

CANTERBURY.

SIR,—

Government Buildings, Christchurch, 4th January, 1893.

In accordance with Order in Council of date 17th September, 1878, I have the honour to forward the report of the School Commissioners for the Canterbury Provincial District for the year ending 31st December, 1892, together with a copy of its accounts, duly audited.

The total area of the primary-education estate under lease on the 31st December, 1892, was 68,057½ acres, producing an annual rental of £15,590 6s. 6d. Of this area, 24,200 acres is contained in Pastoral Run No. 5, which was obtained from the Government in the early part of the year under the provisions of "The Educational Endowments and Reserves Exchange Act, 1891," in exchange for the Board's Reserves Nos. 1126-28 and 1178, containing 1,308 acres of good agricultural land in the Waimate district, which was acquired for "village settlements."

The fixed deposit of £189 11s. 5d. which matured on the 21st December, 1892, has been renewed for one year.

In the accounts, from the arrears due 1st November, 1891, the sum of £122 19s. 7d. has been written off as irrecoverable. This amount was the half-year's rent in advance of Lot 1 of Reserve 1129, and proceedings were instituted in the Supreme Court against the lessee (who was practically bankrupt) for recovery of the land, and when this was obtained the land was relet by tender and a good tenant procured.

During the year, seven reserves, containing in all 1,759½ acres, were relet by tender, for 14 years or thereabouts, at satisfactory rentals; one of these reserves, containing 375½ acres, being subdivided and let in three lots to different tenants.

I have, &c.,

H. R. WEBB, Chairman of the School Commissioners.

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington.

GENERAL STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st December, 1892.

Receipts.

	Primary Education Estate.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance brought down from 31st December, 1891	...	272 1 11
Arrears due 1st May, 1891, from last account	...	206 3 9
Arrears due 1st November, 1891, from last account	689 12 7	
Less written off as irrecoverable	122 19 7	
		566 13 0
Moneys payable within the year 1892, and collected—		
On account of half-year's rent payable in advance on the 1st May, 1892	7,410 15 0	
On account of half-year's rent payable in advance on the 1st November, 1892	7,034 0 11	
		14,444 15 11
Other receipts—		
Bank of New Zealand—Interest on £189 11s. 5d. placed on deposit for one year (see statement of 31st December, 1891)	...	9 9 6
Total receipts	...	15,499 4 1

Expenditure.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Office expenses and management—		
Salary of steward (inclusive of all travelling expenses)	540 0 0	
Stationery and postage	9 15 9	
School Commissioners' railage and expenses	3 0 0	
		552 15 9
Expenses of leasing—		
Advertising and printing	18 17 4	
Law-costs	13 15 6	
Subdivisional survey of Reserve 1551	18 16 0	
		51 8 10
Payments to Education Boards—		
North Canterbury	11,818 4 3	
South Canterbury	2,781 15 9	
		14,600 0 0
Balance in Bank of New Zealand, 31st December, 1892—		
At credit of Current Account	105 8 1	
On fixed deposit	189 11 5	
		294 19 6
Total expenditure	...	15,499 4 1