

Revenue, 1872-73 :
Estimated and
Received.

HEADS OF RECEIPT.	REVENUE OF THE YEAR 1872-73.			REVENUE AS ESTIMATED.			DIFFERENCES.					
							In Excess of Estimate.			Less than Estimate.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs—Duties, Rents, Seizures, &c. ...	852,144	12	4	820,000	0	0	32,144	12	4	...	...	...
Bonded Stores ...	4,108	3	5	4,250	0	0	...	...	...	141	16	7
Fees, Marine Act, including Light Dues ...	10,564	19	6	10,000	0	0	564	19	6	...	...	...
" Arms Act ...												
" Sundry Acts ...												
Stamp Duties ...	79,417	17	3	80,000	0	0	...	...	...	582	2	9
Postal ...	50,586	6	4	50,000	0	0	586	6	4	...	...	...
Telegraphic ...	41,450	5	7	33,000	0	0	8,450	5	7	...	...	...
Judicial, Fees and Fines ...	28,568	0	9	32,000	0	0	...	...	...	3,431	19	3
Registration of Land ...	7,118	13	6	9,000	0	0	...	...	...	1,881	6	6
" Deeds ...	13,458	2	6	13,500	0	0	...	...	...	41	17	6
" Births, Deaths, and Marriages ...	3,043	0	6	3,000	0	0	43	0	6	...	...	...
Fees on Issue of Crown Grants ...	5,288	6	7	8,500	0	0	...	...	...	3,211	13	5
" Miscellaneous ...	1,242	2	8	2,750	0	0	...	...	...	1,507	17	4
Incidental Receipts ...	22,411	18	2	10,000	0	0	12,411	18	2	...	...	...
							54,201	2	5			
							10,798	13	4			
Totals ...	*1,119,402	9	1	1,076,000	0	0	43,402	9	1			

* £4,504 16s. 6d., collected during the month of June but not remitted to Wellington, is not included in this total.

Estimated,
£1,076,000; receipts
at Treasury, to June
30, £1,119,402 9s. 1d.:
excess, £43,402 9s. 1d.

Customs show
greatest increase.
Other increases and
decreases.

The Committee will observe that, in response to the undoubtedly prosperous condition of the Colony, the Customs Revenue takes the lead in the increased receipts. The Stamp Duties have done no more than come closely to the amount they were estimated to yield; which I suppose we may consider satisfactory, seeing how seldom it has been possible to form any trustworthy opinion as to what would be the result of this puzzling portion of our revenue-yielding machinery. The receipts of the Postal Department show an astonishingly close approximation to the estimate. There is a very large increase in the revenue of the Telegraph Department—an increase amounting to 25 per cent. on the estimate. There is probably no branch of the revenue which more faithfully represents improvement in trade and commerce than the Telegraph receipts; and the large increase during the past year may, therefore, be accepted as another proof of the prosperity of the Colony. The Judicial Revenue is some £4,000 less than was anticipated. Colonial Treasurers have at different times made merry over this item; and they have asked, Whether an increase was to be taken as indicative of depression, and a decrease as proof of prosperity? I must leave it to honorable Members to decide this abstruse question each for himself. The Land Registration receipts have not equalled the estimate; neither have those for Crown Grants. There appears to be so much confidence in the Government of the Colony, that purchasers of land feel very reluctant to withdraw their Crown Grants from official custody and to pay the necessary fees. In Miscellaneous and Incidental Receipts, there has been a considerable increase over the amount estimated.

The Ordinary Revenue of the year was £1,119,402 9s. 1d., to which has to be added—Credits to votes, £11,603 12s. 8d.; assets (irrespective of the assets already included as recoverable on account of the previous year), £7,208 16s. 8d.; and transferred from the Public Works Account as against Interest and Sinking Fund for works during construction, £98,500: thus making £1,236,714 18s. 5d. as the total of receipts and assets. It would be tedious to the Committee were I to give even an abstract of the many interesting facts disclosed by the revenue tables and the tables relating to trade. I content myself by inviting honorable Members' attention to them. Table K. presented for the first time last year, I am able to extend, with results, I venture to think, with which the Colony has every reason to be satisfied. In continuation of the statement made last year, showing the proportion of Imports to New Zealand during several years, which, on account of their being non-consumable, may be considered to have added more or less to the permanent wealth of the Colony, I may state that during 1872 (there being no later return), the proportion of non-

Total receipts and
assets, 1872-73,
£1,236,714 18s. 5d.

Table K.

Proportion of Non-
consumable Imports,
during 1872.