

# REPORT ON THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—

Government Printing Office,  
Wellington, 24th August, 1872.

I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the Government, a Return showing the quantity and value of work executed in the Government Printing Office for the several Departments during the past financial year.

The classification of the work now made affords much greater facilities for reference, while it shows more accurately than has hitherto been done the extent to which the Printing Office has been used by the respective Departments of the Government.

The details of the amounts enumerated in the Return are entered day by day in the Work Book, and posted from thence to their respective Accounts in the Ledger. The fullest information, therefore, can be afforded respecting the figures contained under each head in the Return.

It will be observed, on reference to the Return, that more than one-half of the total value of work done has been chargeable to the General Assembly—the amount being £7,196 11s. 6d. This amount is subdivided under the following heads:—

|   |        |    |    |
|---|--------|----|----|
| GENERAL ASSEMBLY—   | £      | s. | d. |
| Bills, <i>Hansard</i> , Private Bill Office      ...      ...      ...  | 2,359  | 11 | 0  |
| HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—   |        |    |    |
| Order Paper, Parliamentary Papers, Reports, Journal, Statutes,<br>and Miscellaneous...      ...      ...      ... | 4,165  | 15 | 8  |
| LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—  |        |    |    |
| Order Paper, Returns, Reports, Journal, and Miscellaneous   | 671    | 4  | 10 |
|   | <hr/>  |    |    |
|   | £7,196 | 11 | 6  |

I also have the honor to transmit a statement of the affairs of the Department at the close of the past financial year. A perusal of this statement will show, after deducting all expenses chargeable against the Department on account of salaries, additions to buildings, fuel and gas, contingencies, &c., a net profit for the year of £3,146 3s. 8d., or about 32 per cent. upon the outlay.

I am also enabled this year to place before you a statement showing the present value of the plant. During the month of May last a complete inventory of the stock was taken, the estimated value of which, at the close of the financial year, after making the necessary deductions for depreciation, &c., was £3,828 4s. 4d. The plant, therefore, may be said to have produced during the year work to the amount of three times its value. The smallness of the plant, in comparison to the work required to be done, occasions a greater loss in wear and tear than would otherwise take place. The additions proposed to be made to it, however, will place the Department in a much better position to perform the work required, and will, I trust, enable me next year to present a balance sheet even more favourable than the one now submitted.

I append a copy of the scale of prices under which the work has been charged, from which it will be perceived that for some descriptions of work I am charging fully 50 per cent. less than is paid to private printers.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
Wellington.

I have, &c.,  
GEORGE DIDSBURY,  
Government Printer.