1877.

NEW ZEALAND.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOTANIC GARDEN BOARD, 1876-77.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

During the past year meetings of the Board were held on the 19th September, 19th October, 19th December, 1876, and on 17th May, and 9th July, 1877.

The only new work undertaken in the gardens has been the subdivision of the domain by brush fences, at a cost of £17 14s. 2d., with the view of introducing a few sheep to feed down the rough herbage, and form a smooth sward in places where the scythe cannot be used.

The chief expenditure for labour has been in repairing the paths and removing several landslips which occurred owing to the sudden rain of February last, coming after an unusually long period of draught.

The selection and packing of plants for distribution, and especially the preparation of twenty-four Wardian cases, which were despatched to Kew in January last, involved a large amount of extra labour.

The nursery-ground has been put in thorough order by trenching and draining, and a fresh set of

seedling beds prepared for raising the large consignment of Californian seeds obtained by Government. One-half of this seed was sown in March last with indifferent success, owing to the unusual severity of the winter, but the rest of the seed, which is now about to be sown, will, it is hoped, afford a large supply of young trees for future distribution.

The chief planting within the gardens during the past season has been to replace trees which were

lost through various causes.

The number of trees distributed by gift was 2,574, and to applicants 500 plants have been sold.

Ten years have now elapsed since the formation of the Botanic Garden was commenced by the Colonial Government, and eight years since it was placed under the management of the present

As last year the usual vote was disallowed by the Legislature, and the gardens may probably in future have to depend on other sources of revenue, a recapitulation of the work done and the expense incurred since the establishment of the domain may not be out of place.

The area at first was in September, 1869, 13 acres; to this was added in October, 1869, 46 acres;

in 1872, 21 acres; and in 1874, 10 acres.

The total area of the gardens now fenced in is 90 acres, as shown on the accompanying plan.

Within this area there are 244 chains of paths, and 50 permanent seats.

Two separate systems of water supply have been applied for the use of the nursery-grounds; 9,557 trees have been planted out. Experimental culture of phormium and other plants has been successfully conducted by direction of Committees of the Legislature.

Nursery-grounds have been formed, in which 22,231 Coniferæ and other trees have been raised from seed, and 7,048 distributed on application throughout the colony. Repayments on account of

these, amount to £85 14s. 6d.

24,132 young trees have been received from Government correspondents on account of the Forest Department, and have been reared at the expense of the Board. The cases that these plants arrived in have been filled with native plants and returned as exchanges, the expense of which has also been defrayed by the Board.

BOTANIC GARDEN BOARD.

The following Schedule gives the total classified Receipts and Expenditure of the Board from 1869 to 1877:—

	\mathbf{R}_1	ECEIP	rs.							Ex	PBNDIT	URE.					
From Trustees,—			£	в.	d.	£	8.	d.	Fencing,			£	в.	d.	£	8.	d
1869–70			180		3				1869-70			112	8	1			
	•••		120	0	ŏ				1870-71				13	ō			
1870-71		•••								• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••		2	3			
1872–73	•••	•••	109	19	2	410	1 ~	_	1874-75		•••	120					
7.4. 1. Daulian	4					410	19	Ð	1876-77		• • •	17	14	2	287	17	
otes by Parlian	-		200	^	^				7041.						201	T.	
1870-71	•••	• • •	300	0	0				Paths,—			o -	-	^			
1871–72		•••	300	0	0				1870-71	***	•••	67	7	0			
1872–73			300	0	0				1871-72			7	0	0			
1873-74			300	0	0				1874–75			29	4	4			
1874-75			300	0	0										103	11	
1875-76			300	0	0				Buildings,-								
1010 10	•••					1,800	0	0	1870-71			45	0	0			
otes by Provinc	ial Count	~il —				-,000	-	•	1872-73			17	7	6			
		-	300	0	0				1875-76			123					
1874-75	•••	•••	300		ŏ				1010-10	•••					185	17	
1876–77	•••	•••	900	U	U	600	Δ	۸	Warman						100	-1	
	e 1731	c		_		600	0	0	Nursery,—			10	0	10			
rant in Aid o		irom					_	_	1869-70	• • •		10	8				
Commissioners,				••		50	0	0	1870-71			55	3	4			
rant from Well		hilo-							1871-72			33	18	6			
sophical Society						50	0	0	1875-76			35	3	0			
ity Reserve Ren			•				-	-							134	13	
1873			93	9	0				Purchase of Pl	ants. Seed	ls. &c	_					
1054			93	9	ŏ				1870-71	•		117	15	2			
	•••	•••	93	9	ŏ				1871-72	***		37	1	õ			
1875	•••	•••								• • •							
1876	•••	• • •	93	9	0				1872-73		• • •	42		0			
1877	***	• • •	93	9	0		_	_	1873-74	•••	•••	23	1	7			
						467	5	0	1874–75		• • • •		15	6			
ale of Plants,—									1875-76			5	11	0			
1873-74			41	2	0										293	2	
1874-75	•••		37		0				Digging Holes	.—							
1875-76			7	2	6				1871-72	, ,,,		21	18	3			
1876-77			24	8					1874-75				15				
10/0-//	•••	•••	23	٠	٠	110	9	c		•••	• • • •		12				
1.7 £ 77						110	Z	U	1875–76	•••	•••	45	14	11	0.4	c	
ale of Hay,—			-	^	^				۸ ,						84	6	
1873-74	• • • •	• • •	7	0	0				Seats,-					_			
1875-76		• • •	32		6				1870–71				16	0			
1876-77			33	0	0				1875-76			10	5	4			
						72	15	6							47	1	
respass		٠,٠				1	0	σ	Wages, Labour	. &c—							
r		- 1 -	•	••			-	-	1870÷71	, .,.,		136	1	7			
									1871-72			220		7			
										•••	•••	204		2			
									1872-73 1872-74	•••	•••						
									1873-74	•••	• • •	355	0	6			
									1874-75	•••	•••	363		6			
									1875-76	•••	•••	445	6	2			
									1876-77			214	2	0			
															1,939	13	
									Miscellaneous,						,		
									1870-71			25	5	5			
									1871-72				10	4			
										•••			15	ī			
									1872-73	•••	•••						
									1873-74	•••	•••		14	0			
									1874-75	• • •	• • •		17	0			
									1875-76	•••	•••	50		1			
									1876–77		•••	12	12	3			
									1						183	19	
										Balance					301	15	
																—–	_
						£ 3,561	18	5	i						£3,561	18	
									1								_

ACCOUNTS of the BOTANIC GARDEN for 1876-77.

RECEIPTS.	£	8.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand, October, 1876 Vote for 1876-77	900		10	Garden Work (including underbrushing, cleaning paths, nursery work, and Keeper's			
Share of Rents from City Reserves to June, 1876	93	9	0	salary	201	2	0
Ditto ditto to June, 1877, under old basis, and				Contract for cleaning Shrubbery	10	0	0
same proportion under new lease, from 1st				Contract for Brush Fencing	17	14	2
July to 31st December, 1877	231	6	9	Contract for cutting Bush	3	0	0
Sale of Plants	24			Miscellaneous Items-Freight, Advertising, and		-	
				Contingencies		12	3
				Balance	406	13	2
		_					_
	£651	-1	7		£651	1	7

The following list* shows the different species of plants, shrubs, and trees which are growing in the domain at the present time, excluding those in the nursery-grounds, classified under the following groups:-

$oldsymbol{A}$.—Indi	genous.		
		•	No	. of Species.
1. Larger Trees				8
2. Shrubs			•••	49
3. Twiners		•••		16
4. Epiphytes				9
5. Parasites			•••	3
6. Herbaceous				41
7. Ferns	•••	•••		51
В.—	Int roduc	ed Natives.		
8. Trees and Shrubs				63
9. Grasses		•••		50
10. Ferns		•••		13
	C.—E.	xotic.		
11. Accidental Weeds		•••		67
12. Trees and Shrubs		•••		159
13. Pinetum	•••	•••		127

Total Flora of the garden comprises 656 species.

Approved by the Board.

NORMANBY,

President.

James Hector, Director.

By Authority: GEORGE DIDSEURY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1877.

Price 3d.]

^{*}Will be printed hereafter.

