

fall, 45·306; (3) days on which rain falls, 185. Crown rural lands are 5s., 10s., 15s. an acre and upwards, or may be rented. Homestead lands are given, 50 to 75 acres to those above, and 10 to 30 acres to those below 18 years, on conditions of cultivation and of residence for five years. Some land, as in the extreme north, is poor; much is good clay soil, but some of this (1) wants draining, or (2) is inaccessible, (3) broken and covered with bush and forest. Coal is worked round Whangarei and Russell; gold fields round Coromandel and Thames employ 1,030 miners. Average wages 42s. to 48s. a week; food rather dear.

- (2.) Hawke's Bay. (Land Office at Napier.) 4,000,000 acres; population 18,000; chiefly pastoral, for which it is extremely well suited; 2,302,381 sheep (Merinos, Lincolns, &c.) in 1883; rich alluvial plains in the south; several rivers; mean annual temperature is $57^{\circ} 56'$; only $19^{\circ} 26'$ colder in winter than summer; rainfall 37·260 inches. First-class Government land costs from £1 an acre; second-class, from 15s.; third-class, from 5s. Clearing bush land is trying, and costs 30s. to 50s. an acre. Some excellent agricultural bits in Wairoa, Kumeroa, and Kaikora; wheat 25, oats 26, barley 40 bushels, potatoes $4\frac{3}{4}$ tons, per acre. First-rate timber in the Seventy Mile Bush, near Takapau and elsewhere. The rabbits and the bush want clearing off, and more roads made.
- (3.) Wellington. (Land Office at Wellington). 6,000,000 acres; well suited for small farms; beautiful valleys, rivers, and mountains. Much of the land wants clearing, which involves great labour; wheat averages 30 bushels an acre. There are 1,500,000 sheep. Rainfall is nearly 50 inches; average temperature is 55° , with fluctuations of 46° at Wellington and 55° at Wanganui; capital small farms round Masterton and Marton; flax round Foxton; timber round Palmerston; grazing land in many parts. Drawbacks are the rabbits, paucity of roads in parts, and labour of bush-felling. Crown land is from 20s. an acre.
- (4.) Taranaki. (Land Offices at New Plymouth and Patea.) Settled in 1841 by the New Zealand Co. Area is 2,137,000 acres, of which 175,000 is cultivated; wheat