

Repairs and painting have been carried out at the Courthouses, Ashburton and Akaroa, and the Stipendiary Magistrate's Courthouse, Christchurch.

Police-station, Christchurch.—A thorough renovation of all the buildings on this station, and additions and alterations to same, were put in hand and completed during the year. The work was done by co-operative labour.

Police-station, Ashburton.—The interior of sergeant's house and men's quarters has been renovated, and the office enlarged. The exterior of the building has also been painted.

Contracts for additions, repairs, painting, &c., are also in hand at the police-stations at the following places—viz. Timaru, Amberley, Geraldine, Akaroa, Rangiora, and Leeston.

Post-office Buildings, Christchurch.—The floor and cellar under the mail-room have been relaid with strong concrete, and floated with a layer of cement 2in. thick, and the walls cemented to a height of 2ft. from concrete. A new stair has been put in from cellar to mail-room, and several minor repairs have been done in the buildings.

Post-office, Akaroa.—A contract was let for alterations and general renovations to this building, and the work has been finished.

Post-office, Timaru.—The drainage has been improved, and the building properly ventilated. The water-closet system has also been improved, and faulty chimneys put right.

Post-office, Cheviot.—Plans for a new post-office, Postmaster's residence, and lineman's quarters have been prepared, and tenders will be invited for their erection very shortly.

General repairs, painting, &c., have been carried out at the post-offices, Kaiapoi, Temuka, and Waiau.

Public Works Store, Christchurch.—The building has been reroofed with iron, and the exterior painted.

Old Provincial Buildings, Christchurch.—The roof over the old Council Chamber is being reslated, and some small repairs, fittings, &c., attended to.

Land and Survey Office, Timaru.—The renovation of this building is in hand.

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

Seacliff Asylum.—Electric fire-alarms and tell-tale clocks have been fitted up, and brick and cement piers have been built under the turrets at the main entrance to the building. The main drain from building has been diverted from unsound ground, near the Superintendent's residence, where leakage occurred owing to the slipping of the ground, and laid in sound ground. The building was examined by Mr C. Napier Bell and myself, with a view to proposing a remedy for the cracking of part of the structure, also to the shifting of the land, and our report on the subject has been submitted.

Medical Superintendent's Residence, Seacliff.—Cracks in the building, caused by a slip in the ground, were made good, and the residence fitted up with electric bells.

Police-station, Waitahuna.—A contract has been let for the erection of this new station, and the work is well in hand.

Various additions, repairs, and painting have been carried out at the Police-stations, at Dunedin Central, Dunedin South, and Caversham.

Post-office, Queenstown.—A contract was let in April last for the erection of a new post-office, and for shifting, altering, and repairing the present building to fit it for a Postmaster's residence, and the work is in progress; amount of contract, £492.

Post-office, Tapanui.—A contract was let for the erection of this building in January, 1895, for £293, and completed in March.

Various improvements, painting, &c., have been carried out in the following post-office buildings: Chief Post-office, Dunedin, North Dunedin Post-office, Post-offices, Waikaia and Palmerston South, and Postmasters' residences, Clinton and Tapanui.

Court-house, Arrowtown.—A contract has been let for a new Court-house, and the work has just been commenced.

Supreme Court, Invercargill.—A contract has been let for dividing a portion of the Courtroom into two rooms, and renovating the building inside and outside, and the work is in progress.

Some repairs and painting have been done at the Courthouses at Oamaru and Gore.

Old Gaol, Dunedin.—Some repairs and painting have been carried out.

New Gaol, Dunedin.—Plans and specifications were prepared by this department for this building in brick and stone. The work was commenced in January, 1895. The concrete foundations have been finished, and the brickwork has just been commenced. Tenders were invited and contracts let for the supplies of broken metal for the foundations, and for the bricks and stone required for the erection of the building. The building is being erected on the co-operative principle, and is progressing favorably.

Curator's Residence (Stock Department) Kurow.—Some additions and alterations to this building have been made.

Quarantine Island, Port Chalmers.—Alterations to the furnace-tubes of fumigating-chamber, and repairing water-pipes, &c., were carried out by contract during the year.

Government Buildings, Invercargill.—The bell-chamber has been lined with lead. Contracts were let for building a lineman's workshop and battery-room, and additional water-closets and out-buildings, and they were finished in September and December, 1894, respectively.

MARINE.

Wharves, Auckland District.—A contract for the erection of two small wharves in Whangateau Harbour was let for £271 10s. in February, 1894, and the work was completed in October. Some fender-piles for the Manakau Heads Wharf are being obtained, and will be fixed in place immediately. Plans have been prepared for the erection of a wharf at Howick, and tenders will be invited shortly for the supply of timber for its erection.