



NEW ZEALAND
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE
(PROVINCE OF NELSON).

Published by Authority.

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By His Honour's command,

ALFRED DOMETT, Provincial Secretary.

VOL. VII.

NELSON, MONDAY, MAY 2, 1859.

No. 9.

Provincial Secretary's Office, Nelson,
April 26, 1859.

HIS Honour the Superintendent directs the publication of the following Returns for general information.

ALFRED DOMETT, *Provincial Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.
FEBRUARY, 1859.

To his Honour J. P. ROBINSON, Esq., Superintendent, Nelson.

SIR—I have the honour to forward to you the enclosed Returns of the Schools under the control of the Board, and the accompanying remarks of the Inspector.

The report of their Committee has already put you in possession of the suggestions for further improving the condition of the schools which have been considered and adopted by the Board. Until it is known how far these can be carried out in practice, the action of the Board is necessarily confined to the superintendence of the schools, the economical and impartial distribution of the funds at its disposal, and to the improvements which the education loan for building purposes enables it to effect.

Owing to difficulties which have arisen

respecting the terms on which the property of the Nelson School Society should be transferred to the board, much less has been done in the way of providing additional accommodation than was anticipated; but where no such cause of delay existed, some progress has been made.

Thus, at Hillside, Suburban-north, a dwelling-house for the master has been built; at Clifton, in the same district, the school-house has been put into a state of thorough repair, and otherwise improved, and the ground substantially fenced; at Richmond, the liabilities have been discharged which the Local Committee had incurred in securing an eligible site, and erecting a school-house on a plan commensurate with the requirements of a

rapidly-increasing district; at River Terrace, in Waimea-south, a master's house, very much needed, has been built on ground which the board has purchased; at Sarau, in the Upper Moutere, the school-house and master's dwelling have been finished on a uniform plan, and the play-ground, garden, and adjoining paddock fenced round in a complete and substantial manner; whilst, at the Lower Moutere School, a dwelling for the master has been added to the school-room, which has been lined throughout, and the original design completed.

In all these cases, whilst the Education Act conferred upon the Central Board the power, and consequently imposed upon it the duty, of erecting all necessary school-houses and master's dwellings, and of furnishing, maintaining, and repairing them; and the education loan has been placed under its sole control for these purposes; it has been found practically most advantageous and economical to delegate these powers for the most part to the various Local Committees, requiring, however, in every case, such detailed information of the plan on which the committee proposed to act, such specific accounts of their proceedings, and satisfactory vouchers for their expenditure, as would enable the Board to assume their acts as its own, and to take upon itself that full responsibility which is laid upon it, and of which it cannot properly divest itself.

Whilst, therefore, the limited amount of the funds at its command, which were altogether inadequate in themselves to meet the demands made upon them, called for the strictest economy in their expenditure, and rendered it impossible for the Board, without an expense which would have very seriously diminished their narrow resources, to undertake the immediate management and direction of the necessary works, and made it necessary to transfer this part of their functions to those who were personally interested and resident on the spot; it did not prevent, but, on the contrary, enforced, the necessity of calling, in all cases, for such information, and receiving such assurances from the committees and from their representatives at the Board, as would justify the proposed grants, and, in case of need,

serve as proofs and vouchers of the transactions.

It is the more requisite that this should be explained and thoroughly understood, as the nature of the relations which exist between the Local Committees and the Board has been occasionally misapprehended, and the character and purport of its interference mistaken accordingly. Thus, it was thought essential by the Board to call for statements of the last year's expenditure in the various committees, that it might know what had been, and what further was still required. In the majority of instances, the request was cheerfully complied with; but in some cases no notice was taken of the application, and in others the old committee, having retired from office, considered its duties and responsibilities to be at an end, whilst that which had succeeded altogether declined to interfere with or take any cognizance of the acts of its predecessor. Again, the accounts which were received from the various districts, and the reports of the Inspector, showed a difference in the masters' salaries, and in the relative advantages attached to their situations, which proved that services the same, or nearly the same, in all essential respects, were receiving very different rates of remuneration, and that, as now the payments all came from one common fund, much dissatisfaction had very naturally arisen in consequence. The proceedings of the Board, then, instead of being looked upon as an unnecessary interference, as they have sometimes been, must be considered in the light of a joint action of all the Local Committees, to ensure that each shall have its own fair share of consideration and aid, and no more, and as a jury in cases of dispute, whose decisions are capable of being applied generally, and without distinction, to all in turn, and which, therefore, offers the best guarantee which the nature of the case admits of for its justice and impartiality.

I have, &c.,

D. MONRO,
Chairman.

Central Board of Education, Nelson,
February, 1859.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 1858.

To the CHAIRMAN of the CENTRAL BOARD OF EDUCATION, Nelson.

SIR—The state of the schools since my last report has been on the whole progressive; the number of children has increased, and their attendance been in general more regular. On examination, the answers of the children have been for the most part intelligent and satisfactory; but it has occasionally been necessary to call attention to the advantage of carrying the system of *viva voce* examination and questioning after each lesson throughout the school, and not confining it to the more advanced scholars. The absence of some of their best pupils at the time of my inspection has sometimes been regretted by the masters; but it has always appeared to me that the condition and progress of the lower classes was a much truer and more satisfactory criterion of the real state of any school, than the acquirements of a few children at its head, as well as a better test of the teacher's general attention and care.

The greater number of those who attend the schools are still children who have scarcely got beyond the rudiments; and the difficulty of keeping these well occupied during the school hours is one which still exercises the ingenuity and taxes the patience of the master; but it is a difficulty which must be met and overcome, if our schools are ever to afford an education which, so far as it goes, shall be complete and permanently useful.

To read with tolerably fluency any book suited to his age, and to be able to give a fair account of what he has read; to spell without any gross blundering; to write a plain and legible hand; to be able to perform any simple operation in arithmetic where money is concerned; are attainments which every child should have acquired by the time he is twelve years old; and if in addition to this he is able grammatically to distinguish the words of a sentence, to obtain a general knowledge of geography in its leading features, and of the broad outlines of history, he has acquired an amount of knowledge which will not only be of permanent use to him in after life, but which is valuable for much more than at first appears; for the habit which is thus formed of exercising the memory and the reasoning faculties,

of fixing the attention steadily on one subject for a moderate length of time; for the power of adding indefinitely to the stock of knowledge; and for the desire to do this, which is sure to arise sooner or later when these foundations have been laid thoroughly and judiciously. As a general rule, if their attention is not overtaxed or wearied, either by being kept too long to one subject, or by being set to master what is too difficult for their comprehension, children like to have the faculties of their mind called into play; and it is only where this is not done, where the spirit of instruction is wanting, and only the drudgery of teaching remains, without any conception of its aim or ultimate object, that the impressions of school are distasteful, or the acquisitions made there altogether unavailable.

Whilst, therefore, the importance of insisting that these first elements of knowledge shall be effectually taught cannot be overstated or too much insisted on, it would be conveying a false impression of the state of our schools not to mention that in many cases they not only show a very good average acquaintance with the rudimentary branches of education, but in their upper classes have advanced considerably beyond them. In some of the examinations, the knowledge displayed of history, geography, the meaning of words, and the structure of language, has called forth warm commendation: the rudiments of geometry have been taught in some cases, and the introduction of music and drawing has also been successfully attempted in several instances.

It is indeed in furtherance of a more complete and advanced education than our schools generally are able to provide, that it appeared desirable to insist upon the advantage of directing special attention to the younger classes; the difficulty of learning, or rather of beginning to learn, increases with the age; and it is to the children who have had the advantage of entering school at an early age, that our masters must chiefly look in future years for the full reward of their exertions and the most gratifying evidence of their success.

I have, &c.,

J. D. GREENWOOD, Inspector.

TABULAR

TABULAR VIEW of the NELSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS for the Two FIRST QUARTERS of the EDUCATIONAL YEAR 1858-1859, ending September the 30th and December the 31st, 1858.

SCHOOLS.	SEPTEMBER QUARTER.						DECEMBER QUARTER.					
	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	School Days.	Daily Attendance. Average Comparative Ditto per Hundred.		Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	School Days.	Daily Attendance. Average Comparative Ditto per Hundred.	
1 Nelson, Boys'	137		137	66	95	85	136		136	57	105	82
2 " Girls'		140	140	65	100	86		154	154	56	110	83
3 Suburban North, Clifton	8	12	20	59	10	50	8	12	20	60	10	50
4 " " Hillside	10	10	20	68	11	56	11	10	21	62	13	64
5 Stoke	25	22	47	59	30	64	26	25	51	57	33	65
6 Waimea East, Richmond	50		50	64	26	65	49		49	61	32	68
7 " " " Girls'		48	48	64	25	55		50	50	61	27	61
8 " " Appleby	16	16	32	60	17	60	17	18	35	65	16	48
9 " " Ranzau	17	20	37	56	22	60	19	20	39	57	19	49
10 " " Hope	16	18	34	62	21	63	13	21	34	61	20	65
11 Spring Grove	23	41	64	64	30	47	23	45	68	61	29	46
12 River Terrace	24	21	45	52	23	56	23	20	43	59	22	51
13 Lower Wakefield	20	30	50	65	23	48	21	32	53	65	31	60
14 Upper Wakefield	20	17	37	63	14	39	20	18	38	65	17	49
15 Waimea West	11	13	24	65	14	65	10	16	26	61	15	60
16 Moutere, Sarau	14	13	27	65	18	68	15	14	29	65	21	75
17 " Lower	11	9	20	54	11	55	14	13	27	62	15	55
18 Motueka, Boys'	36		36	56	18	55	30		30	60	18	63
19 " Girls'		38	38	57	19	50		44	44	61	20	45
20 " Panga Totara	16	13	29	59	11	42	13	16	29	58	15	51
21 Riwaka	20	23	43	30	22	51	20	27	47	50	30	70
22 Motupipi	20	15	35	44	15	44	20	15	35	44	19	54
TOTALS	494	519	1,013				488	570	1,058			

REPORT OF THE IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS OF THE PROVINCE OF NELSON.

Numerous applications having been made from persons settled in the province to have their friends brought out from England, the Commissioners determined upon reviving the system of immigration recommended by them in their report of last year, viz., that of advancing the passage-money upon security being given in the colony for the repayment of the same. This system the Commissioners are of opinion is the best that can be carried out, as it introduces to the province a class of immigrants most certain to remain, and, by securing the repayment of the passage-money, keeps a fund at the disposal of the Commissioners for a continuance of the system.

The Commissioners not having any paid responsible agent in England, and considering the system of too limited a character to warrant such an appointment, resolved upon making the arrangements, if possible, in Nelson, and thereby save the salary of an agent, and prevent a considerable delay that must have taken place had they waited until the arrangements could have been made in England. Advertisements were therefore issued calling for tenders for the introduction of immigrants, and two only were received; one from Messrs. John Morrison and Co., and one from Mr. Scaife (on behalf of Messrs. Willis), the former tendering at eighteen guineas, and the latter at twenty pounds, per adult, Mr. Scaife at the same time stating that he had no positive authority to act for Messrs. Willis. The Commissioners, therefore, accepted the tender of Messrs. Morrison, having no reason to doubt the respectability of the firm. It was not until a considerable time after the contract was accepted that the Commissioners heard of their dissolution of partnership, when a letter was written to Mr. Tytler requesting that gentleman to be kind enough to inquire into the circumstance, and at the same time giving him full power to act on behalf of the Commissioners, and, in the event of the contract not being carried out in a satisfactory manner, to put an end to the same, and make arrangements with some other shippers for bringing out the immigrants sent for. Letters have since been received from Mr. Morrison, informing the Commissioners of his proceedings with regard to the contract, which induce them to believe that it will be carried out by that gentleman in a very satisfactory manner.

The Commissioners have already sent for about 300 persons, and 53 of them are expected in the *Mariner* daily. A second ship was to leave in February last, but the Com-

missioners have not yet received a list of the passengers to come by her.

On reference to the statement of liabilities annexed hereto, it will be seen that an advance to a considerable amount will be required out of the provincial revenue to meet immediate demands for the passages of those immigrants already sent for; and the Commissioners recommend that a sum in addition to that required to meet immediate demands should be placed on the Estimates to enable them to continue to carry on the present system, under which a population is introduced almost certain to remain in the province.

Of the amount shown in the same statement to be due for passage money, namely, £2,401 13s. 10d., only £277 8s. remains due in respect of immigrants whose passage-money was advanced on the security of residents in the province; all the remainder being due from persons whose passages were prepaid on their own security. These were immigrants sent out in the *Emma Colvin*, *Cresswell*, and other vessels, by the late Emigration Agent, Mr. Macdonald. Great difficulty is experienced in recovering payment from this last class of immigrants—a difficulty not attributable in any way to the Emigration Agent, but inherent in that system itself, increased in some degree by the withdrawal of the extended powers given to the Resident Magistrate's Court, which prevented larger amounts than £20 being sued for. Steps are being taken against these persons in the Resident Magistrate's Court for the recovery of the smaller sums, though, as might have been expected, some of the immigrants, after application for the money, have left the province in order to avoid being summoned. Immediately upon the opening of the District Judge's Court, proceedings will be taken to recover the larger amounts due.

J. P. ROBINSON,
Superintendent.

Immigration Office, Nelson,
April 21, 1859.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

Since the above report was written, the *Mariner* has arrived with the immigrants in safety. The passengers all speak in high terms of the kind treatment they received from the captain and officers of the ship, and express themselves in every way perfectly satisfied with their voyage.

J. P. ROBINSON,
Superintendent.

Immigration Office,
Nelson, April 26, 1859.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS from the 1st of January, 1858,
to the 31st of March, 1859.

January 1st, 1858, to March 31st, 1859.	Secretary to Board— Assisted Passages Repaid since last Return	£	s.	d.	January 1st, 1858, to March 31st, 1859.	IMMIGRATION. Amount remitted to Mr. Tytler Bank Commission SALARY. Secretary to Board CONTINGENCIES. Advertising and Printing TOTAL EXPENDITURE Balance to next Quarter £	£	s.	d.			
		884	9	6			1,111	0	0			
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	£	884			9	6	£	1,176	10	5
		Balance from last Year	£	650			3	10	£	358	2	11
		£				£	1,535	13	4			
		£	1,534	13	4			£	1,535	13	4	

1859. March 31st	LIABILITIES. Trust Funds Loan Passage Money to be advanced (about) TOTAL	£	s.	d.	1859. March 31st	MONEYS RECEIVABLE. Passage Money due Balance in hands of Mr. Tytler, on 1st January, 1858 Amount remitted to Mr. Tytler since that date Balance in hands of Treasurer, Nelson TOTAL	£	s.	d.
		2,000	0	0			2,401	13	10
		4,000	0	0			168	4	6
		6,000	0	0			1,100	0	0
		£				£	358	2	11
		£	6,000	0	0	£	4,028	1	3

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