

somewhat weaker than in the largest districts; and expresses a wish for some measure that would enable the smaller districts to offer salaries more nearly equal to those which are given by the more important Boards. The Greymouth Board also asks for an approximate equalisation of salaries, and, in the same strain, the Wanganui Board desires that some difference may be made in the capitation rate to the advantage of country schools as compared with town schools. The Westland Board also makes an appeal for special consideration. The Southland Board puts in a plea for the revival of the "working average" as a basis of capitation allowance. The Wellington Board asks for some assistance in carrying on the School of Design. The Boards of Taranaki, Wanganui, Greymouth, and Southland give particulars of the want of school accommodation; and the Otago Board states that the demand for new schools in outlying districts is greater than it has been for several years. The reports will be found in the Appendix (pp. 54 to 92, and 105 to 108).

The Auckland and Wellington Normal Schools were closed at the end of the year, owing to the cessation of the grant for the training of teachers. The Otago Board has kept its Normal School open, and the North Canterbury Board has remodelled its school instead of closing it. The reports on these institutions are printed with the reports of the Boards of the districts to which they belong.

EDUCATION RESERVES.

The amount paid by School Commissioners to Education Boards during the year as income from reserves devoted to the purposes of primary education was £29,627 2s. 5d. This is practically colonial revenue, inasmuch as the amount of any payment made in one quarter to any Board is deducted from payments due by the Government during the succeeding quarter. The following is a summary of the accounts of the School Commissioners of the several districts. Their reports and abstracts of their accounts will be found in the Appendix (pp. 92–105).

TABLE S.—SUMMARY OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS' ACCOUNTS.

Provincial Districts.	Income for the Year 1887.				Arrears of Rent due on 31st December, 1887.	Liabilities or Engagements on 31st December, 1887.
	Balances on 1st January, 1887.	Receipts during Year.		Total Income.		
		Primary Reserves.	Secondary Reserves.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	1,220 12 1	1,741 12 5	597 3 6	3,559 8 0	1,171 8 8	6 17 6
Taranaki	579 14 4	913 14 2	254 17 9	1,748 6 3	1,024 7 6	105 13 10
Wellington	398 3 0	806 6 4	54 12 6	1,259 1 10	644 5 0	198 17 1
Hawke's Bay	767 19 7	2,098 18 8	252 1 7	3,118 19 10	441 2 7	85 9 9
Marlborough	25 0 0	117 2 6	10 0 0	152 2 6	116 0 0	..
Nelson	396 16 5	557 2 11	239 16 7	1,193 15 11	173 14 0	4 4 0
Westland	8 15 5	49 9 0	2 0 0	60 4 5	20 0 0	..
Canterbury	143 19 0	14,774 14 6	..	14,918 13 6	414 18 7	45 0 0
Otago	1,387 15 10	14,173 3 7	523 15 7	16,084 15 0	5,464 8 5	..
Totals for 1887..	4,928 15 8	35,232 4 1	1,934 7 6	42,095 7 3	9,470 4 9	446 2 2
Totals for 1886..	5,269 0 7	34,675 5 3	1,934 13 7	41,878 19 5	9,428 17 1	315 18 11

Provincial Districts.	Expenditure for the Year 1887.						
	Office Expenses and Salaries.	Other Expenses of Management	Paid for Primary Education.	Paid for Secondary Education.	Deposits, Investments, and Sundries.	Balances on 31st December, 1887.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	100 0 0	240 12 5	1,150 12 2	350 0 0	*29 1 4	1,689 2 1	3,559 8 0
Taranaki	105 12 3	256 11 4	580 0 0	139 9 3	..	666 13 5	1,748 6 3
Wellington	65 7 4	253 2 6	700 0 0	..	..	240 12 0	1,259 1 10
Hawke's Bay	104 16 6	196 14 8	2,050 0 0	120 0 0	..	647 8 8	3,118 19 10
Marlborough	25 0 0	13 3 2	66 19 0	3 15 0	..	43 5 4	152 2 6
Nelson	35 17 6	37 2 11	728 7 6	371 14 0	..	20 14 0	1,193 15 11
Westland	15 8 0	4 0 0	..	..	..	40 16 5	60 4 5
Canterbury	560 4 2	287 12 2	13,900 0 0	..	..	170 17 2	14,918 13 6
Otago	603 8 8	1,042 7 4	10,451 3 9	459 2 1	†270 18	63,257 14	816,084 15 0
Totals for 1887 ..	1,615 14	52,331 6	29,627 2	51,444 0	299 19	106,777 3	942,095 7 3
Totals for 1886 ..	1,693 17	21,692 16	229,013 7	71,767 9	62,782 13	44,928 15	841,878 19 5

* Deposits.

† Investment.