

3 pages written 22 Jul 1872 by G M Gray in Wanganui to Sir Donald McLean in Wellington

Wanganui 22 July 1872

Dear Sir

Not having heard from you  
as to my small lot of Sheep at Marakohoko  
I wrote to your Manager enquiring whether  
he had prepared a statement. The enclosed  
is his answer. I do not wonder at your  
not having time to go into the calculation  
but I am a little surprised at a man of  
Goudie's experience having any difficulty  
about so simple a matter.  
The origin of the thing was a Sallock I  
sold your brother Alexander Feb. 1858  
for which he was to give me 10 Maiden Ewes  
which were to remain on the Run, and the  
agreement was that you were to get all the  
wool and I was to get all the increase.  
I got a return from Capt. M. Lean for 1860

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making the amount then 19 Ewes + 10 Wethers.  
I had a note from him afterwards stating  
that the total number in 1862 was 48 but  
not stating particulars. This is all the  
information I have.

I once had a conversation with Clark  
the great Sheep Owner in Victoria. He told  
me that when he went there first he took  
with him 2000 Ewes, he never added to them,  
but sold a great many and boiled down  
many thousands. Yet at the end of fourteen  
years his flocks all out of these 2000 Ewes  
amounted to 140,000 Sheep. This was an  
increase of 70 times the original number  
besides all that had been sold and boiled  
down during that period.

I do not suppose your success has been  
equal to his, yet on a fair estimate I  
believe my 10 Ewes of 1858 should now  
amount to several hundreds. But if

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there is to be any difficulty about the matter  
I would propose at once that we agree to  
refer the question to Mr. Gollan. You will  
furnish him with the necessary data and  
he will do what is right between us.

Yours very truly  
G. M. Gray

Mr. D. McLean }  
Wellington }