

I should add, that in all arrangements made by me for the purchase of land at Auckland, no contract of this kind has been entered into; neither had any purchase been made, in this Province or elsewhere, subject to the payment of five (5) per cent. since the month of December 1854.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) DONALD M'LEAN,  
Commissioner.

W. Gisborne, Esq.,  
Acting Colonial Secretary,

ENCLOSURE NO. 1.

Crown Land Office,  
Wellington, 28th January, 1856.

SIR,—I do myself the honor, in accordance with the instructions recently received from his Excellency, to transmit you enclosed a Statement, so far as I have been able to prepare it from the memorandum of Mr. Commissioner M'Lean, also enclosed, relative to the 5 per cents. reserved to the Natives on certain lands at Wairarapa, showing the amount due under that head to the Natives up to the 31st December, 1855.

With regard to the future, I feel quite unable to make any reliable estimate of the probable amount that would become due during the remainder of the financial year. I think the best plan is that which will be recommended to his Excellency by Mr. M'Lean; namely, to assume a certain average in the several Blocks subject to the 5 per cents. reserve, calculate what would become due to the Natives ultimately, on the sale of that average, and then come to an equitable arrangement with them for the surrender of the condition for a stipulated sum, payable in certain fixed instalments.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) F. D. BELL,  
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

The Honourable  
The Colonial Secretary,  
&c., &c., &c.

STATEMENT of Amount due to the Natives of Wairarapa and East Coast, under the arrangements for paying them five per cent. on the amount of Land Sales in certain Blocks, specified in Mr. Commissioner M'Lean's letter of January 18th, 1856.

	£	s.	d.
Total amount of cash received up to the 31st December, 1855, for land in the above Blocks	15,215	0	0
Amount due to the Natives, being 5 per cent.	760	15	0

(Signed) F. D. BELL,  
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Wellington,  
January 18th, 1856.

The Blocks of Land on which 5 per cent. is payable in the Wellington Province, are—

1. Block No. 1, West side of Wairarapa Lake, estimated in all at 200,000 acres; but of this extent not more than 20,000 acres can be considered as immediately available for sale. This would give the Natives £500 when all that land is disposed of	20,000
2. East side of Lake	27,000
3. McMasters Run, containing of saleable land (say)	20,000
4. Tauwharenikau	8,000
5. Wilson's Run, on the coast	7,000
6. Manawatu Block	16,000
7. Part of Block No. 1 (say)	7,000
8. Wairongo	6,000
9. Tautau	8,000
10. Wharekaka	11,000
11. Part of Whareama Block	4,000
12. At Ahuriri	6,000
Total	140,000