

The Commissioners desire to draw attention to the state of their finances for 1889, as compared with that of previous years. For some two or three years past the balance at the close of the year has been small, and the arrears of rent out of proportion to the receipts. The Commissioners have now the satisfaction of reporting an improvement in these respects, for, whereas on the 31st December, 1888, the cash balance was £371 9s. 2d., and arrears £487 1s. 8d., the balance on the 31st December, 1889, was £841 8s. 8d., and arrears only £209 9s. 2d.

While the Commissioners recognise that this satisfactory position is partly owing to the reduced cost of administration, they recognise also the greater regularity of payment of rents by the lessees, and, as a result of these combined influences, they are enabled to pay the sum of £1,200 to the Education Boards, apportioned under the 21st section of "The Education Reserves Act, 1877," being by far the largest sum available for this purpose at any time during the administration of the School Commissioners.

A copy of the general statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ended the 31st December, 1889, is appended hereto.

I have, &c.,

J. R. BLAIR, Chairman of Commissioners.

The Hon. the Minister of Education.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1889.

Receipts.

	Primary Education Reserves.	Secondary Education Reserves.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance on 1st January, 1889 ...	371 9 2	...	371 9 2
Rents written off ...	52 18 3	...	52 18 3
Rents of previous years ...	389 7 6	7 3 3	396 10 9
Rents of current year ...	1,043 7 5	53 18 0	1,097 5 5
Rents of 1890 paid in advance ...	47 18 11	...	47 18 11
Bank exchange ...	0 10 7	0 1 0	0 11 7
Advances repaid ...	53 17 7	...	53 17 7
Total receipts ...	1,959 9 5	61 2 3	2,020 11 8

Expenditure.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Payments to Boards—			
Wellington Education Board ...	455 2 0	...	455 2 0
Wanganui Education Board... ..	244 18 0	...	244 18 0
Salaries of officers ...	143 16 4	6 3 8	150 0 0
Rates ...	13 14 1	...	13 14 1
Fencing, bushfelling, &c. ...	28 12 6	...	28 12 6
Auction sales expenses ...	24 12 4	...	24 12 4
Law-costs ...	4 5 0	...	4 5 0
Advertising, printing, stationery, &c. ...	67 14 11	...	67 14 11
Postage, telegrams, &c. ...	16 7 0	0 14 0	17 1 0
Maps and plans ...	4 18 6	...	4 18 6
Land-transfer fees ...	28 4 3	...	28 4 3
Office furniture and requisites ...	3 9 7	0 3 0	3 12 7
Fees under "The Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1882" ...	22 10 0	...	22 10 0
Masterton Town Lands Trustees ...	4 0 0	...	4 0 0
Bank exchange on remittances ...	2 18 0	0 4 0	3 2 0
Rents written off ...	52 18 3	...	52 18 3
Advances repaid ...	...	53 17 7	53 17 7
Balance, 31st December, 1889... £816 6 5			
Received after bank hours, in hand 25 2 3			
	841 8 8	...	841 8 8
Total expenditure ...	1,959 9 5	61 2 3	2,020 11 8

Assets.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash balance, 31st December, 1889 ...	841 8 8	...	841 8 8
Arrears of previous years ...	57 0 0	...	57 0 0
Arrears of current year ...	145 16 7	7 3 3	152 19 10
Land Purchase Account ...	12 0 0	...	12 0 0
Advances outstanding ...	107 0 8	...	107 0 8
Total assets ...	1,163 5 11	7 3 3	1,170 9 2