## 1878. NEW ZEALAND.

# EDUCATION.

(LITERARY INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES SUBSIDIES.)

Return to an Order of the House of Representatives, dated 31st July, 1878.

Ordered, "That a return be laid upon the table showing the names of the public libraries which have received subsidies under 'The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877,' and the amount awarded to each."—Mr. Wakefield.

#### "PUBLIC LIBRARIES SUBSIDIES ACT, 1877."

Distribution of Vote of £5,000 amongst Education Boards.

Education Board.			-	_				ount.	
Madacacion Douras							£	s.	d.
$\mathbf{Auckland}$	•••						1,025	7	0
Taranaki							104	15	0
Wellington							556	7	0
Hawke's Bay	•••		***				179	0	0
Marlborough	•••					• • •	97	<b>6</b>	0
${f Nelson}$			•••				312	18	0
$\mathbf{Westland}$			•••				211	4	0
Canterbury	•••						1,068	17	0
Otago	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	• • •	1,444	6	0
							£5,000	0	0
							æ0,000	U	U

## COPY of CIRCULAR sent to EDUCATION BOARDS.

Sir,—

Education Department, Wellington, 21st February, 1878.

I have the honor, by direction of the Minister of Education, to forward a copy of "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877," and to request the attention of your Board to the second section thereof

The sum voted for the purpose specified in the Act is £5,000. The proportion, according to population, which would fall to your provincial district is £; and Government are prepared to intrust this sum to your Board for distribution within the Provincial District of , on the following conditions:—

1. That the requirements of the second section of the Act shall be strictly complied with; and
2. That, if the limits of your education district are altered by "The Education Act, 1877," an
equitable distribution of the money will be made by your Board, nevertheless, amongst all the public
libraries within the said provincial district the managers of which shall comply with the provisions of

the Libraries Subsidies Act.

You will therefore be good enough to cause a v.

You will therefore be good enough to cause a voucher to be forwarded for the amount abovementioned should your Board undertake its distribution in accordance with the conditions herein specified.

In connection with this subject I may suggest the advisability of your Board including in its annual report information relative to public or school libraries within your district.

I have, &c.,

The Chairman of the Education Board.

JOHN HISLOP.

1—H. 1<sub>F</sub>.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION, AUCKLAND.

		נטע	THO OF	Education,	AUC.	VIVID			1 00 7	т.	_
List	of Grants	allotted	under	" The Public	Libi	raries	Sub	Luckl <i>sidies</i>	and, 23rd <i>Act</i> , 18	Jul 77.''	y, 1
rough Libr						£	s.	d.	£		d.
Aucklan	d Institute	•••	•••		•••	95	0	0			
Aucklan	d Mechanic	s' Instit	ute			175	0	0			
Onehung	ga		• • •	•••		36	0	0			
Thames	•••	•••		•••		121	0	0			
Turanga	(Gisborne)	•••	• • • •	• • •	•••	46	0	0		_	
T '7							-		473	0	0
er Librari						_	_	^			
Bombay	•••	•••	• • • •	•••	•••	9	0	0			
Cambrid		•••	•••	•••	•••	25	0	0			
Hobsony	a (Herd's F	Point	•••	•••	•••	15 15	0	0 0			
Howick	а ( <del>116</del> 10 в т	•	•••	•••	•••	$\frac{13}{2}$	0	0			
Kaitaia	•••		•••	•••	•••	4	ő	ő			
Kaukapa		•••	•••	•••	•••	$1\overline{5}$	ŏ	ŏ			
	kapa (child		•••	•••	•••	9	ő	ŏ			
Kawakay	va		•••	•••		26	ő	ŏ			
Kirktow			•••	•••		9	ŏ	ŏ			
Lake	•••	•••	•••	•••		19	0	Õ			
Mahuran	gi			•••		9	0	0			
	gi Heads	•••		•••		6	0	0			
Mangapa		•••	•••	•••	•••	18	0	0			
Matakan		•••	•••	•••		3	0	0			
Matakoh	e	• • •	•••	•••	•••	4	0	0			
Mauku	akii	• • • •	•••	•••	•••	6	0	0			
Maungat Maungat		•••	•••	•••	•••	10 5	0	0			
Newmarl		•••	•••	•••	•••	$\frac{3}{24}$	0	0			
Ngaruaw				•••		9	0	ŏ			
Omaha		•••		•••		3	ŏ	ŏ			
	Mongonui)		•••	•••		2	ŏ	ŏ			
Otahuhu				•••		$\bar{3}$	Ö	ŏ			
Pakurang			•••	•••	•••	6	0	0			
Papakura	•••	•••	•••			16	0	0			
Port Alb		•••	• • •	•••	• • •	5	0	0			
Pukekoh				•••	• • •	6	0	0			
	Mechanics	' Institi	ute		•••	103	0	0			
Te Arai Te Awan		•••	•••	•••	•••	3	0	0			
Te Kopu	iucu rii	***	•••	•••	•••	10 36	0	0			
Tititangi		•••	•••	•••	•••	5 5	0	0			
Tokatea ]		•••	•••	•••	•••	24	ŏ	ŏ			
Tologa B	ay		•••	•••		8	ŏ	ŏ			
Wainui	• • • • •	•••		•••	•••	6	ŏ	Ŏ			
Waipu	•••			•••		12	Õ	0			
Wairoa S		•••	•••	•••		11	0	0			
Waiuku !			•••	•••		12	0	0			
Whakata		•••	•••	•••	•••	15	0	0			
w nangar	ei Institute	• • • •	•••	•••	•••	20	0	0		_	_
								_	<b>54</b> 8	0	0
	Total amou	nt alla44	had						1.001		_
	be dealt wi		·	•••	•••	••	••		1,021	0	0
Aratapu	· · ·					58	0	0			
Raglan	***		•••	•••		$\frac{33}{12}$	Ö	0			
Whau	•••	•••		•••	•••	5	ŏ	0			
<del>-</del>			•••	***	•••			_	75	0	0
	_								1,096	0	0
	By amount	of gran	t	•••					1,025	7	Ö
	_	_				•					
	Balance, de	ficit	•••	•••					70	13	0

BOARD OF EDUCATION, TARANAKI.

Copy of Resolution passed 10th June, 1878.

<sup>&</sup>quot;That the allocation of the Government grant to the public libraries of the Provincial District of Taranaki be determined by the amount of their voluntary subscriptions, exclusive of grants from public bodies, or other moneys."

#### Claims disallowed.

1. Taranaki Institute, £106 4s. 1d.; not a free library.

2. Taranaki Reading Room, £70; not subscription—£50 from Municipal Council, £20 from County Council.

3. Patea, £363 2s. 2d.; only £90 12s. 8d. allowed, being subscription within the limit of 1877.
4. Hawera, £72 10s.; only £11 6s. 3d. allowed, being the amount of subscriptions received up to 31st December, 1877.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•			07.1							
				Claims a	llowed.						
					Subsc	ripti	ons.		Share	S.	
					£	8.	d.		£s.	d.	
Patea				***	90	12	8		57 19	3	Paid.
Hawera	•••	•••			11	6	3		74	8	
Inglewood	•••	•••			20	7	9	• • • •	13 0	9	Paid.
Waitara		•••	• • •	•••	13	19	0		8 18	6	,,
Bell Block	•••	•••	•••		12	0	0		7 13	6	,,
Oakura	•••	•••	•••	•••	5	12	6	•••	3 12	0	27
Huirangi		•••			5	7	6	•••	3 8	10	"
Manutahi	•••		• • •		4	10	0	•••	2 17	6	**
					£163	15	8		£104 15	0	
						ш.					

W. NORTHCROFT.

#### WELLINGTON EDUCATION BOARD.

Return of the Distribution of the Amount of Library Grant.

556 <b>7</b> 0
£556 7 0
ROBERT LEE.

#### EDUCATION BOARD, DISTRICT OF WANGANUI.

Memorandum for John Hislop, Esq., Secretary, Education Department, Wellington,

31st July, 1878. Sir,-In reply to your telegram just to hand, I now beg to hand you return of distribution of vote for public libraries in this district. Amount of grant received from the Wellington Education Board, estimated at d. 185 9 7s. 8d. in the pound on amount collected 0 Collected. Paid at 7s. 8d. £ s. £ в. d. d. 385 15 11 147 17 Wanganui 3 10 Crofton 0 1 6 10 ... 50 12 6 19 8 0 Sandon ... ... ... 23 12 6 9 1 0 Upper Tutanui ... 18 12 7  $\mathbf{2}$ 6 Otaki ...

Balance for printing circular ... 184 15 10 13 2

I have, &c., A. N. Browne, Secretary.

185 9 0

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

## HAWKE'S BAY EDUCATION BOARD.

Sib,—							]	Napier.	31st	July	, 1878.	
I I	have the	honor to	reply to	your te	legram	(circular, 1	urgent)	of this	date	as	follows	. re
distribution	of vote f	or public	and school	ol librarie	s :		0 ,		£	s.	_ ′	
Pe	tane		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	10	18	0	
	nuwere	•••	*** .	•••	•••	•••		•••	13	<b>2</b>	0	
Pu	ıketapu	•••	***	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	11	0	0	
	rangah <b>a</b> t		•••	•••	•••	•••			10	0	0	
$\mathbf{H}$ a	ımpden,	Meaneeri	i, Ormone	d, Hastin	gs, Wai	roa, Bush	Settlen	aent.				
	Waipu	kurau, ea	ch respec	tively £1	9 4s.	•••		•••	134	0	0	
								ä	£179	0	0	
											=	

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
H. Hill,
Inspector and Secretary.

## EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MARLBOROUGH.

Return of Distribution of Vote for Public Libraries, showing Names of Libraries subsidized and Amount granted to each.

Name of Library	•						Amount	gra	nted.	
T31 1 1 W							£	8.	d.	
Blenheim Institute	•••		•••	•••		•••	46	16	0	
Picton Institute		•••	•••	•••	•••		33	18	4	
Canvas Town Librar	У	•••	•••	•••	•••	• • •	16	11	8	
							£97	6	0	

Education Office, Blenheim, 6th August, 1878.

John Robinson, Secretary.

#### NELSON EDUCATION DISTRICT.

Statement of Appropriation of Grant from the General Government under "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877."

Library Subsidize	đ.			•	Amount of Subscription, 1877. £ s. d.		Share of Grant. £ s. d.
Brunnerton					14 5 0		12 5 1
Charleston		•••	•••	•••	$\frac{1}{42} \frac{1}{17} \frac{1}{6}$	•••	36 17 4
Collingwood					11 8 0	•••	9 16 4
Clifton Terrace		•••	•••		6 5 0		5 7 5
Cobden					2 7 0	•••	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Dovedale	•••				2  4  0		1 17 10
Hillside (Suburba	an Nort	h)			4 0 0		3 8 9
Motupipi.		·			5  0  0		$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Hope				•••	5 4 0	•••	$\frac{1}{4}  \frac{1}{9}  \frac{1}{5}$
Nelson					100 15 0		86 13 9
Motueka				• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	10 0 0		8 11 11
Ngatimoti			•••	•••	3 18 0		3 7 0
Reefton			•••		50 14 0		$43 \ 12 \ 4$
Riwaka		•••			15 14 6	•••	13 10 5
${f Richmond}$			•••		14 10 0		12 8 0
Tarau (Upper Mo	outere)		•••		6 16 9	•••	5 17 7
Stoke			• • •		5 13 0	•••	$4\overline{17}$ 2
Takaka East			•••		$9 \ 0 \ 0$	•••	7 14 8
Takaka Lower			•••		6  3  0	•••	$5\ \ 5\ \ 9$
Waimea South			•••		12  4  4	•••	10 10 4
Wakefield Upper					3 14 0	•••	3 3 7
Westport	•••		•••	•••	31 4 0	•••	26 17 0
Tot	als				363 17 1		312 18 0

Education Office, Nelson, 2nd August, 1878.

W. C. Hodgson, Secretary, Nelson Education Board.

## WESTLAND EDUCATION DISTRICT.

List of Literary Societies in the Westland Provincial District subsidized by the Board of Education, with the Names of the Librarians.

Name of Socie	ty.				Name of Librarian.		Am Su £	oun bsid s.	
Hokitika		•••	•••		J. Anderson		96	0	Õ
$\mathbf{Greymouth}$	•••	•••	•••		R. A. Young	•••	29	3	4
Kumara	•••	•••	•••		G. F. Firsby	•••	29	10	0
$\mathbf{Ross}$	•••	•••	***		J. Joseph		22	7	0
Stafford		•••	•••	•••	N. H. Tumell		10	10	10
Goldsboroug	g <b>h</b>	•••	•••	•••	George Finachi	•••	8	0	0
Big Dam	•••	•••	•••		R. J. Seddon	•••	8	0	0
Cullaghan	•••	.,.	•••	•••	N. Hunt		7	12	10
									—
							$\pounds 211$	4	0

E. J. Robinson, Secretary.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACCOUNT.

Distribution of Vote in the District of Canterbury.

April 20th, 1878.					£ s	. d.	£	s.	d.
Government Grant							1,068		o.
Akaroa	•••		•••	•••		3 5	1,000	_,	U
Ashburton	•••		•••		32 13	_			
Ashley Bank		•••	•••	•••		3 3			
Barry's Bay	•••	•••	•••	•••	7 7				
Broadfield		•••	•••		i 12				
Courtenay	•••	•••	•••	•••	13 19				
Cautby Coll				•••	294 19				
O	•••	•••	•••	•••	4 14				
Dunsandel	•••	•••	•••	•••		3 10			
Eyreton	•••	•••	•••	•••	$\frac{3}{2}$				
Fernside	•••	•••	•••	•••	$\tilde{2}$				
Flaxton		•••	•••		4 19				
Geraldine	•••	•••	•••	•••	32 7	-			
Greenpark		•••	•••	•••	1	-			
Δ	•••	•••	•••	•••	$\frac{1}{3}$ 1				
TT 11 ()	•••	•••	•••	• • •	1 15				
TT 1 .11	•••	•••	•••	•••		-			
	•••	•••	• • •	•••	25 8				
Harewood Road	•••	•••	•••	•••	2 17				
Heathcote, Lower	•••	•••	• • •	•••	$\frac{32}{5}$				
Heathcote, Upper	•••	•••	•••	• • •	7 4				
Hillsborough	•••	•••	•••	• • •	4 8				
Hororata	•••		•••	• • •	6 8				
Kaiapoi Island Road	•••	•••	•••	•••	3 13	_			
Kakahu	•••		•••	•••	3 18				
Killinchy	•••		***	•••	4 16	_			
Kimberley	•••	•••	•••	•••	2 12				
Kowai North	•••	•••	•••		10 13				
Kowai Pass	•••		•••	• • •	6 4				
${f Lake side}$	•••	• • •	•••	• • •	2 17	7 0			
Le Bon's Bay			•••	• • •	4 10	10			
Brookside					5 2	7			
$\mathbf{Leeston} \qquad \dots$	•••				9 12	4			
Leithfield					21 18	3 2			
${f Lincoln}$			•••		15 4	7			
Little Akaloa					9 19	6			
Little River					9 3	10			
${\bf Loburn} \qquad \dots$	•••	•••	•••		11 10	10			
Lyttelton	•••	***	•••	•••	81 13				
Malvern East	•••		•••		6 11				
Mandeville Plains	•••				$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{14}$	-			
Mount Grey Downs	•••	•••		•••	3 16				
New Brighton	•••	•••		•••	$2\overline{13}$				
Okains Bay					8 5				
Oxford		•••		•••	23 19				
TD '			•••	•••	10 15				
Papanui Pigeon Bay	***	. • • •	•••	•••	10 13				
Pleasant Point	•••	•••	••	•••	5 14				
Port Victoria	•••	•••	•••	• • •	$3  ext{ } 4$				
Prebbleton	•••	***	•••	•••	3 7				
	•••	•••	•••	•••	14 16				
Rakaia South	•••	•••	•••	•••					
Rangiora	•••	•••	•••	•••	<b>2</b> 9 3	6			

						_	_	_		
						${f \pounds}$	s. d.	£	S.	d.
${f Riccarton}$	•••					7 18	3 2			
		•••				3 14	4 5			
St. Alban's	Mechani	cs' Institu	ıte			5 (	0 (			
Saltwater C	reek					2 13	3 5			
Southbridge	١					31 19	9 9			
Southbrook			•••	•••	•••	4	. •			
Springston		•••	•••	•••	•••	9 5				
Taitapu	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	4 10	_			
	•••		•••	•••	•••					
	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	4 10	_			
Temuka	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	29 12				
Waimate	•••	• • • •	•••	• • •	•••	37 10				
Wainui	•••		•••		•••	4 15				
			•••			7 18				
$\mathbf{Waltham}$						12 6	3 7			
Waterton		•••				7 9	9 7			
$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}\mathbf{d}\mathbf{e}\mathbf{n}$		• • •				0 7	7 1			
West Melto	n					4 5	5 6			
Winchester						7 14				
337 1 1	•••	•••	•••	•••		10 10				
V-131		•••	•••	•••	•••	8 2				
Laidhurst	•••	•••	•••	•••	• • • •	0 2	4 I			
A 3	" m:	TT13	,,			^ ′				
Advertising,	, "Timai	u Herald		•••	•••	0 8				
,,	"Press		•••	•••	•••	0 8				
,,	" Times			:::	•••	0 8				
,,		Canterb		es ''		0 7				
,,	"New !	Zealand S	Sun "		•••	0 7	' 0			
"	"Ashbı	ırton <b>M</b> a	il ''			0 10	6			
,,	" Wain	ate Star '	,			0 10	0 (			
,,	"Akaro	a Mail"				0 12	0			
"	"Temu	ka Leade	r ''			0 12	Õ			
		ora Stand		•••	•••	0 6	-			
Printing, To			••••		•••	1 13	_			
Receipt Star			Petty Co		•••	0 13	-			
Treceipt Stat	யிம், மு. (	л., аци	roug Ca	ion, in ou	• • • • •	0 10	•	.e1 0ee	1/7	
								£1,068	T/	0

SIR,-Education Office, Dunedin, 7th August, 1878. In reply to your circular of the 1st instant, I have to state that the distribution of the vote

for public libraries has not yet taken place.

When the Education Board agreed to take charge of the amount voted by the Government, a resolution was passed to the effect that the system of subsidizing public libraries which has been in

operation in Otago for so many years should still be continued.

The system referred to is as follows:—Library Committees are invited by advertisement to forward to the Education Office a list of the books they think suitable, and which they are desirous of obtaining for the use of their libraries. Upon receipt of these lists, an order is made out and forwarded to the Board's agents in Britain. The order is intrusted to a firm of booksellers in Edinburgh, who supply the books at publishers' prices. On receipt of the invoices from Britain, catalogues are printed and sent out to every Library Committee. Committees are allowed to select books to double the value of the sum deposited by them, the Board supplementing their contributions at the rate of pound for pound.

The selection of books by Committees is not restricted to the supply procured by the Board. Committees may purchase books from any of the booksellers, the Board supplementing the amount paid at the rate of pound for pound. The bookseller's receipts are taken as evidence of the amount

paid.

No profit is charged by the Board on any of the books, and they are supplied to the Committees

at cost price. The books are all uniformly and strongly bound in half calf.

As the books recently ordered from Britain have not yet arrived, I am unable at present to give a detailed statement of the distribution of the sum of £1,444 6s. granted by the Government for public libraries. I shall not be able to do so until after the arrival of the books, and the claims of the various I have, &c.,
P. G. PRYDE, Committees have been met.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

Secretary, Education Board.

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH EDUCATION BOARDS RELATIVE TO MR. KELLY'S QUESTION:

"Whether any portion of the grant of £5,000 for public libraries has been given to libraries within boroughs, not being free libraries within the meaning of "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877."—(Mr. Kelly.)

(Circular.) Wellington, 24th August, 1878. PLEASE report, for information of Parliament, whether any portion of the recent grant for public libraries has been given to libraries within boroughs not being free libraries within the meaning of the Subsidies Act-see particularly, section 7. If so, please give particulars as to names and amounts paid, and explanation.

The Secretary, Education Board.

JOHN HISLOP.

#### AUCKLAND.

Auckland, 26th August, 1878. Re LIBRARY GRANT (see Chairman's letter of 23rd July). Of the borough libraries subsidized out of the recent grant, all have complied with section 7 of Act except the Auckland Mechanics' Institute-£175 granted at the special request of the Hon. Mr. Sheehan.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

VINCENT E. RICE, Secretary.

SIR,-Board of Education, Auckland, 23rd July, 1878.

I am requested by the Board to address you in reference to the apportionment of the grant allotted to this district under "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877," and entrusted to the Board for distribution in terms of your circular, No. 3, dated 21st February last.

Acting upon the instructions conveyed in that circular, the late Board published an advertisement inviting applications from the public libraries within the Auckland Provincial District, and specifying the twelve months ending 31st December, 1877, as the period in respect of which the voluntary subscriptions of each library were to be reckoned in the distribution of the grant.

After receiving and considering the applications sent in up to the 31st May, the Board fixed upon pound for pound as the basis of distribution, and grants were accordingly allotted to the several libraries entitled to participate.

The applications received from borough libraries were found to represent the sum of £473. These libraries the Board considered to be equally entitled with others to participate in the distribution of the grant, subject, of course, to their compliance with the provisions of section 7 of the Act. In the case of the Auckland Mechanics' Institute a representation was made to the Board by the Hon. Mr. Sheehan that that library had been promised a grant under the Act, and at his request the Board included it in the distribution.

I forward herewith a list showing the amounts allotted in each case, from which it will be seen that nearly one-half of the grant has been absorbed by borough libraries. There yet remains a balance of £4 7s. unallotted, against which there are claims to the amount of £75; and I am desired to request that, in consideration of the circumstances herein set forth, the Government will place a further sum of £70 13s. at the Board's disposal, so that it may be enabled to their applications for grants in respect of subscriptions received during the year 1877.

I have, &c.,

J. Logan Campbell, of £70 13s. at the Board's disposal, so that it may be enabled to treat upon an equal basis all

The Hon. the Minister for Education, Wellington.

SIR,— Education Department, Wellington, 5th August, 1878. In reply to your letter No. 2,173, of 23rd ultimo, I am directed to inform you that the whole of the vote of £5,000 has been distributed amongst the Education Boards in accordance with the Public Libraries Subsidies Act of last session, and that the Government have no other funds available for making the additional payment asked by your Board. The Chairman, Education Board, Auckland. I have, &c.,

JOHN HISLOP.

## HAWKE'S BAY.

Napier, 26th August, 1878. ALL expenditure of library grant has been made only to free libraries, in accordance with the Act. G. T. FANNIN,

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

pro Secretary.

## Taranaki.

New Plymouth, 24th August, 1878. No portion of recent grant has been received (sic) to libraries within boroughs. My letter, 1st August, gives particulars of claims allowed and disallowed.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

WM. NORTHCROFT, Secretary.

### Wanganui.

Wanganui, 2nd September, 1878.

THE recent grant for public libraries was all given to free libraries.

A. A. BROWNE, Secretary.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

#### WELLINGTON.

Education Board of Wellington, 26th August, 1878. SIR,— In reply to your memorandum No. 727 of 24th instant, I have the honor to report that no portion of the grant for public libraries has been given to libraries not being free libraries within the meaning of the Act. The only library within a borough that received any of the grant was the Masterton Library, and that is free within the meaning of the Act.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

ROBERT LEE, Secretary. Both are free.

#### MARLBOROUGH.

Sir,-Education Office, Blenheim, 26th August, 1878. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of 24th instant, and in reply to inform you that the libraries which received a portion of the recent grant in this district are free libraries within the meaning of the Subsidies Act. I have, &c.,

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

JOHN ROBINSON, Secretary.

#### Nelson.

Nelson, 26th August, 1878. NELSON and Westport only two borough libraries in Nelson District which have received grants.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

W. C. Hodgson, Secretary.

## WESTLAND.

Education Office, Hokitika, 30th August, 1878. SIR,— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of 24th instant, asking for information concerning the distribution by this Board amongst libraries in boroughs of the moneys granted under section 2 of "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877."

The first step taken by the Board was to forward to each society a copy of the Act and to request the Secretary in each case to furnish a statement of the receipts for the year 1877.

These statements were forwarded to the Board, and, being considered satisfactory, the Board distributed the grant for this district strictly in accordance with the provisions of clause 2 of the Act.

I may point out that, even putting aside altogether the opinion given by our solicitor (a copy of which is enclosed), and allowing that libraries in boroughs do come under the provisions of clause 7, they could not do so until they had actually received the first subsidy granted under clause 2.

I beg also most respectfully to draw your attention to the fact that the Act does not confer any power upon Boards to enforce compliance with the provisions of clause 7 after the grant has been I have, &c., E. T. Robinson, Secre distributed.

The Secretary, Education Department, Wellington.

Secretary.

## Enclosure.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter asking my opinion as to whether moneys distributed by the Education Board under section 2 of "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act, 1877," were properly distributed, although some of the libraries receiving such moneys may not have been open to the public free of charge, as mentioned in the seventh section of that Act.

I am of opinion that, if the provisions of section 2 of the said Act have been complied with, then

the money has been properly distributed.

I am further of opinion that the opening of such libraries to the public free of charge under section 7 is not a condition precedent to their obtaining a share of the moneys distributed under section 2. I have, &c.,

The Secretary to the Education Board.

C. E. BUTTON.

#### CANTERBURY.

Christchurch, 26th August, 1878. None. The amount was distributed in accordance with terms of Public Libraries Subsidies Act, section 7 being strictly observed.

J. Colborne Veel, Secretary.

## OTAGO.

Grant not distributed-vide letter of Secretary of 7th August, 1878.

By Authority: George Didsbury, Government Printer, Wellington.-1878.

Price 6d.]