

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.—Several schools have been enlarged, and others require enlargement. The Waitara East School is being enlarged. A new school is being built at Lepperton, in the room of the old block house previously used. A new school at the extreme west of New Plymouth is in progress to accommodate the children now taught in a hired building; one is also required at the extreme east, to accommodate the children now taught in a small chapel, which is very crowded and inconvenient. A central school is being built and nearly completed to accommodate the East and West Boys' Schools. It is expected that this arrangement will improve and increase the teaching power, and also reduce the cost. The East School has been used as part of the new building. The Board contemplates at present to use the East Infants' School, which is an old building, for the storage of furniture when needed. School sites have been purchased for the West and Fitzroy Infant Schools.

COMMITTEES.—The No. 3 Committee for the Town of New Plymouth have taken great interest in their work during the past year. The country Committees are gradually taking more interest in their work. The whole of the Committees have this year applied for their capitation allowance. The No. 3 Committee have very liberally voted £70 towards the completion of the Central School. The new regulations for auditing School Committees' accounts will be found an improvement.

TEACHERS.—The teaching staff consists of twenty male and forty-one female head and assistant teachers of these, only twenty-nine hold certificates or a license to teach. Arrangements have been made for the training of pupil-teachers, and the regulations have been approved by the Minister of Education.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

ELISHA VEALE, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1883.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balances on 31st December, 1882—			By Office staff, salaries ..	150	0 0
Building Account ..	38	3 1	Clerical assistance ..	7	2 6
General Account ..	822	12 1	Departmental contingencies ..	135	1 0
Land Account ..	100	0 0	Inspector's salary ..	300	0 0
Receipts for buildings—			Teachers' salaries and allowances ..	4,468	1 0
Government grant ..	1,666	15 0	Incidental expenses of schools ..	580	0 0
Proceeds of sale of West School ..	33	0 0	Training of teachers ..	23	0 0
Grant from Education Fund ..	650	0 0	Grant for school buildings ..	650	0 0
Government statutory capitation (£3 15s.) ..	4,967	6 1	Advance to High School Fund ..	150	0 0
Special capitation (5s.) ..	360	7 6	School buildings—		
Inspection subsidy ..	200	0 0	New buildings ..	1,001	4 7
Payments by School Commissioners for			Improvement of buildings ..	140	11 10
primary education ..	369	16 8	Furniture and appliances ..	70	10 6
Rent of school site ..	27	0 0	Sites ..	272	3 5
Transfer fee ..	1	0 0	Sites purchased with Land Fund ..	104	3 3
Grass seed ..	0	10 0	Plans, supervision, and fees ..	100	0 0
Store Account ..	55	1 1	Other expenses—		
Land Account—			Store Account ..	54	17 8
Interest on deposit ..	4	3 3	Deposit on account of contract ..	7	19 6
			Credit balance on 31st December, 1883—		
			On Building Account ..	846	8 3
			On General Account ..	234	11 3
	£9,295	14 9		£9,295	14 9

ELISHA VEALE, Chairman.

WM. NORTHGROFT, Secretary

Examined and found correct.—C. RENNELL, Auditor

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES on 31st December, 1883.

A. *Exclusive of Building Fund.*

<i>Assets.</i>		<i>Liabilities.</i>	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash in bank on this account, 31st December, 1883 ..	234 11 3	Due to teachers ..	107 8 0
Due from High School Fund ..	325 0 0	Due to Committees ..	85 16 3
Due from store ..	51 2 2	Due for advertising, &c. ..	1 18 0
		Due for rent of schools ..	20 4 0
	£610 13 5		£215 6 3

B. *Building Fund only.*

<i>Assets.</i>		<i>Liabilities.</i>	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash in bank on this account, 31st December, 1883 ..	846 8 3	Amounts due and to fall due under contracts ..	950 17 6
		Due for legal expenses ..	3 12 8
	£846 8 3		£954 10 2

WANGANUI.

SIR,—

Wanganui, 26th February, 1884.

In pursuance of the provisions of "The Education Act, 1877," I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Board's proceedings for the year ending 31st December, 1883.

The Board meets on the last Tuesday in every month, and, besides its ordinary meetings on those days, it has held two special meetings.

9—E. 1.