NUMBER AND ESTIMATED VALUE OF ESTATES IN THE PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE.

The following was the number and estimated value of estates in the Public Trust Office on the 31st December in each of the years 1890 to 1893, and on the 31st March in each of the years 1895, 1896, and 1897.

	Number of Estates.							
Class.	On 31st Dec., 1890.	On 31st Dec., 1891.	On 31st Dec., 1892.	On 31st Dec., 1893.	On 31st March, 1895.	On 31st March, 1896.	On 31st March, 1897.	
Wills and trusts (including Sinking Fund Accounts)	288	343	354	371	392	447	466	
	752	794	845	868	850	812	781	
	109	114	117	117	113	91	86	
	137	181	202	271	335	434	510	
Lunatic estates	99	100	101	102	103	107	112	
Native reserves	293	293	293 •	293	293	293	293	
West Coast Settlement Reserves				••	ļ	52	86	
Unclaimed lands		••.						
Totals	1,678	1,825	1,912	2,022	2,086	2,236	2,334	
	Value of Estates.							
Class.	On 31st Dec., 1890.	On 31st Dec., 1891.	On 31st Dec., 1892.	On 31st Dec., 1893.	On 31st March, 1895.	On 31st March, 1896.	On 31st March 1897.	
/	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Wills and trusts (including Sinking	418,047	415,160	442,671	543,239	586,814	673,478	744,742	
Fund Accounts)	75,305	83,381	81,650	84,436	80,287	86,132	88,751	
Intestate estates	23,496	24,190	22,706	23,465	22,462	14,686	11,161	
Real estates	32,918	34,913	40,380	51,278	72,706	73,995	88,133	
Lunatic estates	340,869	344,692	346,499	348,500	350,000	350,000	355,000	
Native reserves	349,462	350,289	350,839	400,000	450,000	600,000	600,000	
West Coast Settlement Reserves	343,402	000,200				8,662	10,376	
		1				I	ļ	
Unclaimed lands	1,240,097	1 050 605	1,284,755	1,450,918	1.562.269	1,806,953	1.898,163	

The Government Loans to Local Bodies Sinking Fund, placed under control of Public Trustee by section 5 of "The Government Loans to Local Bodies Act Amendment Act, 1892" [opened on the 9th December, 1892]. Transactions in this account have been as follows:—

Amounts received by the Public Trustee

	During the Year ended 31st March.		From Consolidated Fund.	From Land Assurance Fund.	From Interest.	Total Receipts during each Year.	
1893 1894 1895 1896 1897	 Totals		£ s. d. 14,000 0 0 20,528 19 7 11,406 13 7 13,384 18 0 14,960 1 10 74,280 13 0	£ s. d. 7,015 11 9 4,494 1 5 3,802 4 6 4,461 12 7 4,986 14 0	£ s. d. 1,058 16 0 2,148 0 7 2,958 3 3 3,651 3 11 9,816 3 9	£ s. d. 21,015 11 9 26,081 17 0 17,356 18 8 20,804 13 10 23,597 19 9	