

in the ratio of two to five." The net amount of school fees for 1882 paid into the consolidated revenue was £51,312 5s. 11d. The revenue of the department for 1882 was as follows:—

Parliamentary vote (including fees, £51,312 5s. 11d.)	...	£630,954	14	5
Balance from 1881	...	12,069	10	3
Proceeds of sales of land	...	5,788	4	6

Total, as shown on page 25 of the report ... £648,810 9 2

Victoria.—The Education Report for 1882 furnishes information on page 9 and in Appendix A, from which I make out the following expenditure per scholar:—

Items 1, 4, 7, 8, and 9—Maintenance	...	£4	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Item 5—Management	...	0	2	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Item 6—Inspection	...	0	2	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total current expenditure	...	4	8	10
Item 3—Buildings	...	0	14	4
Total	...	£5	3	2

I have left out of the above the following expenditure, as there is nothing in New Zealand corresponding to it:—

Officers' retiring allowances (pensions)	...	£6,959	4	0
Compulsory clause (truant officers, &c.)	...	8,224	1	7
Total	...	£15,183	5	7

Victoria in past years had expended very large sums in school buildings of a costly and permanent character, and this probably accounts for the comparatively small expenditure in 1882-83. The expenditure in Victoria for 1882-83 was—

1. Current expenditure	...	£532,051	6	3
2. Buildings	...	82,225	1	9
Total	...	£614,276	8	0

South Australia.—The South Australian Report for 1882 does not give so full and clear a statement in regard to expenditure as other reports. School fees were levied to the amount of £21,181 16s. 2d. in 1882. To ascertain the expenditure per scholar I have inspected Appendix P and other tables. For current cost per scholar I have divided the total current expenditure (£92,784 8s. 4d.) by the average daily attendance (21,984), the result being £4 4s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. For cost per attendance for buildings I have divided the amount expended (£16,575 5s. 7d.) by the average attendance, the result being 15s. 1d. A smaller sum (£3 5s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) is given as the average cost per scholar; but, as far as I can understand the statement, this must mean the cost *exclusive* of receipts from school fees.

From the preceding notes, and from a memorandum written by the Inspector-General relating to school expenditure in America, I compile the following table:—

COST PER SCHOLAR IN AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE FOR 1882.

Countries.	Current Expenditure.	Buildings.	Total Current and Buildings Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New Zealand	4 3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 5 3
Queensland	4 3 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 4 5	5 7 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
New South Wales	4 5 0	2 10 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 15 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Victoria	4 8 10	0 14 4	5 3 2
South Australia	4 4 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 15 1	4 19 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
England	* 2 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	† 1 3 10	3 7 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
New York	3 18 0	..	..
Masachussetts	4 6 2	..	..
California	5 5 3	..	..

* Exclusive of expenditure on School Board administration, inspection, and scholarships.

† Calculated from a table on page xxxvi. of the Report of Committee of Council.

SCHOOL AGE.

In almost all education systems there are two sets of school ages: (1) The ages between which children *may* attend a public school, on account of whose attendance parliamentary or other grants may be earned; and (2) the ages between which parents *must* send their children to school under