

82. The extent of our farm was originally sixty five acres, of freehold as previously mentioned. A little later was added fifty acres of leasehold. The owner of this got a big fright as the result of the flood previously mentioned and leased <sup>the farm</sup> it to father for fourteen years at a rental of £1 per acre. When this lease expired it was renewed for a further 21 years at a slightly higher rental. Then there was a forty acre <sup>piece</sup> which the owner getting into some difficulties sold for £25 per acre, these three places together made up what we called the homestead totalling 155 acres. ~~Over~~ another 100 acres was also purchased, about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles away, but was heavy swamp land, & having been at one time heavily timbered, but there was only the buried timber consisting of Totara, Matai, Takahuatea, & Manuka. This was only seen after the swamp had been drained, ~~when~~ the timber showed up & the ground land settled <sup>down</sup> the whole of this area was ~~also~~ also covered with dense flax. In later years after drainage & sown down with English grasses. It was mostly used for rearing dry stock

For cropping purposes, it was not the best beyond producing enormous quantities of rough feed but too much straw when cropped. Taken altogether the farm as a whole was more suited for grazing purposes, & altho. very good and heavy crops were grown on it, yet its carrying capacity for stock was exceptionally good. The extent of our cropping rarely exceeded sixty acres. But it would carry a beast to the acre, & this is generally reckoned as first class. We did not go in at any time for sheep. Father at one time said that he was no judge of cattle, but he was a good judge of horses. He never developed as a breeder of high class horses, but he certainly did become a breeder of very high class Short horn cattle, & was known all over the country as a breeder, & was in general request all over Canterbury as a judge of that class of cattle at the various agricultural shows. At that early time, the Short horn cattle