

The amount thus paid as rents during the year was £325 5s., which sum ought rather to form a charge against the Building Fund than on that for maintenance. The building grant has, as usual, been found quite insufficient to overtake the applications for new schools, &c., and the consideration of several cases of great urgency has been deferred till the requisite funds are available.

TEACHERS' INSURANCE.—The scheme of insuring the lives of teachers, and deducting the premiums from their monthly salaries, has not been a success in this district, the number of teachers availing themselves of it being only fifteen, and the total premiums paid during the year £162 16s. 10d.

PENNY-BANKS AND SCHOOL-LIBRARIES.—No penny-banks or school-libraries, though necessary appendages to every school, have been established in this district; and it might be well if the attention of School Committees were again drawn to these very important subjects. All the details of the financial condition of the Board will be found in the Appendix (Returns Nos. 4, 5, and 6).

By order of the Board.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

JOHN NEILL, Secretary.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1885.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Government grant for buildings ..	3,500	0 0	By Balance at beginning of year ..	303	0 1
Subscriptions and donations for buildings ..	48	9 6	Office staff, salaries ..	350	0 0
Government statutory capitation (£3 15s.) ..	16,251	5 0	Clerical assistance ..	1	10 0
Special capitation (5s.) ..	1,269	13 9	Departmental contingencies ..	317	11 9
Scholarship grant (1s. 6d.) ..	370	0 0	Inspector's salary ..	400	0 0
Inspection subsidy ..	300	0 0	Inspector's travelling expenses ..	130	0 0
Payments by School Commissioners for primary education ..	2,794	1 3	Examination of pupil-teachers ..	12	2 6
Reserves' rents ..	12	18 6	Teachers' salaries and allowances (including rent, bonus, &c.) ..	17,327	12 6
Balance at end of year ..	170	5 9	Incidental expenses of schools ..	1,204	1 4
			Scholarships—		
			Paid to scholars ..	295	0 0
			Expenses ..	0	17 6
			School buildings—		
			New buildings ..	2,363	18 0
			Improvements of buildings ..	1,501	3 1
			Furniture and appliances ..	65	17 11
			Sites ..	226	19 10
			Plans, supervision, and fees ..	216	19 3
	<u>£24,716</u>	<u>13 9</u>		<u>£24,716</u>	<u>13 9</u>

THOMAS M. MACDONALD, Chairman.

JOHN NEILL, Secretary.

JOHN G. SMITH, Treasurer.

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

REPORTS ON THE TRAINING COLLEGES.

AUCKLAND.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT.

SIR,—

Auckland Training College, 23rd February, 1886.

I have the honour to submit my report on the Training College for the year 1885.

At the beginning of the year there were twelve male and fourteen female students; total, twenty-six. During the past session of the Auckland University College three of the senior students attended lectures, and succeeded in being placed in the second class in English and Latin, and in the third class in mathematics. The second-year students attended the literature lectures of Professor Tucker; and about fifty teachers in connection with the training classes attended the science-lectures of Professor Brown on Saturday mornings. These classes proved of great advantage to all who attended, and I have much pleasure in expressing my thanks to both these professors for the great interest taken by them in connection therewith. At the matriculation examination held in December last eleven candidates from the College presented themselves, of whom eight passed; while several of the old students attended University lectures with a view to taking their degrees. The results of the recent teachers' examination have not yet been published.

The work of the students throughout the year has not been so satisfactory as that of former years, owing to the want of mental and physical ability in several of those who were admitted. Many were not nearly robust enough for the profession of teaching, and consequently found work simple enough in itself too difficult for them. I regret that from the above cause I was compelled to diminish the amount of actual practice—a course in which I considered I was justified, because, while sadly deficient in scholastic attainments, many had had an average of three or four years' practice. In the selection of students for 1884 and 1885 I was not consulted; but am pleased to state that the recommendation contained in my last report has been agreed to, and that I had placed before me the names of the applicants for the present year. In my last report I said, "Every care should be taken to admit to the Training College only such as are, without doubt, physically capable of undertaking the work of teaching;" and I am happy to see that the Board has instituted, before the appointment of any candidate, an examination by its own medical officer—a