OTAGO BOYS' AND GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOLS.

Staff.

Boys' School.—Mr. W. J. Morrell, M.A.; Mr. M. Watson, M.A.; Mr. J. Macpherson, F.E.I.S.; Mr F. H. Campbell, M.A.; Mr. R. A. McCullough, M.A.; Mr. E. J. Parr, M.A., B.Sc.; Mr. J. Reid, B.A.; Mr. J. G. Fullarton, B.A.; Mr. H. Chapman, B.A.; Mr. W. A. Armour, M.A.; Mr. J. G. Paterson, M.A., M.Sc.; Mr. R. Coghill; Mr. D. Sherriff; Mr. J. Hanna.

Girls' School.—Miss M. E. A. Marchant, M.A.; Miss F. M. Allan, M.A.; Miss H. Alexander, B.A.; Miss S. C. C. McKnight, M.A., M.Sc.; Miss E. E. Little; Miss F. Campbell, M.A.; Miss L. A. N. Downes, B.A.; Miss M. W. Alves; Miss M. McLeod; Mr. W. O. Taylor, F.R.C.O.; Miss J. C. Longford; Mr. J. Hanna.

1. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

In accordance with section 8 of "The Otago Boys' and Girls' High Schools Act, 1878," and in obedience to circular from the Education Department dated the 5th December last, I have the honour to forward report of the Board of Governors Otago Boys' and Girls' High Schools for year ended 31st December, 1908.

The schools were inspected in March and April by the Inspector-General of Schools and Mr. J. H. Gill, who expressed satisfaction generally with the efficiency of the staff and the progress of the pupils.

In view of the vote from Parliament last session, the Board has taken steps to obtain competitive designs for a new girls' high school from architects throughout the Dominion. The design selected will be submitted for your approval-in due course, and the Board hopes to be in a position to invite tenders for a section of the building at an early date, provided that it can be erected for approximately £9.000.

The information asked for in circular before referred to, with balance-sheet and statement of income and expenditure for year ended 31st December, 1908, duly certificated to by the Controller and Auditor-General, was forwarded to your Department on the 30th March last.

2. Work of the Highest and Lowest Classes.

Highest.—Boys' School: English—Shakespeare, King Lear; Chaucer, Prologue; Spenser, Faerie Queene, Book I; Palgrave's Golden Treasury, Book IV; Peacock, Selected English Essays; Nesfield's Historical English and Senior Composition. Latin—Livy, Book XXIII; Cicero, Actio Prima in Verrem; Horace, Odes, Book IV; Virgil, Æneid, VIII; sight translation, prose composition, and grammar papers; Shuckburgh, History of Rome; Wilkins, Roman Antiquities. French—Coppée, Contes Choisis; Chénier, Select Poems; Mme. de Stael, French Revolution; composition, grammar, phonetics, &c. Mathematics—Arithmetic, whole subject; algebra, Baker and Bourne, to permutations; geometry, Baker and Bourne, Books I to VII; trigonometry, Pendlebury. Science—Chemistry, the metals, revision of non-metals, elementary qualitative analysis; physics, heat. Girls' School: English—Chaucer, The Knighte's Tale and The Prologue; Shakespeare, Midsummer Night's Dream, Richard II, and King Lear; Spenser, Faerie Queene (part); Milton's Paradise Lost, Book II (part); Historical English Grammar; composition, &c.; literature, general, with readings from modern poets. Latin—Livy, Book I, chapters 7–23; Horace, Odes, Book I, Book II, 5 odes, 4 epistles; Middleton's Latin Verse; Marchant's Latin Unseens; composition, grammar, &c.; Roman History and Antiquities. French—Macmillan's Advanced Exercises; Wellington College Reader; Boïelle, poetry; Barlet and Masom, Higher French Reader; grammar, composition, &c.; Berthou, Specimens of Modern French Verse; Labiche, Le Voyage de M. Perrichon. Mathematics—Arithmetic, the whole subject; algebra, to permutations and combinations, inclusive; geometry, Euclid, Books I, II, III, V, VI, VII, Baker and Bourne; trigonometry, Lock's Trigonometry, to solutions of triangles. Science—Botany, the morphology and physiology of the botanical types specified in the Junior Scholarship schedule; physics, as defined in the Junior Scholarship schedule. Commercial work—Elementary book-keeping; shorthand and typewriting.

Lowest.—Boys' School: English—Winbolt, English Poetry; Lamb, Adventures of Ulysses; (IIIB) Prescott, Montezuma; (IIIc) Cook's Second Voyage; Nesfield's Outlines of English Grammar. English History—Tout, First Book of British History, (IIIB) to 1727, (IIIc) to 1642. Geography—British Isles, Europe, Asia, Africa (Longmans). Latin—Macmillan's Shorter Latin Course, Part I, (IIIB) the whole, (IIIc) lessons 1–60; Bell's Scalæ Primæ, (IIIB) chapters 1–51 (selections), (IIIc) chapters 1–6. French—Siepmann's Primary French Course, Part I, (IIIB) lessons 1–24, (IIIc) 1–19. Mathematics—Workman's School Arithmetic, (IIIB) to stocks, (IIIc) to compound interest; algebra, Baker and Bourne, to easy problems; geometry, Baker and Bourne, (IIIB) Books I and II, 1–9, (IIIc) Book I, 1–29 (with omissions). Science—Elementary Physiology (Murché). Girls' School: English—Literature, In Golden Realms; reader, Citizen Reader; grammar, Nesfield's Manual; parsing and analysis; composition, Nesfield's Oral Exercises. French—Siepmann, Part I. Mathematics—Arithmetic, fractions, decimals, proportion, proportionate division, percentage; algebra, Hall and Knight, to simultaneous equations; Euclid. Baker and Bourne, Experimental Work, Book I. Science—Botany, structure of flowering-plants; Murché's Botany. Cookery—The theory and practice of plain cooking. Commercial Work—Elementary. Needlework—Measurements, drafting of patterns, making of blouse and skirt.