

Wanganui, the old building to be used temporarily for an infant school until a new one is built. The settlers of Otaki have made out a fair case for the establishment of a school, and schools are much needed to replace the old schools at Aramoho and Upokongaro.

To provide adequately for the educational wants of the whole district, the following buildings should be erected:—

1.—SCHOOLHOUSES.

<i>A.—Wellington District.</i>			<i>B.—Wanganui District.</i>		
Boys' School, Thorndon	...	£3,000	Wanganui Boys' School	...	£2,000
Girls' " "	...	2,000	" Infants "	...	1,000
Infants' " "	...	1,000	" Girls' Extension	...	500
Newtown	...	800	Mosstown	...	250
Opaki	...	300	Maxwell	...	250
Tawa Flat	...	350	Aramoho	...	300
Kaiwara	...	300	U. Tutaenui Extension	...	200
Masterton Extension	...	400	Upokongaro	...	250
Upper Hutt	...	400	Kohi Extension	...	100
Terrace (Wellington) Extension	...	800	Waverley Extension	...	200
			Turakina Extension	...	150
			Marton Extension	...	250
		£9,350			£5,450

2.—TEACHERS' RESIDENCES.

<i>A.—Wellington District.</i>			<i>B.—Wanganui District.</i>		
Ohariu	...	£250	Mount View	...	£250
Makara	...	250	Upokongaro	...	250
Tawa Flat	...	250	Aramoho	...	250
Fern Ridge	...	250	Mosstown	...	250
Taita Enlargement	...	150	Maxwell Enlargement	...	100
Opaki	...	250	Brunswick	...	250
Waihenga	...	250	Waitotara	...	250
Clareville	...	250	Turakina U. Enlargement	...	100
			Awahuri	...	250
			Taonui	...	250
			Stony Creek	...	250
		£1,900			£2,450

These are exclusive of residences for town teachers.

4. NORMAL SCHOOL.

The time has now arrived, in the opinion of the Board, when, in order to obtain the best results with the most judicious expenditure of public money, it is desirable that something should be done to provide Normal School training for teachers. The Board think that one training institution for the whole colony would be the best for this purpose; but if it is impracticable to confine the work to one institution, then they will look for a fair share of the sum of £6,000 voted by Parliament for Normal Schools; and, should the grant be made, they hope to utilize it in a way which will be a great benefit to the service, by appointing a Normal Master, who can begin with a class at once in the spare rooms of the Mount Cook Boys' School. The proposed new schools at Thorndon and Kaiwara could be built so as to serve as model schools, and there could be attached one or two suitable rooms which might serve for some time as the lecture and students' rooms of a Normal School.

In this undertaking the Board might hope for the co-operation of the Wanganui Board, and perhaps of others. Beyond the cost of maintenance for students and the Normal Master's stipend, there would be no great annual charge; nor would the original cost of the extra buildings required be great for a year or two. They could then be used as class rooms for the practising school, and a suitable Normal School could be built on a suitable site.

5. STANDARDS AND SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS.

At the beginning of 1874 the Board adopted four standards of examination drawn up by the Inspector, and this is believed to have been the first introduction of standards into the colony. The four standards are altogether unlike other standards then in use. They are set at intervals of two years' work, and they cover eight years' instruction. Every child is individually examined and classed. The standards have worked well; they have been most useful in classifying the scholars, in securing work of a better order, in directing the teachers to a more profitable employment of time, and in testing the instruction more accurately than could have been done by any system of class examination. A syllabus of the work of the standards will be found in the Inspector's report attached.

After reading the syllabus of the standards, the principal subjects taught and the extent to which they are actually learned in the public schools will readily be gathered from the table of results.

A list of the branches of instruction taught in the different public schools, and the number of scholars in each school learning each subject, is attached. This information has been compiled from the returns sent in by the teachers and Local Committees in reply to a circular letter from the Education Department.