

BUILDING ACCOUNT.

<i>Assets.</i>			<i>Liabilities.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of grant to 30th June, 1880 ..	4,700	0 0	Overdraft ..	220	6 0
			Balance due on contracts in hand ..	2,929	7 0
			Amount authorised for repairs, &c., to exist- ing schools ..	119	10 0
			Balance ..	1,430	17 0
	<u>£4,700</u>	<u>0 0</u>		<u>£4,700</u>	<u>0 0</u>

SUMMARY of SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNTS for the Year ending 31st December, 1879.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balances in Bank and in hand on 1st Jan., 1879 ..	100	3 7	By Bonuses to teachers out of Board's grants to Committees ..	122	10 0
Receipts from Education Board—			Bonuses to teachers out of donations, sub- scriptions, &c. ..	32	17 6
Ordinary grants ..	1,613	17 6	Cleaning (allowances and requisites) ..	526	6 5
Special grants ..	835	13 7	Fuel ..	105	10 8
Donations, subscriptions, &c., from others than Education Board ..	315	10 3	Books, maps, stationery, and furniture for general school use ..	378	14 11
Sale of books ..	26	16 1	Repairs not paid for directly by Board ..	318	14 7
Sale of old buildings ..	11	4 0	Clerks' salaries £17 10s.; office expenses £27 15s. 8d. ..	45	5 8
Use of rooms ..	2	10 0	Prizes ..	176	10 8
Refunds ..	32	16 8	School fetes or treats ..	73	10 1
Deposits ..	5	0 0	Reading books or text books supplied free to scholars ..	3	5 6
Overdrafts ..	17	6 2	Paper, pens, ink, &c., supplied free to scholars ..	60	7 10
			Roads to schools ..	4	5 0
			Fencing ..	127	19 8
			Alterations, additions, and improvements ..	743	14 8
			Sundries ..	16	1 1
			Refunds ..	17	10 0
			Overdrafts ..	10	12 11
			Balances ..	197	0 8
	<u>£2,960</u>	<u>17 10</u>		<u>£2,960</u>	<u>17 10</u>

HAWKE'S BAY.

Napier, December 31st, 1879.

Sir,—

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Act, the Board of this District has the honor to present a summary of its work during the year ending December 31st, 1879. No resignations of members have taken place. At the balloting for the retirement for three members in December 1878, it was determined that Miss Harriet Herbert, F. Sutton, Esq., and J. N. Williams, Esq., should retire. Miss Herbert declined to stand for re-election. The voting in March ended in the return of F. Sutton, Esq., T. Tanner, Esq., and J. N. Williams, Esq. The attendance at each meeting averaged 5·7.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—No new school districts have been constituted, although schools have been opened at Takapau, Te Arai, and Patutahi, but these schools are in districts already formed. There are now under the Board 28 school districts with 33 departments, and a teaching staff of 28 males and 36 females. Five sewing mistresses are also engaged. The average attendance in all the district schools for the year was 1,807, which shows an increase of 283, or 18·5 per cent. on that of 1878. Judging from the large increase attending the district schools for the December quarter, there can be little doubt that the average attendance would have been much larger, but for the extreme number of wet days, which for several months made the roads in the bush and outlying districts quite impassable.

The following Table gives a comparative view of the numbers attending the district schools for the December quarters of 1878 and 1879.

Average Attendance.	Average Weekly No. on Roll.			Strict Average.	Average Attendance.		
	M.	F.	Total.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
December 31st, 1878 ...	1,066	919	1,985	1,604	896	753	1,649
December 31st, 1879 ...	1,425	1,251	2,676	1,937	1,153	917	2,020

During the year, the operations of the Board have been mainly directed to supplying deficiencies of school accommodation, and to the improvement of the teachers employed in the schools.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.—When the Board came into existence at the beginning of 1878, it might be said that accommodation had to be provided for all the school children in this education district, as at that time there were only seven small school-houses that properly belonged to the Board. Eleven large and commodious school-houses, viz., Napier, Port Ahuriri, Taradale, Clive, Matawhero, Gisborne, Woodville, Waipawa, Takapau, Meaneer, and Danevirk; and seven teachers' residences, viz.: Port Ahuriri, Taradale, Clive, Wairoa, Matawhero, Norsewood, and Woodville, have been completed during the year.