



NEW ZEALAND  
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE  
(PROVINCE OF NELSON).

Published by Authority.

*All Public Notifications which appear in this Gazette, with any Official Signature thereunto annexed, are to be considered as Official Communications made to those Persons to whom they may relate, and are to be obeyed accordingly.*

By His Honor's command,

J. C. RICHMOND, Provincial Secretary.

VOL. XI.

NELSON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1863.

No. 29.

Provincial Secretary's Office, Nelson,  
September 22, 1863.

**H**IS Honor the Superintendent directs the publication of the following Report and Returns, for general information.

J. C. RICHMOND,  
*Provincial Secretary.*

**REPORT of the INSPECTOR of  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

To DONALD SINCLAIR, Esq.,  
*Chairman of the Central Board of Education.*

SIR,— I have deferred laying before the Board my annual report of the state and progress of the Provincial Schools, until the completion of my second tour of Inspection had given me the opportunity of confirming or modifying the conclusions formed on my first visit.

The accompanying returns show that if the numbers attending our Schools are to be taken as a test of their usefulness, there is little to be desired in this respect, the numbers for comparison in the two years 1862

and 1863, being respectively 1657 and 1877, giving an increase of 220 during the past year.

I regret that I cannot speak in terms of equal approval of the quality of the instruction given to this mass of children, now comprising more than a sixth of the population of the Province.

It is true that the returns show a goodly array of 842 pupils learning geography, and 795 learning grammar; that in 5 of our schools geometry is taught, and that a large addition has been made to the list of those learning history, but the fact remains that in the three essentials of good reading, good writing, and arithmetic, our schools, as a whole, still fall far short of what might fairly be expected from them.

This deficiency is the more noteworthy as these returns are at present filled up not (as I conceive they ought to be) by the Inspector, but by the teachers, and cannot, therefore, be suspected of an unfavorable bias, being, as far as they go, pictures of the schools drawn by the teachers.

Feeling that but little good is likely to be effected by general expressions of dissatisfaction, I give a short outline of what I think

may reasonably be expected from a scholar of 12 years old, of fair ability, who has attended school for several years with average regularity, that is, taking the past year as a criterion, for 65 out of every 100 school days.

He should be able to read fluently and intelligently any simple narrative, to write out, from memory, the substance of what he has just read, in a neat, legible hand, without gross mistakes in spelling, to solve any simple question in money matters, as far as proportion and practice, and to show some elementary acquaintance, at least, with fractions.

More than this has been achieved in some of our best schools, less than this ought not, therefore, to content the Local Committees, the elected representatives of the parents of the Province. It remains to be seen to what extent the standard that I have indicated has been attained by the bulk of our schools, still taking as data the very favorable returns that I have laid before the Board.

The number of children of 12 years old and upwards who have attended school during the past year is 400, (more than a fifth of the total number on the rolls,) their average attendance having been at the rate of 65 per cent. These two facts sufficiently dispose of the excuses usually put forth in apology for the meagre results attained in so many of our schools—1st. That the children attend school very irregularly. 2nd. That they are taken away from school before they have had time to acquire the rudiments of an education.

But, in arithmetic, the returns show that considerably less than half of these 400 scholars attain the moderate standard that I have proposed, and in writing less than two-thirds.

As to the array of figures which swell the columns for geography and grammar, I have found, by a careful comparison of the returns with my own memoranda, that the ability of a pupil to name two or three of the parts of speech, and to point out on a map a few of the chief countries of Europe, is usually held to be a sufficient justification for adding another name to the list of children learning those branches. The returns under these heads are, doubtless, in a certain sense, correct, not so, it seems to me, the impression sure to be conveyed by them.

To obviate this difficulty, (which is felt by the teachers themselves,) and to secure uniformity of standard in the returns for reading, writing, and arithmetic, the columns showing the different branches of education taught

will, in future, be filled up by the Inspector, at the close of the educational year.

By way of giving further encouragement to the more deserving of the teachers, a system of promotion and classification has been initiated, according to which a higher salary is attached to those schools which combine a large daily attendance with instruction of a comparatively high order. Five of the country schools have already been thus distinguished, and it is expected that the number will shortly be added to.

With the view of promoting a healthy emulation between the different schools, the Board have set apart a sum to be expended in five prizes, to be competed for in December next by all the children attending the 33 Provincial Schools. The examination will be conducted by the Inspector, by means of printed questions, a prize being offered for each of the following subjects:—History, grammar, geography, penmanship, and arithmetic.

The liberal scale of salaries now adopted by the Board has removed any doubts that I might otherwise have felt as to the policy of pointing out plainly the shortcomings of a large proportion of the Provincial schools. So long as the system itself was on its trial, and the children were crowded together in small and ill arranged rooms, indifferently provided with books and school apparatus; and while there was no little difficulty in finding suitable candidates for a notoriously underpaid office, I admit the expediency of overlooking much that ought not, under the present altered circumstances, to be longer tolerated.

Should any difficulty be found in obtaining well qualified candidates, within the Province, for such vacancies as will from time to time occur, it would be desirable, I think, to send to England for a few trained teachers, thoroughly up to their work. The influence of these men, who, as a body, bid fair to elevate their calling to the rank of a profession, would extend far beyond the narrow sphere of the schools entrusted to their care, and would ultimately raise the level of education throughout the Province to such a point as to render impossible, in future, the appointment of men with little natural aptitude, and no previous training to an office requiring a large measure of both from those who would succeed in it.

I have, &c.,

W. C. HODGSON,

*Inspector.*

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
To JUNE 30, 1863.

1863.		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance ...	1,011	18	4	Jan. 3.	Masters' Salaries ...	300	0	0
3.	Cash, per Prov. Treasurer	156	5	0		Lucas (printing Report) ...	3	0	0
9.	Do. ...	59	13	5		Inspector and Secretary, to Christmas, 1863	75	0	0
Feb. 4.	Do. ...	759	1	11	Feb. 6.	Wakefield Com. (building)	36	11	0
Mar. 25.	Do. ...	271	9	8		Masters' Salaries ...	200	0	0
May 4.	Do. (including £166 12s. 6d., rents from Amuri)	1,265	9	6		Petty Expenses ...	12	4	1
June 5.	Do. ...	54	1	3		Richmond Com. (painting)	8	10	0
	Viz.:-					Do. (repayment of salaries)	3	10	0
	Provincial Council Vote					Suburban North Committee	13	6	8
	Land Sales					Do. (painting) ...	10	0	0
	Rents (Amuri) £166 12s. 6d.					Stoke Committee (fittings)	3	18	0
						Inspector ...	25	0	0
					Mar. 5.	Riwaka Com. (well & pump)	7	1	0
						Nelson do. (enlarging school)	70	0	0
						Motupipi do. (repairs) ...	10	0	0
						Masters' Salaries ...	200	0	0
						Committee Incidental Ex- penses, six months ...	145	0	0
						Inspector, for Books ...	100	0	0
						Curtis & Co. (shipping charges)	4	7	6
					April 4.	Secretary ...	25	0	0
						Masters' Salaries ...	200	0	0
					May 8.	Suburban North Committee (repairs) ...	9	3	6
						Richmond Committee ...	3	0	0
						Collingwood do. ...	16	0	0
						Masters' Salaries ...	250	0	0
					June 5.	Inspector ...	41	13	4
						Richmond Committee (re- payment of salaries) ...	8	13	4
						Lower Moutere Com. (repairs)	16	10	6
						Motueka School (rent) ...	15	0	0
						Nelson School Society (rent)	25	0	0
						Ranzau School (rent) ...	8	0	0
						Riwaka Committee (chairs)	1	8	0
						Masters' Salaries ...	300	0	0
						Pangatotara (painting) ...	10	0	0
						£	2,156	16	11
					July 2.	Inspector ...	20	16	8
						Secretary ...	25	0	0
						Richmond Committee ...	10	0	0
						Masters' Salaries ...	200	0	0
						£	2,412	13	7
						Balance in hand ...	1,165	5	6
						£	3,577	19	1
		£	3,577	19	1				

DONALD SINCLAIR, *Chairman.*  
W. C. HODGSON, *Secretary.*

RETURN of NUMBERS and ATTENDANCE at the NELSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, for the Half-Year ending June 30, 1863.

SCHOOLS.	THIRD QUARTER.					FOURTH QUARTER.						
	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	Daily Attendance.	School Days.	Comparative Average.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	Daily Attendance.	School Days.	Comparative Average.
1. Nelson, Boys—1st Division .....	61	...	61	51	53	84	55	...	55	37	41	69
2. Do., 2nd Division .....	100	...	100	77	53	77	100	...	100	68	55	81
3. Do., Girls—1st Division .....	...	86	86	62	51	72	...	75	75	54	56	72
4. Do., 2nd Division .....	...	63	63	44	51	70	...	70	70	45	56	65
5. Do., Preparatory .....	95	48	143	115	46	80	84	32	116	73	56	68
6. Clifton Terrace .....	12	11	23	15	57	64	13	11	24	15	55	62
7. Hillside .....	15	10	25	21	45	86	17	10	27	21	55	80
8. Stoke, Boys .....	38	...	38	21	60	55	36	...	36	19	51	54
9. Do., Girls .....	...	41	41	19	60	43	...	38	38	17	50	46
10. Richmond, Boys .....	66	...	66	37	51	58	68	...	68	47	58	69
11. Do., Girls .....	...	65	65	45	49	69	...	65	65	38	62	59
12. Appleby .....	21	15	36	23	52	64	18	15	33	21	61	62
13. Ranzau .....	25	24	49	26	56	54	28	25	53	29	60	55
14. Hope .....	21	23	44	26	48	59	20	25	45	25	60	57
15. River Terrace .....	23	14	37	22	61	61	26	19	45	26	58	57
16. Spring Grove, Boys .....	40	...	40	24	54	60	36	...	36	21	58	60
17. Do., Girls .....	...	50	50	30	55	60	...	49	49	28	55	57
18. Wakefield, Lower, Boys .....	21	...	21	9	57	47	32	...	32	14	58	46
19. Do., do., Girls .....	...	42	42	17	57	40	...	37	37	21	52	66
20. Do., Upper .....	13	19	32	20	57	62	...	...	...	...	...	*
21. Fox Hill .....	4	9	13	9	54	71	4	8	12	8	56	75
22. Waimea West Village .....	43	36	79	54	41	40	29	18	47	25	15	53
23. Do., North Division .....	33	12	45	26	44	57	33	13	46	29	62	63
24. Moutere, Upper .....	21	17	38	23	45	60	18	16	34	24	60	70
25. Do., Lower .....	24	24	48	33	62	69	23	23	46	26	61	56
26. Motueka—1st Division .....	22	24	46	27	58	59	20	19	39	27	51	72
27. Do., 2nd Division .....	21	26	47	28	58	61	21	24	45	25	51	56
28. Pangatotara .....	19	14	33	14	48	44	16	14	30	11	45	39
29. Riwaka .....	33	20	53	38	51	71	32	18	50	35	56	70
30. Takaka .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*
31. Motupipi .....	19	11	30	20	61	67	19	12	31	23	41	73
32. Collingwood .....	27	23	50	38	52	76	26	15	41	30	54	72
33. Eighty-eight Valley .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	12	18	11	49	65
	807	727	1534	1014	...	63	780	663	1443	893	...	63

\* No returns sent in.

ANNUAL RETURN of the NELSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, for the Year ending JUNE 30, 1863, showing the AGES and PROFICIENCY of the CHILDREN.

PRINTED FOR THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF NELSON, BY R. DICKS, BRIDGE STREET.

SCHOOLS.	No.	AGES.				READING.			SLATE.	WRITING.			DRAWING.	ARITHMETIC.			GEOMETRY.	GEOGRAPHY.	HISTORY.	GRAMMAR.	MUSIC.
		Under 6.	6 to 9.	9 to 12.	12 & above.	1.	2.	3.		1.	2.	3.		1.	2.	3.					
1. Nelson, Boys—1st Division	74	...	3	34	37	...	25	49	...	...	44	30	...	...	46	28	...	74	74	74	...
2. Do., 2nd Division	100	...	49	50	1	6	94	...	16	60	24	...	...	77	23	...	...	76	47	47	...
3. Do., Girls—1st Division	130	...	32	66	32	4	54	72	...	10	96	26	9	95	29	6	...	128	99	128	14
4. Do., 2nd Division	70	48	22	...	...	15	42	13	15	21	27	8	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
5. Do., Infant	120	88	32	...	...	120	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Clifton	28	...	11	9	8	5	13	10	3	5	11	4	...	16	5	1	2	10	4	10	...
7. Hillside	33	4	15	11	3	10	18	5	5	7	15	5	23	18	8	6	7	23	8	23	...
8. Stoke, Boys	49	9	12	18	10	27	7	15	9	9	13	6	...	19	13	4	...	20	20	20	...
9. Do., Girls	45	2	8	15	20	1	17	19	6	2	17	19	...	23	16	...	...	32	22	32	...
10. Richmond, Boys	80	3	34	20	23	25	24	13	9	18	21	10	7	17	14	26	11	40	25	48	...
11. Do. Girls	76	11	29	21	15	...	27	49	10	2	27	29	...	34	19	5	...	50	35	35	...
12. Appleby	40	1	13	11	15	16	16	8	...	19	13	5	14	19	6	4	5	14	14	11	...
13. Ranzau	62	15	19	13	15	16	27	19	15	6	28	3	7	36	3	7	...	22	11	30	...
14. Hope	53	8	22	19	4	25	23	5	8	19	18	5	1	27	10	2	...	18	7	27	...
15. River Terrace	56	11	20	20	5	18	18	3	9	3	13	3	...	13	3	4	...	17	11	17	...
16. Spring Grove, Boys	46	4	18	13	11	19	18	7	13	6	8	4	2	13	8	4	...	17	17	27	...
17. Do., Girls	61	2	28	17	14	29	13	16	12	12	9	10	...	13	10	6	...	20	18	24	...
18. Wakefield, Lower, Boys	65	7	17	21	20	16	26	17	...	1	32	12	...	21	16	6	...	26	26	...	...
19. Do., do. Girls	45	2	18	11	14	17	17	3	5	6	11	5	...	12	7	...	...	16	12	7	...
20. Do., Upper	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Foxhill	19	3	7	5	4	5	6	8	10	4	4	1	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Waimea West Village	47	5	19	18	5	21	20	2	5	14	10	2	...	22	1	...	...	13	...	13	...
23. Do., North Division	51	9	16	17	9	25	17	9	4	11	7	7	...	14	7	6	...	16	10	16	...
24. Moutere Upper	45	6	15	14	10	18	12	15	10	3	11	9	15	17	...	4	...	20	10	20	21
25. Do., Lower	59	...	23	20	16	31	13	15	20	8	13	10	6	24	11	9	8	21	26	13	...
26. Motueka—1st Division	59	...	6	27	26	...	35	24	10	10	23	16	59	34	15	10	...	59	59	59	28
27. Do., 2nd Division	66	9	28	14	15	39	27	...	66	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28. Pangatotara	43	6	12	16	9	17	11	6	12	12	14	5	23	14	4	2	1	22	15	8	...
29. Riwaka	70	2	16	23	25	7	33	23	25	12	9	17	...	19	14	17	...	41	23	26	33
30. Takaka	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Motupipi	38	4	9	11	14	9	18	11	9	6	11	8	...	21	2	...	2	22	18	22	...
32. Collingwood	57	1	19	20	17	28	29	...	9	15	16	1	...	25	3	1	...	21	19	28	...
33. Eighty-eight Valley	18	2	8	6	2	15	1	2	6	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1,877	262	580	560	300	584	701	438	361	305	545	261	165	716	293	158	36	842	611	795	100

\* Annual returns not yet sent in.