

1895.
NEW ZEALAND

EDUCATION: NATIVE SCHOOLS.

[In Continuation of E.—2, 1894.]

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

No. 1.

EXTRACT FROM EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

THERE was an increase during the year in the number of Native village schools from 62 to 65. At Whangape it was thought well to try the experiment of closing the school, and substituting two half-time schools—at Puketū and Makora. The school at Otorohanga has been transferred to the Auckland Education Board. At Pamapurua, Tapapa, and Te Awahou, the decline of attendance rendered it necessary to suspend operations. At Matapihi, an experimental school near Tauranga Harbour, the site was not suitable, and it will be of no use to re-open until the people are of one mind in selecting a new site.

Old schools at Te Kao, Pukepoto, and Mangamaunu have been re-opened. The re-opening at Te Kao has been welcomed by the people with exceptional enthusiasm, and the school is a large and promising one. New schools at Parapara (near Mangonui) and at Te Pupuke (near Whangaroa) are in a hopeful condition. Rawhia is a new side-school dependent on Rangiahua, the people are not Maori, and the Auckland Education Board has been asked to consider a proposal for a transfer of the control. A school has been opened as an experiment at Karikari, in Tauranga Harbour.

The average weekly roll-number rose in 1894 from 2,220 to 2,424, and the average attendance from 1,585 to 1,775, this average attendance being to the roll-number as $73\frac{1}{2}$ to 100. The number of pupils above the age of ten is 46 per cent. of the total; and with respect to race the proportions are 10 per cent. half-caste; $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. European, or inclining to European; $73\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Maori.

At the end of the year there were 54 masters, 9 mistresses, 52 assistant-mistresses, and 11 sewing-mistresses. Salaries of masters and mistresses ranged from £80 to £233, assistants and sewing-mistresses received salaries varying from £4 to £50. The expenditure in 1894 was £15,389 11s. 5d. Paid to teachers, £9,778 19s. 2d., books and school requisites, £353 14s. 2d.; lantern lectures, £161 6s. 4d.; repairs and small works, £623 11s. 11d.; inspection (including travelling), £841 13s. 10d.; sundries, £83 11s. 8d., boarding-school subsidies (including scholarships) and apprenticeship, £1,647 7s. 7d., buildings, fencing, and furniture, £1,899 6s. 9d. A contribution of £88 5s. 9d. was received from Native Reserves income towards the total expenditure of £15,389 11s. 5d.

There was good reason to be satisfied with the results of the experiment made in sending a lecturer round to the schools with a good lantern and slides. Since