

STATEMENT of the INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC on the EASTERN EXTENSION COMPANY'S LINES in respect of the South Australian Guarantee Fund, for the Year ended 30th April, 1895.

Amount guaranteed for the year	£	37,552
Actual revenue		36,427
Loss		<u>£1,125</u>

Of which New Zealand's proportion is £204 11s. 8d.

New Zealand's total liabilities for the year are therefore—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Intercolonial cable	10,977	0	0			
International messages			Nil.			
South Australian land-line	204	11	8			
				11,181	11	8
Less recoveries—						
From other colonies (intercolonial cable)				5,987	4	4
Net liability				<u>£5,194</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>

The colony's net liability for the previous year was £6,234 8s. 5d.

New Zealand's outward international and intercolonial cable traffic, not including Press, for the years 1893 and 1894 was as follows:—

International,—

	Messages. Number.	Value. £ s. d.
1893	6,114	20,934 0 10
1894	5,963	21,431 6 4
Decrease	151	497 5 6
	or 2·47 per cent.	or 2·37 per cent.

Intercolonial,—

	Messages. Number.	Value. £ s. d.
1893	28,293	7,753 11 2
1894	28,750	7,534 3 2
Increase	457	219 8 0
	or 1·62 per cent.	or 2·82 per cent.

A net increase in 1894 of 306 messages and £277 17s. 6d. in value.

The cable Press business forwarded and received for the past four years has been:—

Year.	Forwarded.			Received.		
	Number of		Value.	Number of		Value.
	Messages.	Words.		Messages.	Words.	
1891	837	45,285	£ 932 15 8	2,828	198,935	£ 2,739 6 0
1892	791	44,263	898 3 9	2,884	197,477	2,796 9 4
1893	796	57,390	504 9 9	2,883	202,170	1,540 17 10
1894	994	103,366	899 4 9	3,033	203,326	1,179 13 7

NOTE.—The intercolonial-cable Press rate was reduced from 3d. to 1d. per word on the 1st April, 1893.

POST OFFICE.

The number of letters, post-cards, books and pattern-packets, and newspapers delivered and posted during the year, compared with the number dealt with in 1893, was as under:—

	1894.	1893.	Increase.
Letters—Delivered	27,344,369	26,340,704	
Posted	25,823,967	25,744,745	
	53,168,336	52,085,449	1,082,887
			Decrease.
Post-cards—Delivered	1,297,894	1,309,568	
Posted	1,248,819	1,387,542	
	2,546,713	2,697,110	150,397
Books and pattern-packets—Delivered	6,682,936	7,611,279	
Posted	6,900,049	6,548,789	
	13,582,985	14,160,068	577,083
Newspapers—Delivered	10,483,655	10,699,299	
Posted	8,787,935	8,856,731	
	19,271,590	19,556,030	284,440

The letters increased 2·08 per cent., the post-cards decreased 5·58, the books and pattern-packets 4·08, and the newspapers 1·45 per cent. The decrease in the last-mentioned items is attributed to the fact that the returns for 1893 were exceptionally favourable.