

salaries than this institution can afford to give them. Anyway, this state of matters is greatly to be regretted. I should think that it would be advantageous to reduce the staff somewhat, and to give the masters of the Lower School more boys and higher salaries. In a primary school a good master will manage forty or fifty advanced pupils very comfortably. It would probably be possible to get three masters, well used to collective teaching, to take charge of a hundred boys, and to teach them very effectively. This would leave about thirty boys to be attended to by two senior masters. If some such arrangement could be made I feel sure that any little imperfections in the classification that would result would be more than compensated for by the advantage of permanently retaining the services of good men, thoroughly acquainted with the pupils and with the working of the school.

The remarks made in my report on the Girls' High School with regard to the influence of the annual examinations on the work of the school are applicable to this school also, to a certain extent. Boys, however, are less likely than girls to be injured by overwork, for two reasons: they are physically stronger, and they protect themselves in some degree by insisting, in ways of their own, on having sufficient time allowed them for cricket, football, and other recreations.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary for Education.

JAMES H. POPE.

CHRISTCHURCH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

1. STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1883.

[Account furnished by the Registrar of Canterbury College.]

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.
Balance, 1st January, 1883	68	13	7	Salaries	1,054	12	7
Rent of reserves	232	0	6	Allowance to late Lady Principal	123	0	0
Interest on loans	247	9	8	Insurance	13	10	0
Investment $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre section	54	0	0	Rent of gymnasium	35	0	0
School fees	1,013	5	1	Rent of ground	54	0	0
Grant from School Commissioners	200	0	0	Solicitor's fees	4	4	0
Interest	14	13	10	Hire of chairs	6	5	0
				Gas-fittings	4	10	0
				Examiners' fees	71	8	0
				Rates	46	1	11
				Incidentals	194	11	4
				Contribution to Registrar's office expenses	60	0	0
				Contribution to School of Art	14	11	8
				Balance	148	8	2
	<u>£1,830</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>£1,830</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
Balance, 1st January, 1884	£148	8	2				

This statement has been extracted from the audited accounts of Canterbury College.

2. REPORT of the EXAMINER in ENGLISH HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit my report for 1883 on the Girls' High School in English history and geography.

English I have this year divided into composition, grammar, and literature, and intend to give a separate report on each, as I consider English composition too important to be massed with grammar, whilst English literature is taught through only a part of the school. In each subject I set a three hours' paper, with an additional paper in two subjects for the Upper Sixth. For the two lowest classes (Class I. and Class II.) I set the same papers in all the subjects, as they were taught together, and in the results I have accordingly considered them as a single class. Last year they were taught separately, and did different work, and were counted in the results as two classes. The Sixth or highest class, on the other hand, I have taken as two, inasmuch as the Upper Sixth has done all the work set for the Junior Scholarship examination, the Lower Sixth only about three-fourths of it. In all, seventy-six girls have been examined in the subjects this year, as against seventy-two last year.

In English, the school taken as a whole has reached the very high percentage of 58 (1 per cent. beyond the last year's average, if all the marks for reading be omitted from the percentages of the two highest classes—an omission that reduces the general percentage considerably), and 50 per cent. I consider a high average of marks for a good secondary school. Some idea of the high standard of education which this means may be obtained by comparing it with the average of the eight best in English in the University Junior or entrance Scholarship examination for this examination the very best pupils of all the best secondary schools in New Zealand enter, and the highest average obtained by the eight best in English for the last five or six years has been $57\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. But a more exact comparison will be found in the work of the Sixth Class, for which I set papers of the same scope and difficulty as are usually set for Junior Scholarships. In this class I examined eight, and the average of the work of these eight in English composition, grammar, and literature was 71 per cent., *i.e.*, $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. beyond the highest average obtained by the best eight that have ever competed in the University Junior Scholarship examination. Before I made these percentages and comparisons, I was convinced I had rarely read papers equal to those of the Upper Sixth even amongst the best of my own students, so accurate and wide was the work and still more so thoughtful and intelligent was it. And that these results were not obtained by any undue proportion of the time being devoted to English is evident from the fact that four and a half hours is the time allotted per week to it.