REPORT

OF THE

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES COMMISSIONER;

TOGETHER WITH ACCOUNTS TO 30TH JUNE, 1872.

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 29 OF "THE GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES ACT, 1869."

WELLINGTON.

1872.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES COMMISSIONER.

SIR,— Government Annuities Office, 17th July, 1872.

I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency my Annual Report, as required by the 29th section of "The Government Annuities Act, 1869."

The annexed returns show the satisfactory progress which has been made in the operation of that Act, and of the amending Act of 1870.

The number of proposals received during the year ended 30th June last is shown in the following statement:—

Class.	Received.		Declined.		Not taken up.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amoun .	No.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Insurance	1,769	708,500 0 0	131	47,350 0 0	400	123,900 0 0
Endowment	51	5,400 0 0	...	...	24	2,400 0 0
Annuities	6	345 10 8 per annum	...	...	...	...
Total	1,826	713,900 0 0	131	47,350 0 0	424	126,300 0 0

One-third of the number not taken up are still under consideration, the prescribed time for taking them up not having elapsed. The amount of claims paid during the same period on Assurance Policies was £1,200. The amount of receipts for the year was £18,100 19s. 2d., of which £543 was received as interest from the Colonial Treasury—interest for the last quarter, amounting to £221, being still due; and the expenditure was £8,089 13s. 2d. This expenditure includes £1,526 2s. 6d. for claims under policies, and £2,847 paid as medical fees and commission on account of new policies for that year;—the commission paid during that period was on new policies only, and not on policies previously granted.

With respect to the investment of accruing funds, I would observe, that the balance of moneys received under "The Government Annuities Act, 1869," has hitherto formed part of the Trust Funds of the Colony, and has been invested with the rest of those funds; but an arrangement is made by which interest has been added to the balances at credit of the Annuities Account at the end of each quarter, so as to give that account the full benefit of its accumulations. It is now intended to set apart such portions of the securities held by the Trust Fund as shall be equal to the present balance of the Annuities Account; and in future the balances that may accrue at the end of each quarter, with the interest on the securities held, will be invested from time to time in securities of similar character, bearing the highest rate of interest that can be obtained.

In anticipation of a stream of immigration into New Zealand, it appears to me of great importance that provision should be made by law to enable intending emigrants in the United Kingdom to avail themselves of the Government Insurance Acts. Such an arrangement would tend to provide, to a considerable extent, a security for the permanent settlement of the insured immigrant in the Colony, and a guarantee against his family becoming, in the event of his death, a charge on public or private charity.

Adverting to the Comparative Return numbered 3, showing the business transacted during twelve months by fifteen private Insurance Offices of very long standing (36 years being the average), as shown in their last published reports, I think that it is a subject of congratulation to the Colony that the New Zealand Government Insurance Department, which practically came into existence only about two years ago, holds so high a place in that list.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. GISBORNE,
Commissioner.

His Excellency Sir George Bowen, G.C.M.G.

No. 1.

Return showing the Gross Amount of all Sums of Money received, and the Gross Amount of Life Assurance Endowments and Annuities granted for the same, from the 1st July, 1871, to 30th June, 1872.

Moneys Received.		Insurances granted.		Endowments granted.		Annuities granted.	
	£ s. d.	No.	Amount. £ s. d.	No.	Amount. £ s. d.	No.	Amount. £ s. d.
Insurance ...	14,738 7 7	1322	453,225 0 0	...	...	...	...
Endowment ...	277 12 9	...	...	27	3,000 0 0	...	...
Annuities ...	2,528 11 10	...	...	...	...	6	345 10 8
Fines ...	13 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Interest ...	543 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, 1871–72 ...	18,100 19 2	1322	453,225 0 0	27	3,000 0 0	6	345 10 8
„ 1870–71 ...	7,151 8 4	395	177,574 0 0	10	1,100 0 0	4	352 5 0
„ 70 ...	357 8 0	53	27,800 0 0	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	25,609 15 6	1770	658,599 0 0	37	4,100 0 0	10	697 15 8

No. 2.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Year ending 30th June, 1872.

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
Insurance Premiums, New and Renewal ...	14,738 7 7	Claims on Assurance Policies	1,200 0 0
Insurance Fines and Fees	13 7 0	Annuities Paid	326 2 6
Endowment Premiums, New and Renewal	277 12 9	Salaries	1,385 7 0
Annuity Premiums, New	2,528 11 10	Medical Fees	1,682 8 6
Interest from Investments	543 0 0	Commission	1,165 3 3
		Advertising	1,415 8 11
		General Expenses and Printing	915 3 0
		Balance	10,011 6 0
	18,100 19 2		18,100 19 2

Balance as above	£10,011 6 0
*Nett Balance on 30th June, 1871	5,044 15 9
Balance on 30 June, 1872	£15,056 1 9

* The Account with the Trust Fund in Report for the year ending 30th June, 1871, headed General Account, shows a balance of £6,832 1s. 4d. in favour of the Department; but in order to show the actual balance of Receipt and Expenditure, the sum of £1,664 0s. 7d., appearing in a foot note to that Account, together with a further sum of £123 15s., which was due as interest but not then received, should be deducted, leaving the balance as above.

No. 3.

Comparative Return showing the New Life Assurance Business effected by Fifteen Offices established in Great Britain and the Colonies, during Twelve Months, as given in their recent Statements, published in the Assurance "Review," March 1st, 1872.

Date of Establishment of Company.	Name of Company.	Year of Age.	No. of New Policies Issued.	Amount of New Annual Premiums.	Amount of New Assurances effected.	Total No. of Policies in force.	Claims in the last 12 Months, including Bonuses.	Date to which Balance Sheet is made up.
				£	£		£	
1848	Gresham	25	2,452	32,159	1,879,454	23,945	173,841	30th June, 1871.
1849	Australian Mutual Provident ...	24	2,337	32,733	830,904	13,265	47,683	29th February, 1872.
1825	Standard	47	1,936	42,725	1,181,399	28,179	381,241	15th November, 1870.
1854	The Briton	18	1,887	17,473	516,531	...	171,128	31st December, 1870.
1815	The Scottish Widows' Fund ...	57	1,700	31,667	965,627	16,026	482,430	31st December, 1870.
1870	**New Zealand Government Insurance Department**	**3**	**1,355**	**16,180**	**453,225**	**1,723**	**1,200**	**30th June, 1872.**
1845	The Royal	27	1,235	20,349	...	14,513	90,281	31st December, 1870.
1837	The Scottish Provident	35	1,163	20,764	612,025	15,206	111,057	31st December, 1870.
1836	Liverpool and London and Globe	36	1,042	22,177	521,579	12,760	192,340	20th November, 1871.
1823	North British and Mercantile ...	49	879	24,348	810,632	13,365	192,532	31st December, 1870.
1825	The Crown	48	828	13,293	426,620	7,697	96,376	25th March, 1870.
1826	Scottish Amicable	46	766	13,180	332,616	11,842	104,327	31st December, 1870.
1823	Edinburgh	50	690	11,758	426,009	6,301	70,678	31st March, 1871.
1824	Scottish Union	49	685	16,492	568,130	8,679	133,487	30th June, 1871.
1861	Commercial Union	11	614	13,332	442,770	...	21,869	31st December, 1870.
1826	Scottish Equitable	47	569	12,498	356,748	10,624	169,594	1st March, 1871.