

## EDUCATION RESERVES.

The reports and accounts of the several bodies of School Commissioners will be found in the Appendix (pp. 95–107). The following table contains a summary statement of the accounts :—

TABLE S.—SUMMARY OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS' ACCOUNTS.

Provincial Districts.	Income for the Year 1896.						Arrears of Rent due on 31st December, 1896.	Liabilities or Engagements on 31st December, 1896.
	Balances on 1st January, 1896.	Receipts during Year.		Total Income.				
		Primary Reserves.	Secondary Reserves.					
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Auckland .. ..	216 5 3	2,430 18 5	886 6 7	3,533 10 3	1,019 8 2	40 10 0		
Taranaki .. ..	983 17 11	1,719 3 11	340 1 6	3,043 3 4	1,346 1 7	395 11 5		
Wellington .. ..	621 13 2	2,909 2 10	111 0 3	3,641 16 3	245 13 6	70 18 6		
Hawke's Bay .. ..	2,303 16 4	3,204 11 4	867 7 9	6,375 15 5	732 3 0	524 8 8		
Marlborough .. ..	128 4 10	200 13 6	40 15 2	369 13 6	105 10 0	..		
Nelson .. ..	133 4 6	1,444 12 9	531 11 3	2,109 8 6	187 13 0	..		
Westland .. ..	109 1 5	38 16 0	148 5 0	296 2 5	10 1 6	..		
Canterbury .. ..	310 14 3	16,459 8 0	..	16,770 2 3	1,803 13 4	208 3 5		
Otago .. ..	6,279 9 0	18,198 18 4	679 4 6	25,157 11 10	6,493 16 9	28 16 9		
Totals for 1896..	11,086 6 8	46,606 5 1	3,604 12 0	61,297 3 9	11,944 0 10	1,268 8 9		
Totals for 1895..	12,629 18 5	44,486 4 3	3,270 2 8	59,384 5 4	12,818 18 11	1,660 3 8		

Provincial Districts.	Expenditure for the Year 1896.						
	Office Expenses and Salaries.	Other Expenses of Management	Paid for Primary Education.	Paid for Secondary Education.	Investments and Refunds.	Balances on 31st December, 1896.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland .. ..	116 14 9	252 5 2	2,000 0 0	699 5 6	70 1 8	395 3 2	3,533 10 3
Taranaki .. ..	63 16 10	215 3 10	1,100 0 0	400 0 0	40 4 6	1,223 18 2	3,043 3 4
Wellington .. ..	337 14 10	621 8 6	2,000 0 0	100 0 0	..	582 12 11	3,641 16 3
Hawke's Bay .. ..	109 10 0	151 4 11	3,000 0 0	481 1 6	3 6 6	2,630 12 6	6,375 15 5
Marlborough .. ..	25 0 0	8 18 6	100 0 0	..	..	235 15 0	369 13 6
Nelson .. ..	51 4 9	19 6 0	1,000 0 0	375 0 0	..	663 17 9	2,109 8 6
Westland .. ..	10 0 0	23 14 3	..	120 0 0	..	142 8 2	296 2 5
Canterbury .. ..	561 0 8	8 9 6	15,350 0 0	..	32 2 6	818 9 7	16,770 2 3
Otago .. ..	841 6 2	1,046 4 5	12,609 18 11	677 5 3	1,762 0 6	8,220 16 7	25,157 11 10
Totals for 1896 ..	2,116 8 0	2,346 15 1	37,159 18 11	2,852 12 3	1,907 15 8	14,913 13 10	61,297 3 9
Totals for 1895 ..	2,032 9 6	1,193 6 10	40,482 11 10	2,784 4 3	2,206 16 9	11,684 16 8	60,384 5 4

In 1896 the Commissioners paid £37,160 to the Education Boards, the whole of which amount has been deducted from the capitation grants made to the Boards, and has thus in effect become a contribution to the Colonial Treasury.

## NATIVE SCHOOLS.

The interest taken by the Maori people in the school education of their children is constantly growing. In 1896 the number of village schools rose from 69 to 74; the number of children on the roll in December, from 2,675 to 2,862; the mean of the weekly returns of pupils on the roll, from 2,656 to 2,874; and the strict average attendance for the year, from 2,084 to 2,220. On the average, the daily attendance was equal to  $77\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. of the roll-number for the time being. About 9 per cent. of the children are half-castes, about 14 per cent. are European (or inclining to European), and nearly 77 per cent. are Maori (or inclining to Maori).

In the four boarding-schools for Maoris there were, in December, 70 Government scholars and 144 others. At the same time 14 boys holding industrial scholarships were apprenticed to employers as follows: Farmers, 5; blacksmiths, 3; saddlers, 3; carpenters, 2; printer, 1. One girl was at a high school with a scholarship, and two young men held scholarships of £40 a year to enable them to study at the University College, Auckland, and Canterbury College, Christchurch. The number of Maori children at the ordinary public schools has been stated in connection with Table B.