

The slip will require about 60 ft. of the centre groove renewing before very long.

I find the *Teredo* is attacking a few of the totara piles, but as yet not to any great extent.

If this had been a favourable season for grain, the store would not have been large enough for the requirements, as it is almost blocked now. I would therefore urge the necessity for putting an addition to the present building before another season. The storage dues derived from use of same would, I think, cover interest on its cost.

The groins near the slip have been the means of accumulating a considerable bank of shingle on the foreshore, and this has effectually maintained the reclamation that has and is being done for storage from being scoured away by the sea. I should advise that these groins be kept in repair, and be made good whenever the sea has made breaches to them.

The amount of unpaid accounts due Landing Service to 31st March, 1897, is £115 10s.

I have entered all charges that I have so far received from Land Office against the port in my working-expenses statement, and should there be any further charges it will have to be charged against, or carried on.

J. SINCLAIR, Harbourmaster.

RETURN of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ended 31st March, 1897.

Receipts.				Expenditure.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Merchandise .. .. .	..	..	600 12 7	Wages .. .. .	..	..	455 14 3
Timber .. .. .	..	..	139 10 2	Stores .. .. .	..	..	28 19 0
Posts .. .. .	..	..	2 13 0	Roadworks (boatmen's wages for time at)	..	..	207 11 4
Sundries .. .. .	..	..	29 4 4	Balance .. .. .	..	..	133 7 9
Storage .. .. .	..	..	48 14 3				
Passengers .. .. .	..	..	4 18 0				
			<u>£825 12 4</u>			<u>£825 12 4</u>	

J. SINCLAIR, Harbourmaster.

STATEMENT of CLASSIFIED MERCHANDISE, &c., imported and exported during Period 1st April, 1896, to 31st March, 1897.

Inward Cargo.							
General merchandise .. .. .	..	..	1,192 tons 9 cwt.	Coals .. .. .	..	..	275 tons 15 cwt.
Flour .. .. .	..	..	143 tons	Fencing-posts .. .. .	..	..	636
Sharps .. .. .	..	..	70 sacks	Timber .. .. .	..	..	230,060 ft.
Bran .. .. .	..	..	98 "	Sundries and parcels .. .. .	..	..	485
Oatmeal .. .. .	..	..	73 "	Passengers .. .. .	..	..	57
Pearl barley .. .. .	..	..	10 "				
Outward Cargo.							
Wool, in bales .. .. .	..	..	2,483	Potatoes, in sacks .. .. .	..	..	28
Wool, in bags .. .. .	..	..	45	Cheese, in crates .. .. .	..	..	63
Skins, in bales and bundles	..	..	129	Butter, in boxes .. .. .	..	..	31
Wheat, in sacks .. .. .	..	..	2,063	Eggs, in boxes .. .. .	..	..	3
Rye corn, in sacks .. .. .	..	..	25	Sundries .. .. .	..	..	407
Pease, in sacks .. .. .	..	..	82	Passengers .. .. .	..	..	47
Grass-seed, in sacks .. .. .	..	..	44				

J. SINCLAIR.

STATEMENT showing how EXPENDITURE was apportioned each Month.

1896-97.	Shipping.	Casual.	Coal and Oil.	Road-works.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April	38 5 7	..	1 16 0	19 2 6	59 4 1
May	44 4 3	3 8 6	3 9 0	5 16 7	56 18 4
June	24 19 1	..	2 15 0	24 12 6	52 6 7
July	23 18 11	1 15 6	1 5 0	30 11 5	57 10 10
August	32 17 3	3 6 1	3 8 0	23 9 10	63 1 2
September	26 16 9	0 4 0	1 5 0	20 14 3	49 0 0
October	40 16 7	3 4 9	2 10 0	18 5 11	64 17 3
November	30 3 5	2 17 0	2 0 0	16 12 2	51 12 7
December	52 7 10	7 4 4	3 9 0	5 19 1	69 0 3
January	44 16 6	1 19 6	2 15 0	7 17 10	57 8 10
February	30 1 7	..	1 3 0	17 1 11	48 6 6
March	36 17 10	5 9 0	3 4 0	17 7 4	62 18 2
Total	426 5 7	29 8 8	28 19 0	207 11 4	692 4 7

J. SINCLAIR, Harbourmaster.