

Expenditure.

	Primary Education Estate.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Office expenses and management—		
Salary of steward (inclusive of all travelling-expenses) ...	540 0 0	
Stationery and postage	9 4 8	
Bank exchange on cheques	0 12 0	
School Commissioners, railage and expenses	11 4 0	561 0 8
Expenses of leasing—		
Advertising and printing	8 9 6
Expenditure in connection with reserves—		
Refund of excess rent paid by lessee of Reserve 2006 from 1st May, 1884, to 1st May, 1896, through error in certifi- cate of title	26 2 6	
Contribution to Kowai Road Board, for protective works made to prevent encroachment of River Ashley, which was endangering Reserve 119 and other land	6 0 0	32 2 6
		601 12 8
Payments to Education Boards—		
North Canterbury	12,431 6 7	
South Canterbury	2,918 13 5	15,350 0 0
		15,951 12 8
Balance in Bank of New Zealand, 31st December, 1896—		
At credit of Current Account	655 6 2	
On fixed deposit	163 3 5	818 9 7
Total expenditure	16,770 2 3

Assets.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in bank, as above	818 9 7
Rents payable in advance, 1st May, 1896—Proportion uncollected ...	84 13 4	
Rents payable in advance, 1st Nov., 1896—Proportion uncollected ...	1,719 0 0	1,803 13 4
Total assets	2,622 2 11

Liabilities.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Steward's salary, December, 1896	45 0 0
Awaiting appropriation in purchase of land	163 3 5
Total liabilities	208 3 5

H. H. PITMAN,
Steward of Education Reserves,
4th January, 1897.

H. R. WEBB,
Chairman of the School Commissioners,
4th January, 1897.

Examined and found correct—J. K. WARBURTON, Controller and Auditor-General.

OTAGO.

SIR,—

Dunedin, 1897.

In accordance with Order in Council of 17th December, 1878, and in compliance with circular from the Education Department dated the 13th January last, I have the honour to submit the following report of the School Commissioners of Otago for the year ended 31st December, 1896 :—

During the year thirteen general meetings were held.

In the course of the year the Commissioners leased fourteen sections for pastoral purposes, seventy-nine for agricultural purposes, and thirteen township sections in various parts of Otago and Southland. The area of the pastoral land was 3,689 acres, leased to nine tenants at an annual