

TABLE A.

	Local Contributions up to November, 1886.	Members now on Roll (Approximate).	Annual Fees now due.	County Councils now due.	Local for Buildings.	Local Total to Date.	Value of Buildings.	Value of Teaching- appliances.
	£ s.		£ s.	£	£	£	£	£
Ross ...	39 10	45	22 10	10	Free	62	Free	30
Rimu ...	25 0	36	18 0	9	20	72	20	25
Kanieri ...	20 0	25	12 10	6	15 ?	53	15	10
Hokitika ...	30 10	40	20 0	10	50 ?	110	Free	120
Stafford ...	17 0	30	15 0	7	Free	39	"	60
Kumara ...	47 0	50	25 0	10	60 ?	142	75 ?	80
Greymouth ...	15 0	50	25 0	?	80	120	150	70
Reefton ...	25 0	50	50 0	?	150	225	300	100
Boatman's ...	...	40	20 0	?	100 ?	120	200	...
Westport ...	14 0	30	15 0	?	75	104	75	60
Denniston ...	25 0	50	25 0	?	50	100	100	25
Lyell ...	...	40	20 0	?	20	40	...	...
Takaka ...	...	40	20 0	...	...	20	...	...
Nelson ...	...	50 ?	25 0	...	35	60	Free	70
Orepuki ...	10 0	40	10 0	?	...	20	...	...
Riverton ...	20 0	20	10 0	?	...	30	...	20
Lawrence ...	70 0	20	10 0	?	...	80	Free	120
Wetherstones ...	Included in Lawrence	60	30 0	...	...	30	...	...
Waitahura ...								
Bluespur ...								
Waipori ...	10 0	60	15 0	...	...	25	...	15
Roxburgh ...	...	40	10 0	...	...	10	...	...
Bendigo ...	3 0	10	5 0	...	...	8	...	5
St. Bathans ...	5 0	20	10 0	...	...	15	...	10
Naseby ...	...	30	15 0	...	...	15	...	60
Bannockburn ...	25 0	50	25 0	...	...	50	...	70
Queenstown ...	...	20	10 0	...	...	10	...	50
Skipper's Point ...	...	20	10 0	...	...	10	...	...
Skipper's ...	...	40	20 0	...	...	20	...	...
Totals for West Coast and Otago	401 0	1,006	493 0	52	655	1,590	935	1,000

This table requires some explanation: (1.) The amounts stated in the second column as "Local contribution up to November, 1886," is virtually correct. (2.) The numbers in the third column, under "Members now on roll," is only approximately correct. The column represents the average number on the rolls since the formation of the schools rather than the members on roll at present, as I have no reliable information as to what the present numbers are. The numbers, however, do not include schoolboys, except, perhaps, in the case of Ross. (3.) The amounts stated in the fourth column as "Fees now due" will not, of course, be paid, as the schools are announced to be abolished. (4.) I am not able to ascertain, without delay, what amounts are voted by County Councils, except for the Westland County schools. (5.) The amounts in the sixth column, "Local for buildings," is a good approximation. (6.) The "Value of buildings," in the eighth column, is also only an approximation. Indeed, I am not sure whether the building at Westport is yet completed. Besides, the buildings at Westport and Boatman's are, I understand, of a superior class, and designed to accommodate not only the schools of mines, but also to serve as a reading-room and athenæum for the general public. (7.) The value of "Teaching-plant," in the last column of the table, includes assaying and chemical appliances and mineral collections and books on the subjects of study.

An inspection of the table for the Middle Island shows—

Total local contributions to date (provided the schools were to be continued, and therefore the fees now due available) ...	£1,590
Total local contributions realised to date ...	£1,108
Total value of assets, including buildings, chemicals, mineral collections. (Of this sum of assets £400 belongs to the Reefton school and £1,535 to the others) ...	£1,935
The total membership on rolls (average). (This does not include about three hundred schoolboys in Nelson and West Coast and Otago who enjoy the benefits of the classes) ...	1,006

Origin and Growth of Schools.—The growth of the schools has been very rapid, and has been going on during the last year much more vigorously on the West Coast than in the previous years. The movement began at Lawrence in November, 1884, just three years ago; and up to the 1st