

The number 543 (“at service, &c.”) is made up as follows : 391 at service ; 117 licensed to friends ; 15 absent without leave ; 5 at Costley Institute on probation ; 3 in hospital ; 3 in lunatic asylums ; 2 in blind asylum ; 6 in refuges ; 1 in prison.

The cases admitted (225) may be classified in different ways. As to the ostensible causes of admission, 118 were destitute, 11 vagrant, 46 were living in disreputable places, 11 were uncontrollable children, 4 were admitted by arrangement with their relatives, 35 were convicted of offences. As to the parentage, it may be deduced from Table U that in 43 cases both parents were of unsatisfactory character ; that in 97 cases one or other of the parents—the father in 43 cases, the mother in 54—was not of good character ; that 53 cases were, so far as known, cases of simple indigence ; and in 32 cases there are no data on which to base an opinion. As to religious profession, 101 belong to the Church of England, 78 are Roman Catholic, 39 Presbyterian, 5 Methodist, 1 Baptist, 1 Hebrew.

TABLE U.—ADMISSIONS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PARENTS’ CIRCUMSTANCES AND CHARACTER, 1892.

| Children of | Mothers described as | | | | | | Total. |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------|
| | Dead. | Sick, Lunatic, Disabled, &c. | Of Good Character (or Poor). | Not known or not stated. | Of Bad Character. | Deserters. | |
| Fathers described as— | | | | | | | |
| Dead | 7 | 6 | 16 | .. | 15 | 1 | 45 |
| Sick, lunatic, disabled, &c. | 7 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 16 |
| Of good character (or poor) | 3 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 17 | .. | 42 |
| Not known or not stated | 4 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 16 | 2 | 36 |
| Of bad character | 11 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 16 | 12 | 53 |
| Deserters | 5 | .. | 8 | 5 | 15 | .. | 33 |
| Totals | 37 | 21 | 30 | 40 | 79 | 18 | 225 |

The 228 discharges include 5 deaths : at Nelson Industrial School, a girl between eight and nine died of brain fever and worm fever ; a girl of eighteen, placed at service from Burnham, died of typhoid fever ; a boy of eighteen, placed at service from Caversham, also of typhoid ; a boy of nearly fifteen, at Caversham, of epileptic convulsions and coma ; and an infant, boarded out from Caversham, died at the age of one year, of bronchitis. The discharges by warrant of His Excellency the Governor numbered 204 ; by transfer to Costley Institute, 10 ; by marriage, 2 ; by attaining the age of twenty-one, 7.

TABLE W.—COST OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, 1892.

| School. | Cost of School. | Cost of boarding out. | Recoveries. | Net Cost. |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Auckland | 418 15 5 | 340 15 6 | 116 5 8 | 643 5 3 |
| Kohimarama | 1,180 14 10 | 762 15 6 | 511 17 10 | 1,431 12 6 |
| Burnham | 3,260 3 11 | 2,984 15 7 | 3,510 2 8 | 2,734 16 10 |
| Caversham | 2,913 2 7 | 3,021 7 2 | 3,982 15 8 | 1,951 14 1 |
| Totals | 7,772 16 9 | 7,109 13 9 | 8,121 1 10 | 6,761 8 8 |

The expenditure on the Government schools (Table W) is rather less for 1892 than for 1891. The net cost (to the Government) is less by £2,200, the alteration being in great part due to the payment by Charitable Aid Boards of large sums that were in arrears. If the gross outlay (£15,512) is divided by the average number on the school-rolls (1,137), the capitation cost is about £13 13s., and the net cost (to the Government) is about £5 19s. Another calculation is as follows : If from the gross outlay is deducted the amount of salaries, rent, and insurance (regarding these items as a fair equivalent for services rendered in connection with young people not maintained by the schools, but placed at service or with friends), and if the remainder (about £12,900) is divided by the average number of children living in the schools or boarded out (652), the capitation cost is about £19 15s.