

of eligible teachers only, and carries out the provisions of the Education Act relative to the consulting of School Committees before appointments are made.

FINANCIAL.—The returns contain details of the Board's income and expenditure, and generally of its financial position for the year 1884. On referring to the statement of accounts it will be seen that at the end of 1883 the overdraft in the Building Fund amounted to £1,673 14s. 6d., and that at the end of 1884 it had been reduced to £961 0s. 3d., while the credit balance on the Maintenance Fund is much the same in both years.

The following is a statement of the accounts of the various School Committees, as audited by competent persons appointed by the Board:—

<i>Income.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balances	341	4 3	Cleaning schools and fuel	961	9 11
From the Education Board	1,069	14 8	Repairs to buildings, fences, &c. ..	321	9 0
From donations, subscriptions, &c. ..	523	14 10	Books, maps, and furniture	110	7 2
From other sources	305	19 8	Towards teachers' salaries	119	6 6
			Committees' expenses, stationery, &c. ..	188	3 3
			Sundries	166	7 3
			Balances	373	10 4
	<u>£2,240</u>	<u>13 5</u>		<u>£2,240</u>	<u>13 5</u>

The audit has been very carefully and satisfactorily made, and the books in general were correctly kept, only four Committees having been reported to the Board as keeping their accounts in a loose and unbusinesslike manner.

As regards compulsory attendance, Savings Bank, and Life Insurance, there is little to report. Only one School Committee—viz., Arrowtown—has put in force the compulsory clauses of the Act during the year. The Teachers' Insurance scheme, under which their premiums are deducted from their salaries every month, is not taken advantage of to any great extent. At the beginning of the year 14 and at the end of the year 10 teachers were insured under this scheme, the total amount of premiums paid during the year being £127 7s.

I have &c.,
JOHN G. SMITH,
Secretary.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1884.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Government grant for buildings ..	3,100	0 0	By Balance of account on 31st December, 1883	1,044	8 9
Government grant for Knapdale School residence	230	0 0	Office staff, salaries	300	0 0
Subscriptions and donations for buildings	100	0 0	Clerical assistance	5	1 0
Government statutory capitation (£3 15s.) ..	14,584	17 1	Departmental contingencies	259	16 7
Special capitation (5s.)	972	6 6	Inspectors' salary	400	0 0
Scholarship grant (1s. 6d.)	260	10 2	Inspectors' travelling expenses	130	0 0
Inspection subsidy	300	0 0	Examination of pupil teachers	9	18 6
Grant for training of teachers	5	8 7	Teachers' salaries and allowances (including rent, bonus, &c.) ..	16,116	5 2
Payments by School Commissioners—			Incidental expenses of schools	1,069	14 8
For primary education	2,506	15 3	Training of teachers	5	8 7
Rents	10	0 0	Scholarships—		
Dr. balance of account on 31st December, 1884	303	0 1	Paid to scholars	280	16 8
			Examination expenses	34	2 0
			School buildings—		
			New buildings	1,748	14 0
			Improvements of buildings	674	15 8
			Furniture and appliances	139	18 11
			Sites	36	6 11
			Plans, supervision, and fees	117	10 3
	<u>£22,372</u>	<u>17 8</u>		<u>£22,372</u>	<u>17 8</u>

THOS. M. MACDONALD, Chairman.
JOHN G. SMITH, Secretary.

I have compared this abstract with the Treasurer's books and vouchers, and I certify it to be correct.—H. LIVINGSTON, Auditor.

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES on 31st December, 1884.

<i>Assets.</i>			<i>Liabilities.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in bank on this account, 31st December, 1884	658	0 2	Due to teachers	57	9 10
			Due to committees	289	6 8
			Balance	311	3 8
	<u>£658</u>	<u>0 2</u>		<u>£658</u>	<u>0 2</u>
<i>B. Building Fund only.</i>					
			Balance of account, 31st December, 1884 ..	769	15 6
			Balance of amounts due, or to fall due, under contracts	534	14 9
<i>Nil.</i>				<u>£1,495</u>	<u>15 0</u>