

the worthy President of the Institute could have witnessed the delight evinced by a scholar between seventeen and eighteen years of age on passing the Second Standard, who less than twelve months before hardly knew his letters, and who, but for the aid afforded by the Board, would still have been in the same state of ignorance, I do not think he would have felt inclined to blame the Board for assisting even so small a school as that referred to.

The Chairman, Westland Education Board.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SMITH.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

Standard Classes.			Presented.	Absent.	Excepted.	Failed.	Passed.	Average Age of those that passed.	
								Yrs. mos.	
Above Standard VI.	...	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...
Standard VI.	...	...	87	7	1	12	67	13	4
" V.	...	...	144	17	4	27	96	13	4
" IV.	...	...	207	23	2	48	134	12	8
" III.	...	...	214	16	1	46	151	12	0
" II.	...	...	237	10	16	42	169	11	2
" I.	...	...	228	9	5	27	187	9	7
Preparatory	..	...	553	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	1,707	82	29	202	804	*	

* Mean of average age, 12.1 years.

NORTH CANTERBURY.

1. MR. WOOD'S REPORT.

SIR,—

Education Office, Christchurch, 14th April, 1890.

I have the honour to submit my general report on the work of the past year.

The school year, so far as the duties of the Inspectors were concerned, practically began about the middle of March. From that date down to the middle of June we were engaged in visiting schools for the purposes of inspection, except for a period of four weeks, when candidates for scholarships were examined and standard test cards were prepared. From June to the end of March last the examination of schools was steadily undertaken, the only interruption of moment to the continuity of this work being due to the employment of our services in connection with the teachers' examination held at Christmas.

During the year I paid visits of inspection to forty-eight schools, among which were included all the large town schools. I also visited the Normal School, as occasion required, in order to assist in determining the distribution of the staff of student-teachers employed there. Four important country schools which had fared badly at the last examination received additional visits, with, I am glad to say, gratifying results.

The standard examinations throughout the district were conducted by my colleague, Dr. Anderson, or myself, and in the case of six town schools by both of us conjointly. Twenty-five schools, situated in the southern and midland divisions of the district, were examined by myself alone; and to this list I may add, as representing the sum total of my examinations, the names of three schools which, although they do not come under the category of public elementary schools, were examined by me at the request of the Board—viz., St. Matthew's Church School, Burnham Industrial School, and Canterbury Orphanage School.

The following tables show (A) the results of the examinations in pass-subjects in (a) the seventy-five schools examined by me, and (b) the six town schools, in the examination of which Dr. Anderson took part; and (B) a summary of the results in pass subjects for the whole district in a form convenient for estimating the progress made in the past year.

Table A.—Pass Subjects, Numbers examined.

Class.	Presented.		Absent.		Excepted.		Failed.		Passed.	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Above Standard VI....	18	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Standard VI.	150	177	9	4	4	1	35	28	102	144
" V.	388	440	19	11	11	14	128	99	230	316
" IV.	744	671	31	25	23	26	184	170	506	450
" III.	1,156	794	53	38	66	39	274	161	763	556
" II.	1,111	814	47	21	36	24	105	83	923	686
" I.	1,037	708	25	20	12	4	84	14	915	670
Preparatory...	2,636	1,857	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	7,240	5,507	185	119	152	108	810	555	3,439	2,822