

exceeding the annual revenue derived from the reserves. The County Council sued, but did not succeed in enforcing payment. The Commissioners were, of course, compelled to engage legal assistance, and for several years a large proportion of their revenue has been expended in resisting these claims. The Commissioners would respectfully urge the necessity for some provision being made to relieve them from these charges.

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

JAMES A. BONAR.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1890.

*Receipts.*

|   | Primary. | Secondary. | Total.  |
|---|----------|------------|---------|
|   | £ s. d.  | £ s. d.    | £ s. d. |
| To Credit balance on 1st January, 1890 ... .. | 7 1 2    | ...        | 7 1 2   |
| Rents ... ..                                  | 39 11 6  | 9 0 0      | 48 11 6 |
| Debit balance, 31st December, 1890 ... ..     | ...      | 20 3 5     | 20 3 5  |
| Total receipts ... ..                         | 46 12 8  | 29 3 5     | 75 16 1 |

*Expenditure.*

|   |         |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
|   | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| By Debit balance on 1st January, 1890 ... ..                          | ...     | 1 16 3  | 1 16 3  |
| Secretary to Commissioners, commission and travelling expenses ... .. | 7 15 0  | 1 14 0  | 9 9 0   |
| Furniture ... ..  | 1 15 0  | ...     | 1 15 0  |
| Legal expenses ... ..   | 0 10 0  | 8 13 2  | 9 3 2   |
| Hokitika High School Board ... ..                                     | ...     | 8 10 0  | 8 10 0  |
| Greymouth High School Board ... ..                                    | ...     | 8 10 0  | 8 10 0  |
| Credit balance, 31st December, 1890 ... ..                            | 36 12 8 | ...     | 36 12 8 |
| Total expenditure ... ..  | 46 12 8 | 29 3 5  | 75 16 1 |

*Assets.*

|  |         |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
|  | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Credit balance, 31st December, 1890 ... .. | 36 12 8 | ...     | 36 12 8 |
| Arrears of rent ... ..                     | 7 10 0  | 9 0 0   | 16 10 0 |
| Balance of liabilities ... ..              | 37 9 0  | ...     | 37 9 0  |
| Total assets ... ..                        | 81 11 8 | 9 0 0   | 90 11 8 |

*Liabilities.*

|   |         |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
|   | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Debit balance, 31st December, 1890 ... ..       | ...     | 20 3 5  | 20 3 5  |
| Primary Account due to Secondary Account ... .. | 70 8 3  | ...     | 70 8 3  |
| Total liabilities ... ..                        | 70 8 3  | 20 3 5  | 90 11 8 |

JAMES A. BONAR, Chairman.

EDWARD T. ROBINSON, Secretary.

Examined and found correct.—JAMES EDWARD FITZGERALD, Controller and Auditor-General.

CANTERBURY.

SIR,—

Christchurch, 5th January, 1891.

In accordance with Order in Council of date 17th December, 1878, and in terms of circular from the Education Department, dated the 8th of December last, I have the honour to forward report of the School Commissioners for the Canterbury Provincial District for the year ending the 31st December, 1890, together with a copy of their accounts, duly audited.

The total area of the primary-education estate under lease on the 31st of December, 1890, was 45,161½ acres, producing an annual rental of £15,679 10s. 4d. Included in the foregoing area is Reserve No. 1126, of 640 acres,\* which is let temporarily for grazing, pending the Governor's assent to a proposal for the subdivision of this reserve into seventeen farms. There are now only 39½ acres of the estate unlet, and this consists chiefly of stony plain, and is comparatively valueless.

The fixed deposits of £181 11s. 5d., which matured on the 20th December, 1890, have been redeposited for one year, it being deemed inexpedient at present to buy land, for which purpose only is this sum available. The interest when received will be credited to primary estate as revenue.