

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE.—The annual statement of receipts and expenditure is subjoined to this report. The receipts from all sources amounted to £83,928 3s., and the expenditure to £74,183 15s. 2d. Against the unexpended balance of £9,744 7s. 10d. there were various outstanding liabilities at the end of the year. The actual net balances at the 31st December, 1888, were—(1) On maintenance account, £990 10s. 5d.; (2) on building account, £748 8s. 6d. The capitation grant of £3 15s. was expended as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	
On teachers' salaries	3	6	1	per head.
On grants to Committees	0	5	2	"
On inspection and examination	0	1	11	"
On office management	0	1	10	"
Total	£3	15	0	"

Reductions have been made in the cost of office management and inspection, and in the incidental expenses of schools. A reduction of about £2,000 a year has been effected through the non-employment of surplus teachers, referred to in an earlier paragraph of this report. The accounts of School Committees have been audited. Their receipts amounted to £5,592 0s. 7d., and their expenditure to £4,389 7s. 11d.; leaving an unexpended balance of £1,202 12s. 8d. in hand at the end of the year.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

J. H. UPTON, Chairman.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1888.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance at beginning of year—				By Balance at beginning of year— On			
On Playgrounds Account	550	0	0	Building Account	345	8	4
On Flavell's deposit	58	9	0	Office staff—Salaries	1,006	13	4
On General Account	5,035	6	3	Clerical assistance—Survey Department	13	19	0
Government grant for buildings	9,137	2	0	Departmental contingencies	605	3	8
Subscriptions and donations for build- ings	51	0	0	Inspectors' salaries	1,226	4	2
Government statutory capitation	65,153	6	3	Inspectors' travelling expenses	417	6	0
Scholarship grant	1,418	6	8	Examination of pupil-teachers	34	18	8
Inspection subsidy	500	0	0	Teachers' salaries and allowances (in- cluding rent, bonus, &c.)	58,162	1	3
Grant for training of teachers	250	0	0	Incidental expenses of schools	4,538	17	8
Payments by School Commissioners	1,524	0	0	Training of teachers	301	5	0
District High School fees	31	10	0	Scholarships—			
School Committees, towards cost of painting	106	6	6	Paid to scholars	1,130	0	0
Refund office staff from Girls' High School	33	6	8	Examination expenses	82	0	4
Refund teachers' salaries from Girls' High School	25	0	0	School buildings—			
Refund incidental expenses, Kawhia School	32	12	6	New buildings	3,742	13	2
Bank interest on fixed deposit	19	5	0	Improvements of buildings	647	8	8
Bank interest on Flavell's deposit	2	12	2	Furniture and appliances	951	5	1
				Sites	38	12	8
				Plans, supervision, and fees	320	5	7
				Playgrounds	550	0	0
				Bank interest	8	11	5
				Flavell's deposit, with interest repaid..	61	1	2
				Balance at end of year*—			
				On Building Account	3,142	8	6
				On General Account	6,601	19	4
	£83,928	3	0		£83,928	3	0

* Balance as per bank certificate, 9,803 4s. 7d., less unrepresented cheques, £58 16s. 9d. = £9,744 7s. 10d.

J. H. UPTON, Chairman.

VINCENT E. RICE, Secretary.

Examined and found correct.—JAMES EDWARD FITZGERALD, Controller and Auditor-General.

TARANAKI.

SIR,—

Taranaki Education Board, New Plymouth, February, 1889.

I have the honour to submit the report of the Education Board of the District of Taranaki for the year ending the 31st December, 1888.

THE BOARD.—At the annual election in March, Mr. T. Kelly, Mr. E. Olson, and Mr. H. Faull were re-elected to fill the vacancies caused by their retirement in accordance with the Education Act. Mr. T. Kelly was re-elected Chairman. The Board then consisted of the following members—viz.: Mr. T. Kelly (Chairman), Mrs. Richmond, Miss Heywood, Mr. J. Andrews, Mr. G. A. Adlam, Mr. R. G. Bauchope, Mr. H. Faull, Mr. E. Olson, and Mr. W. N. Syme. The Board held one special and twenty-four ordinary meetings during the year. The following are the attendances of each member: Mr. Kelly, 25; Mrs. Richmond, 23; Miss Heywood, 25; Mr. Andrews, 25; Mr. Adlam, 24; Mr. Bauchope, 24; Mr. Faull, 25; Mr. Olson, 19; and Mr. Syme, 25.

SCHOOLS.—The number of schools open at the beginning of the year was thirty-five, and two new schools have been opened during the year, making a total of thirty-seven in operation at the end of the year.

TEACHERS.—There were seventy-two teachers and nineteen sewing teachers in the employ of the Board at the end of the year, classified as follows, viz.:—