

are now on view. The library already contains about 800 volumes, which it is intended to make available to teachers, students, and others as far as practicable. A descriptive catalogue of the museum and library will be prepared as soon as time can be given to the work. The freight of the articles from England, the fittings of the museum, and other expenses have amounted to £94 5s. 10d.

SCHOOL PENNY BANKS.

The Boards were requested to include in their annual reports information respecting the number of school penny banks which had been established in their districts. The Hawke's Bay Board states that "no applications were received from School Committees for the establishment of penny banks," and it recommends the introduction of the new system of deposits of postage stamps. The North Canterbury Board reports that two school penny banks had been opened, one at Balcairn, the other at Kaiapoi Island North. Copies of the accounts of these two banks accompany the Board's report, and are printed in the Appendix, page 70. The Balcairn School is attended by about fifty scholars. The deposits from the opening of the bank on 23rd April to 31st December, 1880, amounted to £11 3s. 2d.; interest, to 2s. 8d.; withdrawals, to 11s. 11d.: leaving a credit balance of £10 13s. 11d. The school attendance at Kaiapoi Island North is about 28; the deposits up to 31st December, 1880, were £12 17s. 5d.; interest, 4s. 10d.; withdrawals, £5 6s.: leaving a credit balance of £7 16s. 3d. The No Town School maintains the distinction of being the only one in Westland District which possesses a savings-bank. The Board's report contains a general statement of this bank's accounts. None of the other Boards refer in their reports to this subject.

In March of the present year a circular was addressed to the several Boards bringing under their notice the arrangements made by the Government to receive for lodgment in any post office savings-bank deposits of penny postage stamps of the value of one shilling, with a view to the encouragement of thrift among children, and they were requested to cause to be distributed among the School Committees and the teachers the notices and cards prepared by the Postal Department. There is reason to believe that the notices and cards have been extensively circulated by means of the school authorities, and that many of the teachers have interested themselves in the matter. In consequence of an application from a Native district, information respecting the scheme has been printed in Maori, and circulated through the agency of the Native school teachers.

EDUCATION RESERVES.

The Appendix contains the reports of the School Commissioners of the several provincial districts, and the general statements of their accounts for the year 1880. The following is a summary of the accounts:—

TABLE S.—SUMMARY OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS' ACCOUNTS.

PROVINCIAL DISTRICTS.	Income for the Year 1880.								Arrears of Rent due on 31st December, 1880.	Liabilities or Engagements on 31st December, 1880.								
	Balance on 1st January, 1880.	Receipts during Year.				Total Income.												
		Primary Reserves.		Secondary Reserves.														
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.						
Auckland	624	6	1	1,383	6	9	355	1	5	2,362	14	3	638	19	10	4	0	0
Taranaki	59	2	0	583	14	6	240	9	6	883	6	0	621	14	2	34	6	7
Wellington	506	18	4	553	13	2	23	0	0	1,083	11	6	79	11	0	200	0	0
Hawke's Bay	318	5	8*	841	5	1	323	19	6	1,483	10	3	103	11	3	10	7	3
Marlborough	219	7	4	80	17	6	5	1	9	305	6	7	117	9	3	7	5	0
Nelson	354	7	0*	547	9	4	187	4	0	1,089	0	4	137	14	3	6	5	0
Canterbury	1,124	2	0	9,134	14	9	395	11	3	10,654	8	0	975	13	4	45	0	0
Westland			60	5	0	238	11	0	298	16	0	647	10	0	538	5	3
Otago	3,640	1	6	7,811	3	11	581	2	3	12,032	7	8	1,836	7	4	...		
Totals for 1880	6,845	9	11	20,996	10	0	2,350	0	8	30,193	0	7	5,158	10	5	845	9	1
Totals for 1879	11,584	13	5	21,215	14	6	3,000	0	10	35,800	8	9	6,060	5	6	577	16	4

* Including fixed deposits of £200 and £149 respectively not shown in the balance-sheets for the year.