888.		
Auckland .. .. .	299,479	344,480	45,001	..
Napier .. .. .	3,020,699	3,060,765	40,066	..
West Coast .. .. .	1,037,727	1,138,746	101,019	..
Wellington .. .. .	1,148,580	1,107,189	..	41,391
Nelson .. .. .	147,731	155,675	7,944	..
Marlborough .. .. .	1,111,438	1,119,026	7,588	..
Canterbury .. .. .	4,410,130	4,267,265	..	142,865
Otago .. .. .	3,979,842	3,817,679	..	162,163
	15,155,626	15,010,825	201,618	346,419
Returns to come in .. .. .	..	30,000	..	201,618
		15,040,825	..	144,801 30,000
Estimated decrease .. .. .	..	..	..	114,801

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