

THE REPRESENTATION ACT.

Otago Witness, Putanga 1860, 15 Hōngongoi 1887, Page 16

► Mō tēnei niupepa

► Tiro i te tuhinga kupu ā-rorohiko

◀ Hoki ki ngā ihirangi
tuhinga ▶**THE REPRESENTATION ACT.****REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.**

WELLINGTON, July 11.

The following is a copy of the report of the Representation Commissioners, which was forwarded by the commissioners to the Government, with the description of the new boundaries:—

“May it please your Excellency, we, the undersigned, appointed by a commission, bearing date the 8th day of June 1887, under the hand of the Governor and seal of the colony, for the purposes of ‘The Representation Act 1887,’ do respectfully submit for your Excellency’s consideration our report, as follows:—

“The first question we had to determine was what, for the purposes of ‘The Representation Act 1887,’ was to be considered the actual population of the colony and acting under legal advice we resolved that the total number taken at the census of March 28, 1886, must be adopted, but that the persons returned as on board ship or residing in the Chatham Islands should not be placed in any electoral district. Having been furnished with a certified copy of the census returns by the Registrar-general, we found that the total population of the colony was 578,482. Of these 205,540 persons were residing in 30 boroughs, each containing over 2000 inhabitants, 4726 were on board ship, and 199 at the Chatham Islands, leaving 368,017 residing in special districts. Adding 18 per cent. to these, we obtained a total nominal population for the purposes of the act of 644,705, and dividing this by 91 (the number of representatives), we arrived at 7085 as the quota for each electoral district. We found the total nominal population of the North Island to be 277,453, and of the Middle Island 367,272, entitling the former

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to 39 and the latter to 52 members respectively.

"We then proceeded to arrange the districts, taking into consideration (so far as the limits of the population permitted) community of interest, facilities for communication, topographical features, and the ratio of adult males to females, and divided the colony into the following electorates."

The electorates for the whole colony with their respective populations are then given and the report continues:—

"We attach to this report seven maps, showing the several electoral districts, and a schedule containing a detailed description of their boundaries. We acknowledge, and think it right to record, the important assistance we have received from the Surveyor-general and his department. Without his personal knowledge of almost every part of the colony, his indefatigable industry, his ability and energy, and his previous preparation of maps, showing the population in every census sub-enumerators' district, we feel that we could not satisfactorily have completed the task committed to us within the time specified by the Representation Act.

"Given under our hands and seals this 4th day of July 1887.—T. M. Houltain, John Hislop, E. Dobson, James M'Kerrow, J. Sperrey."

The nominal and actual population of the Otago and Southland electorates are as follows:—

		Actual.	Nominal.
Waimate	...	5,612	6,623
Waitaki ...	...	6,979	7,055
Oamaru ...	...	6,643	6,877
Waihemo	...	6,292	7,424
Port Chalmers	...	6,109	6,803
Dunedin West	...	7,591	7,695
Dunedin East	...	7,699	7,699
Dunedin Central	...	7,010	7,010
Dunedin South	...	6,826	6,826
Roslyn ...	...	7,615	7,674
Peninsula	...	6,304	6,966
Caversham	...	6,276	6,742
Taieri ...	...	5,838	6,858
Mount Ida	...	5,381	6,349
Bruce ...	...	5,543	6,540
Tuapeka...	...	5,396	6,367
Dunstan	...	5,394	6,365
Clutha ...	...	5,383	6,352
Waikaiti ...	...	5,472	6,457
Matamoras...	...	5,975	7,050
Hokonui...	...	6,211	7,329
Ōhāke	...	6,009	7,090
Wallace ...	...	6,187	7,300
Invercargill	...	6,717	6,985
Awarua ...	...	5,553	6,552
Totals (Middle I.) ...		326,347	365,619

Kua tangohia aunoatia tēnei tuhinga mai i te Otago Witness, ka whakatōpūtia ki te tiwae kotahi, kātahi ka whakatika papaitia kia āta kitea ki te mata o tō rorohiko. Nā reira kāore pea e ōrite te āhua ki tō te whārangi tūturu. Ka kitea te tuhinga ki tōna āhua tūturu ki te tirohanga wā.

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