xxiii C.—1.

Table No. 2.—Comparative Statement of Gross Revenue for Years 1897-98 and 1898-99.

Land District.	1897–98.			1898-99.		Increase.	Decrease.		
Territorial revenue Land for settlements Cheviot State forests North Island Main Trunk Railway	£ 263,296 27,667 16,277 10,995 5,174	s. 2 0 0 13 6	d. 3 10 7 1	£ 273,799 38,804 17,043 5,844 11,282	s. 7 10 8 6 19	d. 4 2 1 6 8	£ s. d. 10,503 5 1 11,137 9 4 766 7 6 6,108 13 1	£ s. d.	
Lakes Ellesmere and Forsyth Thermal springs Hanmer Plains baths Hanmer Sanatorium Survey vote Crown grant fees Miscellaneous	1,642 5 8 901 3 3 3,744 12 5 1,109 13 2 1,870 3 7		5 2	1,740 8 11 1,351 13 6 376 6 2 796 5 5 1,853 15 4 1,228 12 0 2,649 12 2		98 3 3 450 10 3 376 6 2 796 5 5 118 18 10 779 8 7	1,890 17 1		
Government loans to local bodies Endowments	332,678 10,742 15,666 359,086		5 1 3	356,771 13,255 15,117 385,145	18	2 2 4 9	31,135 7 6 2,513 16 1 33,649 3 7	7,042 3 8 548 12 11 7,590 16 7	
Increase for year 1898–99				359,086 26,058	13	9	9,590 16 7 26,058 7 0		

The balances at credit in the various Receivers of Land Revenues' Ordinary Deposit Accounts were as follows:—

							£	S.	d.
Auckland	•••	•••					997	0	5
New Plymouth							439	11	6
Napier							284	3	6
Gisborne							314	14	11
Wellington							883	14	6
Blenheim							151	5	11
Nelson			•••				505	0	2
Ahaura							9	9	0
Reefton							44	19	0
Westport	•••	• • •					28	4	6
Hokitika							30	1	0
Christchurch	•••	• • • •		•••			45,692	5	4
Dunedin		•••	•••				669	7	7
Invercargill	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	1,145	9	2
							£51,195	6	6

I need scarcely state that the reason why the amount at credit in the Christchurch Receiver's account is so large is on account of the disposal of the Waikakahi Estate so near to the end of the financial year, and not sufficient time elapsing to allow it being brought to its normal state by the 31st March.

The balances at credit in the various Receivers' books of "thirds" and "fourths" due local bodies in the under-mentioned land districts were as follows:—

							£	s.	d.
Auckland							3,731	18	5
Taranaki			•••				4,099	0	2
Hawke's Bay,	Napier						4,180	19	6
Wellington	·				•••		14,096	2	6
Marlborough							150	4	0
Nelson				•			1,166	16	2
Westland			•••	•••			44	4	4
Canterbury					•••		1.130	4	$1\overline{1}$
Otago							3,352	1	1
Southland	• • •	•••	•••	•••	•••		•	7	ñ
boutmand	•••	• • •	•••	• • • •	•••	• • • •	1,472	•	0
					-		£33,423	18	11

This is a total increase upon last year of amounts due local bodies of £4,203 15s. 5d. With the exception of Taranaki, where the amount due has decreased, the other offices that have been notably increased are Wellington, Otago, Hawke's Bay, Southland, and Nelson.

increased are Wellington, Otago, Hawke's Bay, Southland, and Nelson.

During the past year I inspected the following offices—viz., Wellington, New Plymouth, Christchurch, Nelson, Blenheim, Auckland, Invercargill, and Dunedin, and went through the Receiver of Land Revenue's work in each office, and checked 1,383 cash-books, and prepared balance-sheets of their transactions from the date of their previous audits to time of visit, copies of which I furnished you with, also a report upon each office, on my return.