

1889.
NEW ZEALAND.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

(REPORT OF THE), TOGETHER WITH APPENDIX.

Report brought up 5th September, 1889, and ordered to be printed.

ORDER OF REFERENCE.

Ordered, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire and report as to what form of local government is best adapted for the requirements of New Zealand; five to be a quorum. The Committee to consist of the following members: Dr. Hodgkinson, Hon. Mr. G. F. Richardson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Whyte, Mr. Pyke, Mr. Samuel, Mr. J. McKenzie, Mr. Macarthur, Mr. Tanner, and the Mover; to report in three weeks."—(Hon. Sir H. A. ATKINSON.)

REPORT.

THE Committee appointed to inquire and report as to what form of local government is best adapted for the requirements of New Zealand have the honour to report that they regret that the short time at their disposal has been quite insufficient to do more than collect general information and discuss the subject referred to them; and to decide that, in their opinion, it is very expedient that some new system of local government should be established, and that it should be framed with the following objects, viz.:—

1. Decentralisation.
2. Reduction in number of local bodies.
3. A definite and fixed relation between the finance of the General Government and that of the local bodies.
4. The establishment of local districts with elective governing bodies. The districts to be comparatively few in number, and to be defined with due regard to community of interest and the natural features of the country. The four large cities of the colony, with their suburbs, to be made separate districts, and the remainder of the colony to consist of not more than sixteen districts.
5. The constituting of local Councils by election by the Borough and County Councils (or Road Boards where "The Counties Act, 1886" is not in force) within each district, with provision that the Governor in Council may, where necessary, alter, for the purposes of such election only, the boundaries of any borough, county, or Road Board district.

Your Committee would recommend that a Committee should be set up early next session for the purpose of further inquiry and consideration of this subject.

5th September, 1889.

SAMUEL HODGKINSON, Chairman.

APPENDIX.

RETURNS showing EXPENDITURE for Year ending 31st March, 1889, on HOSPITALS and ASYLUMS, POLICE, PRISONERS and GAOLS, STOCK DEPARTMENT, &c.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

<i>Hospitals,—</i>						£	s.	d.
Additions to buildings	...	...	...	...	£2,877	1	9	
Repairs, &c.	...	...	...	...	2,305	9	4	
								5,182 11 1
<i>Asylums,—</i>								
Additions and repairs out of loan	...	...	...	...		10,242	2	6
								£15,424 13 7
<i>Hospitals and Charitable Institutions,—</i>								
Total amount contributed out of Consolidated Fund for year ended 31st								
March, 1889	£...	...	...	...	...	65,330	0	0
Cost of Lunatic Asylums for same period, net	...	...	...	...	...	35,973	0	0
Cost of Children supported by State,—								
Government contribution (approximate)	...	...	...	...	£15,000			
Charitable Aid Boards contribution (approximate)	...	...	...	...	6,000			
								21,000 0 0

POLICE.

			£	s.	d.
Cost of police for year ended 31st March, 1889	...	...	94,482	0	0
Cost of building police-stations ditto	...	£10,786	6	4	
Cost of repairing police-stations, &c., ditto	...	5,277	1	4	
			16,063	7	8

PRISONERS AND PRISONS.

			£	s.	d.
Cost of prisoners (approximate)	...	...	30,000	0	0
Cost of repairs to buildings and contingencies (approximate)	...	...	6,000	0	0
The cost of maintaining prisoners and prisons for some years to come should not exceed £35,000 per annum, unless there is a considerable increase in population and criminals.—A. HUME, Inspector of Prisons.					

STOCK DEPARTMENT.

			£	s.	d.
Salaries (of Inspectors)	...	...	8,628	6	8
Railway-passes (about 21)	...	...	320	0	0
Destruction of scabby sheep	...	...	1,602	9	7
Remission of rent	...	...	122	14	2
Erection of South Canterbury rabbit-fence	...	...	7,585	4	7
*Contingencies, general expenses	...	...	22,751	1	1
			41,009	16	1
Less amounts recovered	...	...	917	10	1
			£40,092	6	0

* This item, £22,751, is made up of following expenses:—

Payment of wages to rabbit-agents, say	...	...	£4,700
" to Inspectors as travelling allowance, say	...	...	3,000
" to contractors and rabbiters for destroying rabbits upon Crown lands, say	...	...	7,000
" for stoats and weasels imported, say	...	...	1,600
" for ferrets purchased, say	...	...	2,500
" for rabbit-skins in Waikato, say	...	...	800
Transfer of Inspectors (reorganization), say	...	...	300
Cost of New Zealand Representatives at Sydney Rabbit Commission, say	...	...	400
Loss of Court case, Brunter's Ferret-breeding Contract, say	...	...	500
Small contingent expenses	...	...	1,951

£22,751

PAYMENTS made to LOCAL BODIES out of the CONSOLIDATED FUND during 1888-89.

Estimates, 1889-90,

Page		£
7	Subsidies (5s. to 20s. in the pound) under the Local Bodies' Finance and Powers Act	28,630
7	Hospitals and Charitable Aid Act	65,332
7	Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1886	6,678
7	Greymouth and Westport Harbour Boards (railway revenue refunded)	27,961
7 and 82	New Plymouth Harbour Board, 25 per cent. of lands sold or leased	3,330
8 and 82	Payments of thirds and fourths of lands sold or leased (exclusive of Deposit Account moneys)	17,951
86	Rates on Crown lands...	15,497
14	Grant in aid to Dunedin Hospital Trustees	400
59	Education	377,858
67	Stock Branch Vote	40,092
81	Police	94,482
67	Thames and Reefton Schools of Mines	1,238
67	School of Mines, Otago	500
85	Fees to Members of Waste Lands Boards	675

Financial Statement
Tables, B.-6,

Page		£	£
5	Fees, fines, &c., collected in stamps	2,074	
	Endowments, principally Grey and Westport Harbours	9,309	
	Goldfields revenue	20,218	
	Gold duty	21,092	
	Road Boards where Counties Act is not in full operation	1,241	
			58,934

From GOVERNMENT LOANS to LOCAL BODIES ACCOUNT.

Counties	...	39,085
Road Boards...	...	38,260
Boroughs	...	800
Town Boards	...	600
River Boards	...	4,730
		83,475

RETURN showing the Amount of Subsidies paid to Local Bodies under the Roads and Bridges Construction Act, and the Subsidies paid and Money expended on Roads and Bridges out of Loan Votes.

Financial Year.	Subsidies paid under the Roads and Bridges Construction Act.	Expenditure on Roads by			Rates under Crown and Native Lands Rating Act.	Total.
		Public Works Department.	Survey Department.	Mines Department.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1880-81 ...	...	212,500	52,200	...	...	264,700
1881-82 ...	...	109,800	35,900	...	...	145,700
1882-83 ...	...	119,500	81,600	8,900	...	210,000
1883-84 ...	106,400	111,000	84,600	27,700	...	329,700
1884-85 ...	149,900	102,100	49,300	15,600	...	316,900
1885-86 ...	98,300	101,700	61,800	30,200	...	292,000
1886-87 ...	13,800	110,400	59,000	31,300	*25,100	239,600
1887-88 ...	5,500	68,700	73,600	25,100	8,400	181,300
1888-89 ...	1,000	54,600	32,700	7,000	10,300	105,600
	374,900	990,300	530,700	145,800	43,800	2,085,500

* The payments prior to the expenditure of this sum were made out of Consolidated Fund.

NOTE.—The expenditure out of loan under the Local Bodies' Finance and Powers Act is not given in this Return, the amount having been furnished by the Treasury in a statement of expenditure out of Consolidated Fund.

SURVEY.

EXPENDITURE ON ROADS, ETC., OUT OF LOAN FOR YEARS 1886-87, 1887-88, AND 1888-89.

Roads, &c.	1886-87.			1887-88.			1888-89.			Total Expenditure since 1870.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Roads and bridges north of Auckland	30,738	2	6	3,137	18	10	264	0	0	229,404	15	9
Main roads ...	22,294	4	6	13,755	16	11	10,968	1	11	434,807	0	5
Miscellaneous roads and bridges ...	39,748	10	2	25,988	15	7	26,748	3	41	1,255,577	17	11
Grants in aid ...	81,263	10	6	57,631	15	4	26,912	5	7	560,233	7	3
Goldfields roads...	32,624	13	2	25,053	9	4	7,015	0	10	147,986	7	5
	206,669	0	10	125,567	16	0	71,907	11	8	2,628,009	8	9

General Survey Department, 31st August, 1889.

EDUCATION.

SUMMARY OF EDUCATION BOARDS' ORDINARY EXPENDITURE FOR TWELVE YEARS.

(From Tables Nos. 4 and 5, Education Report, 1889.)

Year.	Management by Boards.	Inspection and Examination.	Maintenance of Schools.	School-buildings.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1877 ...	10,485	5,607	173,726	80,352	270,170
1878 ...	10,226	6,143	192,737	89,255	298,361
1879 ...	11,109	7,735	221,053	172,867	412,764
1880 ...	10,038	8,274	247,121	117,410	382,843
1881 ...	8,109	8,368	243,257	58,255	318,009
1882 ...	8,459	9,116	258,683	71,852	348,110
1883 ...	9,663	9,867	272,484	86,749	378,763
1884 ...	9,448	10,441	293,748	49,679	363,316
1885 ...	10,551	10,040	310,986	64,822	396,399
1886 ...	10,695	10,241	325,597	65,008	411,541
1887 ...	9,893	10,731	340,407	52,621	413,652
1888 ...	9,567	10,148	327,146	30,355	377,216

24th August, 1889.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT of TAX at 1d. on all Real and Personal Property. No exemption.

						£
Real property	...	...	...	...	...	90,000,000
Mortgages	...	...	...	...	...	30,000,000
						<u>£60,000,000</u>
Personal property	...	...	...	...	...	75,000,000
Debts	...	...	...	...	...	20,000,000
						<u>£55,000,000</u>

Total real and personal, £115,000,000, at 1d., £480,000.

ESTIMATED STAMP REVENUE, exclusive of the Postal Department, 1889–90.

						£
Native land duty	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
Deceased estates duty	...	...	...	...	...	50,000
Fines	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Impressed stamps	...	...	...	...	...	23,000
Companies' licenses	...	...	...	...	...	19,000
Bankers' composition	...	...	...	...	...	17,500
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	250
Adhesive stamps	...	...	...	...	...	163,550
						<u>£279,300</u>

SUBSIDIES paid under "The Local Bodies Finance and Powers Act, 1885."

			To Counties.	To Boroughs.	To Town Boards.	To Road Boards.	Total.
			£	£	£	£	£
1885–86	...	...	28,974	14,107	1,689	26,494	71,264
1886–87	...	...	46,814	19,670	2,284	30,845	99,613
1887–88	...	...	39,879	17,506	2,429	33,529	93,343
1888–89	...	...	19,860	6,346	746	13,141	40,093
Totals	...	...	135,527	57,629	7,148	104,009	304,313

STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on ROADS out of Immigration and Public Works Loan to 31st March, 1889.

			Expenditure to 31st March, 1888.	Expenditure during 12 Months ended 31st March, 1889.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1889.	Liabilities on Authorities, Contracts, &c., 31st March, 1889.	Total Expenditure and Liabilities.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
SUMMARY.							
ROADS, BRIDGES, &c., North of Auckland			229,140 15 9	264 0 0	229,404 15 9	340 0 0	229,744 15 9
MAIN ROADS	...	...	423,838 18 6	10,968 1 11	434,807 0 5	7,379 17 10	442,186 18 3
MISCELLANEOUS ROADS AND BRIDGES	...	...	1,228,829 14 7	26,748 3 4	1,255,577 17 11	21,231 12 1	1,276,809 10 0
ROADS TO GIVE ACCESS TO RAILWAY, MARTON-TE AWAMUTU	...	...	40,142 15 10	1,897 13 1	42,040 8 11	87 14 0	42,128 2 11
GRANTS-IN-AID	...	...	533,321 1 8	26,912 5 7	560,233 7 3	2,875 1 3	563,108 8 6
ROADS TO OPEN UP LANDS (see Table No. 4)	...	...	506,834 17 3	21,954 2 8	528,788 19 11	25,433 11 2	554,222 11 1
IMPROVEMENT OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS	...	...	13,944 2 0	10,770 0 11	24,714 2 11	38,429 7 6	63,143 10 5
THROUGH LANDS RECENTLY PURCHASED (see Table No. 5, 1883)	...	...	21,527 14 5	...	21,527 14 5	...	21,527 14 5
GOLDFIELDS ROADS (see Table No. 5)	...	...	140,971 6 7	7,015 0 10	147,986 7 5	25,168 0 5	173,154 7 10
PAYMENTS TO ROAD BOARDS (see Table No. 11, 1877)	...	...	225,000 0 0	...	225,000 0 0	...	225,000 0 0
Totals	...	...	3,363,551 6 7	106,529 8 4	3,470,080 14 11	120,945 4 3	3,591,025 19 2
Less recovery on account of services of previous years	...	...	...	90 18 2	90 18 2	...	90 18 2
GRAND TOTALS	...	...	3,363,551 6 7	106,438 10 2	3,469,989 16 9	120,945 4 3	3,590,935 1 0

RETURN showing the Total Amounts paid over to Local Governing Bodies out of the Consolidated and Public Works Funds in each Year since the Abolition of the Provinces also, the Total Amounts raised or levied by such Local Bodies during the same Period.

—	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CONSOLIDATED FUND—												
1. Appropriations to municipalities and Road Boards ..	42,393 1 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,393 1 7
2. Endowments and lands made over ..	..	97,516 8 10	33,863 4 3	10,283 4 11	17,539 10 4	52,771 9 10	27,230 10 4	12,416 5 10	10,448 19 4	40,215 14 6	33,514 0 0	335,804 8 2
3. Subsidies from various accounts and under different Acts ..	35,570 12	9,205,823 8	8,220,777 15	7,304,767 17	8,116,122 12	11,377,638 3 5	926 18 4	6,644 9 7	3,970 18 1	75,616 3 5	107,494 7 9	1,215,353 7 4
4. 20 per cent. of land revenue paid up to the year 1881 ..	..	42,175 15 5	229,648 9 6	45,116 6 5	32,672 5 2	..	55 0 6	..	..	..	..	349,667 1
5. One-third proceeds of land sales on deferred payments ..	..	123 15 6	2,713 9 8	5,252 1 4	10,817 8 2	11,759 10 2	15,432 9 11	23,358 11 8	13,852 12 3	14,521 8 5	14,568 4 2	117,399 11 3
6. One quarter rent of perpetual leases under the Land Act of 1885 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Fees, fines, licenses, &c., payable to local bodies ..	34,577 5 7	66,209 13 6	51,983 5 8	15,052 18 3	47,119 17 4	47,709 13 7	5,836 13 1	3,582 7 2	3,223 18 8	2,376 17 0	2,363 1 0	280,035 10 10
8. Gold revenue ..	5,601 0 0	19,691 5 2	13,840 13 4	9,250 13 9	15,838 15 2	16,594 12 0	19,517 7 7	23,382 4 5	14,960 6 2	13,194 14 5	11,773 12 4	163,645 4 4
9. Gold duty ..	13,911 6 8	38,899 4 3	27,065 18 0	21,971 19 2	29,794 18 2	28,945 10 3	25,847 13 11	23,601 14 0	24,921 0 0	21,976 9 8	23,104 6 1	279,430 0 2
10. Payments under Counties' Separate Account (included above) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,160 0 0	50,892 8 2	24,950 12 0	34,524 1 7	36,156 0 6	147,683 2 3
11. Rates paid for Crown lands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	800 0 0	1,050 0 0	1,131 5 0	3,939 10 10	2,959 14 2	20,205 10 2
12. Miscellaneous payments not admitting of classification ..	6,978 12 1	124 2 7	601 1 7	1,064 13 7	282 0 0	1,274 10 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
PUBLIC WORKS FUND—												
13. Payments to local bodies out of Public Works Fund under Roads and Bridges Construction, Crown and Native Lands Rating, and Government Loans to Local Bodies Acts ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106,398 10	116,396 1	116,607 4 7	42,071 2 3	434,036 18 0
Totals ..	139,031 18	8470,563 13 11	580,488 17	7412,759 15	1270,187 6 5	236,093 9 7	96,806 13 8	251,326 11 11	271,419 12 7	323,011 11 5	274,289 7 6	3,385,978 17 4
14. Total rates raised by local bodies in each year ..	..	210,916 0	0234,988 0	0266,937 0	0249,087 0	0297,327 0	0327,123 0	0398,659 0	0401,392 0	0410,638 0	0434,236 0	03,231,308 0 0

The Treasury, 10th July, 1888.

JAMES B. HEYWOOD,
Accountant to the Treasury.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXPENDITURE on PUBLIC WORKS and OTHER SERVICES out of *Immigration and Public Works Fund* to 31st March, 1889, and the LIABILITIES on that Date.

Number of Table containing Details.	Works.	Total Net Expenditure to 31st March, 1888.	Expenditure during 12 Months ended 31st March, 1889.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1889.	Liabilities on Authorities, Con- tracts, &c. 31st March, 1889.	Total Expenditure and Liabilities.	Works.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
2	Railways ...	*13,362,423 15 3	272,077 3 1	13,634,500 18 4	207,483 11 2	13,841,984 9 6	Railways.
3, 4, 5	Roads ...	3,363,551 6 7	106,438 10 2	3,469,989 16 9	120,945 4 3	3,590,935 1 0	Roads.
7	Water-supply on goldfields ...	509,941 10 11	54 10 6	509,996 1 5	...	509,996 1 5	Water-supply on goldfields.
8	Telegraphs ...	561,963 1 9	12,047 4 5	574,010 6 2	3,591 0 0	577,601 6 2	Telegraphs.
6	Public buildings ...	1,687,900 13 9	34,592 6 7	1,722,493 0 4	23,453 18 10	1,745,946 19 2	Public buildings.
9	Lighthouses, harbour works, and harbour defences ...	822,124 16 5	47,593 5 4	869,718 1 9	6,466 2 3	876,184 4 0	Lighthouses, harbour works, and harbour defences.
...	Departmental ...	308,153 1 6	21,458 0 8	329,611 2 2	...	329,611 2 2	Departmental.
18 of 1878	Coal-exploration and mine-develop- ment ...	10,835 8 0	...	10,835 8 0	...	10,835 8 0	Coal-exploration and mine-develop- ment.
11 of 1877	Aiding works on Thames Goldfields ...	50,000 0 0	...	50,000 0 0	...	50,000 0 0	Aiding works on Thames Goldfields.
...	Immigration ...	2,133,568 17 0	8,791 4 4	2,142,460 1 4	1,200 0 0	2,143,660 1 4	Immigration.
...	Purchase of Native land ...	1,141,287 18 7	9,071 16 4	1,150,359 14 11	5,499 3 8	1,155,858 18 7	Purchase of Native land.
...	Defence ...	429,718 19 3	...	429,718 19 3	...	429,718 19 3	Defence.
...	Charges and expenses of raising loans ...	916,561 5 11	104,911 0 10	1,021,472 6 9	...	1,021,472 6 9	Charges and expenses of raising loans.
...	Interest and sinking fund ...	218,500 0 0	...	218,500 0 0	...	218,500 0 0	Interest and sinking fund.
...	Rates on Native lands ...	33,585 6 2	10,304 0 0	43,889 6 2	...	43,889 6 2	Rates on Native lands.
...	Thermal Springs ...	10,812 17 11	935 8 0	11,748 5 11	...	11,748 5 11	Thermal Springs.
...	Advances to Westport Harbour Board ...	14,335 13 4	Cv.14,335 13 4	...	...	...
	TOTALS ...	25,575,364 12 4	613,938 16 11	26,189,303 9 3	368,639 0 2	26,557,942 9 5	TOTALS.

* Exclusive of value of provincial railways taken over by Government.

Public Works Department, 12th June, 1889.

W. A. THOMAS,
Accountant.

RETURN showing the amount of LOAN MONEY expended in aid of REVENUE in each YEAR since 1875.

Year.	Balances of Loans transferred to Consolidated Fund.	Amount raised by Treasury and Deficiency Bills.	Amount of Consolidated Stock created to provide Sinking Fund and Interest thereon.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£	£	£ s. d.
1875-76	172,000	...	172,000 0 0
1876-77	260,000	...	260,000 0 0
1877-78	73,048 18 9	...	...	73,048 18 9
1878-79
1879-80	1,000,000	...	1,000,000 0 0
1880-81	94,200	...	94,200 0 0
1881-82
1882-83	50,000	...	50,000 0 0
1883-84	348,000	...	348,000 0 0
1884-85	247,700	247,700 0 0
1885-86	252,200	252,200 0 0
1886-87	54,100	251,000	305,100 0 0
1887-88	498,900	258,184	757,084 0 0
1888-89	263,200	263,200 0 0
Totals	73,048 18 9	2,477,200	1,272,284	3,822,532 18 9

Of the above sum of £2,477,200
 There has been added to the permanent debt £1,432,000
 And paid off out of revenue 532,300
1,964,300

Outstanding on 31st March, 1889 £512,900

23rd July, 1889.

C. T. BATKIN,
 Assistant-Controller and Auditor.

ASSESSMENT 1888.

RETURN showing the Total Value of Land and Improvements outside Boroughs; the Value of Dwellings and of Farm-buildings, Clearing, Fencing, Draining, &c., on Agricultural and Pastoral Properties; the Value of all Improvements on other Properties; the Total Value of all Improvements; and the Unimproved Value of Land outside Boroughs.

District.	Total Value.	Agricultural and Pastoral Properties.		Other Improvements.	Total Value of all Improvements.	Unimproved Value of Land.
		Dwellings.	Farm-buildings, Clearing, Fencing, Drain- ing, &c.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Auckland	11,013,775	676,287	1,338,226	1,284,584	3,299,097	7,714,678
Hawke's Bay	8,857,869	239,259	1,527,141	427,790	2,194,190	6,663,679
Wellington	12,880,358	738,782	2,669,878	859,357	4,268,017	8,612,341
Nelson	6,702,517	270,499	419,926	405,039	1,095,464	5,607,053
Canterbury	22,369,050	880,227	1,990,720	1,834,910	4,705,857	17,663,193
Otago	9,532,990	449,040	1,150,694	424,750	2,024,484	7,508,506
Southland	4,984,018	236,117	943,766	204,159	1,384,042	3,599,976
Totals	76,340,577	3,490,211	10,040,351	5,440,589	18,971,151	57,369,426

RETURN showing the Value of Land in Boroughs, the Value of Buildings and other Improvements, and the Unimproved Value of Land.

Total Value.	Buildings and other Improvements.	Unimproved Value of Land.
£ 34,927,137	£ 15,526,734	£ 19,400,403

COMPARISON of Assessment for the Year 1888, with Corresponding Assessment for the Year 1885.

District.	1888 Valuation.	1885 Valuation.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Auckland ...	11,013,775	11,928,510	...	914,735
Hawke's Bay ...	8,857,869	8,391,533	466,336	...
Wellington ...	12,880,358	11,712,297	1,168,061	...
Nelson ...	6,702,517	6,917,192	...	214,675
Canterbury ...	22,369,050	22,898,595	...	529,545
Otago ...	9,532,990	10,020,702	...	487,712
Southland ...	4,984,018	5,924,276	...	940,258
Boroughs ...	34,927,137	35,477,544	...	550,407
Totals ...	111,267,714	113,270,649	1,634,397	3,637,332

Total decrease	...	...	...	£3,637,332
Less increase	...	...	...	1,634,397
Net decrease	...	...	...	<u>£2,002,935</u>

15th July, 1889.

[Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, nil; printing (1,800 copies), £7 2s.]