

SESS II.—1879.

NEW ZEALAND.

SPEECH OF THE COLONIAL TREASURER,

(THE HONORABLE MAJOR ATKINSON,)

ON THE

FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COLONY.

Tuesday, 14th October, 1879.

SIR,—

The circumstances under which I am addressing you this evening are of so exceptional a character, and the demands of my honorable friends opposite so very imperious, that I have been obliged to disregard what I, for one, deem a very wise rule of this House—that the Financial Statement, or rather the statement of the finances of the year, should be submitted by the Government to this House in a carefully-prepared document. I do not at all believe in the plan of the Treasurer coming down and making what is called an ordinary speech on finance. To my mind, the plan that we have adopted—in common, I think, with the other Australian Colonies—of submitting to the House a Financial Statement in such a form that honorable gentlemen can readily understand our finances—is a far preferable mode of dealing with the question to speaking upon it as I am obliged under the present circumstances to speak to-night. Sir, our financial position has not been dealt with at all for some fifteen months. The colony is, I venture to say, in a state of complete darkness as to our real financial position. It is not my business upon the present occasion to ask why the colony is in this position; but I take it that what the House desires now is that I should give a broad outline of the finances, so that honorable gentlemen may be enabled easily to comprehend what are its main features, and so determine in their minds the mode in which they will deal with the difficulties I shall present to them.

Sir, we have had no statement of the finances for some fifteen months; I must, therefore, ask you to bear with me while I take you back to the beginning of the financial year 1878–79. The then Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Ballance, estimated that he would begin that year with a surplus of £120,468. I may say here that I shall quote round numbers all through in my address to-night, in order that honorable members may catch them the more easily; and in the report of my speech I shall insert the correct figures. The honorable gentleman estimated the balance with which he would begin the year at £120,468. The assets realized were rather less than was anticipated, and the liabilities proved to be somewhat more; the actual surplus was, therefore, £116,844. The estimate was very accurate, the difference being a mere trifle in comparison with the large sums that we have to deal with.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1878-79.

The expenditure proposed by the late Government for the year 1878-79 was £4,210,436. It will be in the recollection of honorable gentlemen who were in the last Parliament that a table was presented by the then Colonial Treasurer, Sir George Grey, at the end of the last session, indicating the savings which had been effected upon the votes. The total expenditure, as given in the table, was £3,652,048, showing an apparent net saving of £558,387. But this table is entirely misleading without proper explanation, the truth being that there was no saving at all in the ordinary sense during the year. In the first place, we must take off from the apparent saving of £558,387 the outstanding liabilities, almost the whole of which have been since paid. Some of them are still outstanding; but, practically, they have all been paid. The first thing we must do, then, is to take off the outstanding liabilities, amounting to £354,913. Having taken these off, honorable gentlemen will find that the balance of the savings is made of such items as these—I will not enumerate them all: of such items as £100,000 voted out of the surplus balance of the year before last in aid of the Public Works Fund. Honorable members will recollect that it was proposed to transfer a sum of £100,000 from the Consolidated Revenue to the Public Works Fund, and a great flourish was made of that proposal; but unfortunately it was never accomplished—the £100,000 was never paid over, and it appeared in that table as a saving. There is also another item of £74,031, which was included in the estimated amount required to pay the 20 per cent. of Land Revenue; the Land Fund having fallen much short of the estimate, that sum was not required to be paid. Another item of £46,188 was an over-estimate of the interest required, and therefore was not used. Honorable members, upon reference to the returns I shall place upon the table of this House, will see that nearly the whole of the supposed saving is made up of items similar to those which I have named. Now, the total payments within and on account of the year amount to £4,006,961. I will presently refer to one or two classes of expenditure, to which I think the attention of the House should be especially called.

I now come to the revenue for the year. Honorable gentlemen will recollect that it was estimated to amount to £4,045,537, and that it actually did realize £3,751,598. The decrease arose almost entirely from a falling-off in the land revenue, amounting to the sum of £359,947. Receipts specially applicable also fell off by £30,430. There was, however, a net increase in the ordinary revenue of £96,439, derived chiefly from Customs, Stamps, and Railway receipts. The total receipts of the year, instead of being £4,045,537, amounted only to £3,751,598, the decrease being attributable, as I have just said, to the great falling-off in the land revenue. Now, taking the revenue of the year, £3,751,598, and adding thereto the balance of £116,844 brought forward from the previous year, together with certain assets amounting to £6,695 realized since the close of last year, we get a total of £3,875,137; and subtracting that total from the expenditure of the year—viz., £4,006,961, honorable members will find that at the end of the year we had a deficit of £131,824; and this sum we shall have to provide for during this year. Looked at in another way, we began the year with £116,844 to our credit, and we ended it with £131,824 to our debit; so that, looking upon the year as something

complete in itself, our receipts did not come up to our expenditure by £248,668. I hope honorable gentlemen will bear these facts in mind, because they will then be able better to understand the figures I am going to submit for this year. I should point out here that this deficit of £131,824 may be said to be fairly reducible by £50,000 of land-tax, which the late Colonial Treasurer estimated to obtain during the last year, but which was not collected; of course, if I were to take it off there, I should not be able to count it as revenue for the present year, and, as it is revenue for the present year, I have treated it in that way. I wish to call the attention of the House to the fact, because, when these estimates were made, it was calculated that this £50,000 from the land-tax would come in as revenue, and would therefore have reduced the deficit to that extent.

I should like now, Sir, to refer to one or two questions of general expenditure, and my object in doing so is to show that we are not exercising any economy whatever in our public service. By that I mean that, although we have in this House made a great deal of talk about retrenchment—although Governments have been turned out because they were supposed to be extravagant, and others have come in pledging themselves to effect great reductions—the fact is, that we have not retrenched in any one respect that I can find out. I shall now read to the House certain returns which I have had prepared, in order that honorable members may see that such is the fact. I do it because before I have sat down honorable members will see that we shall have to take some very vigorous steps in order to place the finance of the colony in that position in which it ought to be. Taking what I call the nine large departments—omitting such departments as Education, Railways, and Surveys, which could not be very well taken in, for obvious reasons, but including all the others—viz., Public Departments, Law and Justice, Postal and Telegraph, Customs, Marine, Native, Militia and Volunteers, Constabulary, and Public Domains and Buildings—I find that the amount voted by this House for these services for 1877–78 was £866,216. I find that the expenditure of that year on these departments was about £10,000 more than this House had voted: in other words, it was £876,397. The estimates for the same departments for 1878–79, as passed by this House, amounted to £903,857—a gradual increase, honorable gentlemen will observe, notwithstanding all our professions of economy; and they will not be gratified when I further tell them that the actual expenditure on these departments, instead of being £903,857, was, as a matter of fact, £953,671 for the last year. So much, then, for economy in these branches of the service where, if economy was to be effected at all, it ought to have been effected. In other words, the expenditure on these nine departments has risen from £866,216 in 1877–78, to £953,671 for the year which has just passed.

And now, Sir, let us look at the Native Department. We shall find that this department in 1876–77 cost, including the Civil list, £34,124; in 1877–78 it cost £43,047; in 1878–79 it cost £58,336. So that all through the departments the increase has been—I can hardly say gradual—very considerable. In the second year the increase in the Native Department was apparently almost entirely for Native schools; and that, so far, is satisfactory: no one will begrudge that expenditure supposing the schools have been conducted properly, as to which it is not now my business to inquire. But there is also this significant fact, with

regard to the Native Department: that, whereas the salaries for the year before last were £19,014, last year they were £15,321; while the contingencies had risen from £4,893 in 1876-77, to £16,741 last year; that is to say, the control is being gradually taken out of the hands of this House—the habit is growing up of expending all this money upon contingencies, instead of submitting each item to the vote of this House. This is a question which I hope the House will take into its serious consideration. I hope it will carefully examine into this matter, and see how far the expenditure can be properly checked. For myself, I have not the slightest doubt it can be largely reduced with great public advantage. I might here incidentally remark that such expenditure as took place at the Kopua meeting is not, in my opinion, advisable at all. That meeting, the House might like to know, cost the country some £4,500, and the Waitara meeting cost over £1,000. Such then, Sir, is the general result of the last year—an actual deficit to be provided for of £131,824; an actual deficit on the transactions of the year—if the year were taken by itself—of £248,668. There were issued during the year, and paid off at the end of the year, deficiency bills to the amount of £184,000. I merely mention this as a transaction which has occurred: it does not affect the balance one way or the other.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1879-80.

I now come to the present year 1879-80. The estimated expenditure, as left by the late Government, deducting from it a sum of £140,000 for contingent defence, which it is proposed to place upon loan, amounts to £3,974,034. This is exclusive, also, of a sum of about £125,000, which the Government merely collects and pays over to local bodies. I have omitted that sum from both sides of the account, in order to obtain greater simplicity. In quoting the estimate of expenditure as left by the late Government, I do not in any way wish to commit them to that expenditure. I am merely stating what I found in the office. Nor do I wish to commit the present Government to it; because honorable members will quite understand that it is impossible that I could have satisfactorily examined it or gone through it, so as to be able to speak with sufficient certainty to be committed to it. But I have given it what attention I could, and I say at once that, as far as I can see, there is nothing unreasonable in it, and that, if we are to continue the present system, I do not think we shall be able to reduce it to any great extent. This expenditure includes £1,325,373 for sinking fund and interest, £279,257 payable as subsidies to local bodies, and £63,540 being 20 per cent. of the Land Revenue. I might perhaps be permitted to remark here, with regard to this amount payable for sinking fund and interest, that it is to me a matter of very great regret that the late Government did not see their way to bring into operation the Consolidated Stock Act. I believe that, had that Act been brought into force at the time when the Government of which I had the honor to be a member was turned out of office, we should already have been deriving very considerable advantages from it. But, unfortunately, the one man who had taken the deepest interest in it throughout was not appointed agent until lately, and then only in such a way that it was impossible for him to go heartily into the work, being not at all assured of his position in the matter, or of receiving any co-operation from the Government here.

The estimate of revenue, as prepared by the late Government—and this was laid on the table of the House—amounts to £3,442,000. It is made up as follows, taking the classification adopted by the late Treasurer: from Taxation, £1,580,000; Services rendered, £1,362,000; Land Fund, £500,000. The estimated expenditure, exclusive of the £140,000 for contingent defence which it is proposed to take out of loan, amounts, as I have already informed the the House, to £3,974,034; and, if from this we deduct our estimated revenue, we arrive at a deficit for the year of £532,034. If to this we add the deficit with which we began the year, £131,824, we have a total deficit of £663,858 for the present year. I wish I could stop there; but I should not be doing my duty to the House if I were to say that I thought the estimates of revenue prepared by the late Government would be realized. Of course we have the advantage of three months' experience of the year, and are therefore better able to estimate what the revenue will be. I have gone as carefully as I could into the matter, considering the time at my disposal, and I fear the estimate I am about to submit will not be exceeded. We may hope it will be, but, as prudent men of business, I do not think it will be wise to calculate upon receiving more than the estimate I am about to give from our present sources of revenue. I estimate that from Taxation we shall receive £1,512,300; for Services rendered, £1,301,600; and for Land, £380,000, instead of £500,000. I have estimated the Customs revenue at £1,200,000, and the other departments I have reduced slightly, leaving the Railways receipts as estimated by the department itself. Now, if we take this revenue, £3,193,900, from the proposed expenditure £3,974,034, and then add the deficit of £131,824 with which we began the year, and which has to be provided for, we shall find that there is a total deficit on the year of £911,958, which must be provided for either by a reduction of expenditure, by increased taxation, or by some other mode which the House may decide upon. The amount is so large that I have no doubt it will take honorable members some time to realize what it means. It means that this House must immediately turn its attention to the finances of the country—it means that not a moment is to be lost in deciding how we are to face our present difficulty. It is not my business now to make any remarks upon the manner in which the deficiency has arisen, or how it should be met: that question will have to be considered when we have finished the unfortunate struggles in which we are now engaged. I conceived that it was my simple duty to submit these facts to the House.

And this brings me to the reason for asking that I may be permitted to pass the Bill upon which I am now addressing the House through all stages at one sitting. I may tell the House that when I took possession of the Treasury I found the Public Account in this state: that the receipts for the quarter then just ended did not come up to the payments that had then been made by a sum of £330,000; that the late Government had issued £400,000 of deficiency bills, and had used the whole of the proceeds; that no provision had been made for paying the subsidies which are now due, or for meeting other payments which it is absolutely necessary to make. So soon as I found that this was the position of affairs, I at once, as I was in duty bound, came down to this House to tell it what further relief we wanted, and this Bill is the mode in which the Government think it best to deal with the question. We propose to take power to issue

£200,000 deficiency bills temporarily—for the Act is a temporary Act, as honorable gentlemen will see, if they read it. We propose to issue these bills in order to enable us to carry on the necessary payments during the months of October and November. That is all that amount is calculated to meet. By that time I hope the House will have determined how the deficiency is to be dealt with. It seemed to the Government that it would have been improper to do more in the present state of matters than to submit a temporary remedy, merely to provide the cash to go on with, until the House had determined how the matter should be finally disposed of. That was my reason for asking the House to pass this Bill. I find that during these two months the probable receipts will not equal the certain expenditure by the sum of £150,000 or £200,000; I have, therefore, asked for £200,000. And now, Sir, I will state the position of the Public Works Account.

PUBLIC WORKS FUND.

We had a short, and, as I think the House considers, a satisfactory statement of the general position of this account from the Minister for Public Works last session; but I propose to mention the transactions of last year, in order that honorable members may get the matter thoroughly into their minds. We began the year 1878–79 with a credit to the Public Works Fund of £2,056,940. Some of us then hoped that that Fund was going to be augmented by some £700,000 which it was proposed to get from the Land Fund, and by £100,000 which it was proposed to take from the Consolidated Fund—from the surplus of the year before last. I need hardly tell the House that no relief was received from the Land Fund, and that the £100,000 was not paid over, so that we only had the £2,056,940 at our disposal in the Public Works Fund. We began this year with a credit in the Public Works Fund of £506,205 nominally; but, of this, £298,543 was advances outstanding, which, as honorable gentlemen are aware, is really money paid away and not yet brought to account; so that we really only began with £207,662 to the good. We actually spent during the last year £1,601,207. Sir, the expenditure for the last quarter—and I wish particularly to call the attention of honorable members to this point, because we are now spending the new five-million loan—the net expenditure for the September quarter, including advances outstanding at that date, which is money spent, amounted to £712,395. That is to say, we began the year 1879–80 with a credit balance of £207,662, and at the close of the quarter we had a debit balance of £504,733; so that we had actually spent, by the 30th of September, £504,733 of the five-million loan. I find, upon inquiry, that we have entered into engagements from which there is no escape whatever, as I am informed, for which we must find £733,553 by the 31st of December next, and that there are further engagements upon which we shall have to pay £921,818 more by the 30th of next June. In other words, by the 30th of June, upon works and services to which we are already committed, without including any new works or contracts or the cost of raising the loan, but including contingent Defence, we shall have spent £2,220,104 of the new five-million loan.

Mr. MACANDREW.—Quite a mistake.

Major ATKINSON.—Of course I speak subject to correction. The honorable gentleman says these figures are incorrect, but I can only go by the figures furnished to me from his own office by his Under Secretary and other officers; and I may add that these figures have been carefully gone through by myself

and the Secretary to the Treasury. I myself asked the Under Secretary for Public Works whether these were all absolute engagements for contracts entered into, and was informed that such was the fact. That seemed to me sufficient authority for the statements I have made. I was, of course, very much startled when I found that the amount was so large, and I took a good deal of pains to see whether I could not fairly state it at a less amount; but I found, on questioning the officers in whose departments the expenditure was to be made, that such an amount would be required if effect were given to present engagements. Included in this £2,220,104 is £200,000 for the purchase of Native lands. Of this we have already spent £36,561, and we are engaged to spend up to December next £84,500 more. That, the department assures me, is also necessary. And we have a further liability upon these lands—unless we are prepared to abandon them—and to which we are apparently committed, amounting to £957,177, or, in round numbers, to nearly £1,000,000 more, to be provided for the purchase of Native lands. We have also, after June next, to provide for contracts now let, £128,815 more than I have stated. Of course it is not for me at the present time to say anything with regard to the policy of continuing to purchase these lands, or of completing the engagements already commenced. That will be for the House to discuss presently. It is only my duty now to lay before the House the facts which I have obtained from the department. Our position then is this: we have actually spent up to the end of September half a million of the loan. We have engaged to spend by Christmas £733,000 more, and we have engaged to spend by June next £2,220,000 of that loan. And this, Sir, before we know whether it is possible to raise the loan—before we have the slightest news from Home as to whether it is likely we shall get the money. We have so conducted our finances that we have not considered it wrong or unadvisable to pledge the credit of the colony in this way without the slightest knowledge of whether we can meet our engagements. That, to my mind, is a most serious position for the colony to take up. It is beginning entirely at the wrong end. We are bound, if we are to maintain our credit, first of all to be sure that we have the money before we proceed to spend it. Of course it is not for me to say how far we may be successful in raising the whole loan. The credit of the colony, fortunately, has hitherto been very good; but I say nothing can justify us in spending money at this rate before we have got it. Such then, Sir, is shortly the position of our finances at the present time. I will simply say, in conclusion, that I am very much obliged to the House for the patience with which it has heard me. I would the tale I have had to tell had been of a more cheerful nature, and that I had been able, as it has been my lot before now to do, to speak of surpluses instead of deficits; but it is clearly my duty to trace in bold outline the present position of our finances, leaving to honorable gentlemen to fill in the picture with information which I shall place, in the shape of tables, in their hands in the course of a few days. The position is undoubtedly an exceedingly grave one. It will require, as I have already said, the serious and immediate attention of this House. If we are not to get into very great difficulties we shall have to give up many things now considered necessary, and turn our attention to providing a remedy for the state of things I have shown to exist. It seems to me that it is

absolutely necessary we should, at the present time, have a Government not only capable, but sufficiently strong to govern in the interests of the colony, and not of a party. Whether we can hope by our present party conflicts, whichever way they may end, to get such a Government I leave to honorable gentlemen to decide; but I submit it is the business of all of us now to turn our immediate and serious attention to this great difficulty, and in some way devise some scheme which shall place our finances in a sounder and better position for the future. I beg to move that the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable me to pass the Public Revenues Act Amendment Bill through all its stages to-night.

TABLES REFERRED TO IN THE PRECEDING SPEECH.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the ESTIMATED and ACTUAL EXPENDITURE of the CONSOLIDATED FUND for the FINANCIAL YEAR 1878-79, including LIABILITIES payable in respect of the Year.

	Estimated.	Actual.	Less than Estimate.	Deduct Liabilities.	Differences.	
					Less than Estimate.	More than Estimate.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS:—						
Civil List	29,750	31,555	...	...	...	1,805
Interest and Sinking Fund	1,225,130	1,177,726	47,404	1,216	46,188	
Special Acts	47,488	36,281	11,207	1,181	10,026	
ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS:—						
Class I.—Public Departments	199,074	173,775	25,299	24,575	724	
„ II.—Law and Justice	144,454	142,655	1,799	8,700	...	6,901
„ III.—Postal and Telegraph	245,139	231,786	13,353	14,900	...	1,547
„ IV.—Customs	40,907	41,002	...	550	...	645
„ V.—Marine	48,360	42,866	5,494	3,500	1,994	
„ VI.—Education	222,270	221,454	816	550	266	
„ VII.—Native	32,240	35,801	...	13,050	...	16,611
„ VIII.—Militia and Volunteers	30,178	27,856	2,322	1,900	422	
„ IX.—Constabulary	144,964	138,613	6,351	20,200	...	13,849
„ X.—Railways	493,152	495,264	...	69,000	...	71,112
„ XI.—Public Domains	32,541	24,938	7,603	6,675	928	
„ XII.—Lands, Surveys, &c.	241,338	186,300	55,038	25,800	29,238	
„ XIII.—Miscellaneous	137,293	84,414	52,879	23,500	29,379	
„ XIV.—Provincial Liabilities	237,258	158,393	78,865	67,420	11,445	
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS:—						
Subsidies to Local Bodies	255,000	220,723	34,277	29,850	4,427	
20 per cent. Land Revenue	241,500	142,216	99,284	25,253	74,031	
One-third Deferred Payments	7,400	2,382	5,018	6,233	...	1,215
New Plymouth Harbour Board	25,000	8,888	16,112	584	15,528	
Wellington Hospital	30,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	...	
Ellesmere and Forsyth Reclamation ... ..	...	1,452	...	276	...	1,728
Payment to Public Works Fund out of Surplus of 1877-78	100,000	...	100,000	...	100,000	
Services not provided for ... ..	...	5,708	...	...	...	5,708
	4,210,436	3,652,048	573,121	354,913	324,596	
LIABILITIES ... ..	...	354,913			121,121	
Totals	4,210,436	4,006,961			203,475	

Deposits refunded, and Revenue collected and paid over to Local Bodies, are not included in the above statement.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the ESTIMATED and ACTUAL NET RECEIPTS of the CONSOLIDATED FUND for the Financial Year 1878-79 (exclusive of the Revenues of Local Bodies and other unavailable Receipts).

	ESTIMATED.		ACTUAL.		DIFFERENCES.			
					More than Estimate.		Less than Estimate.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
ORDINARY REVENUE:—								
Raised by Taxation,—								
Customs	1,253,500	0 0	1,307,736	1 11	54,236	1 11	...	...
Stamps	170,000	0 0	197,501	8 0	27,501	8 0	...	...
Land-Tax	50,000	0 0	...	...	...	...	50,000	0 0
Receipts for Services rendered,—								
Railways	710,000	0 0	755,467	3 7	45,467	3 7	...	...
Postal	121,500	0 0	128,308	15 3	6,808	15 3	...	...
Telegraphic	76,000	0 0	82,968	4 10	6,968	4 10	...	...
Judicial	50,000	0 0	52,465	13 1	2,465	13 1	...	...
Land and Deeds	32,500	0 0	40,628	11 4	8,128	11 4	...	...
Registration and other Fees	32,745	0 0	27,973	5 8	...	...	4,771	14 4
Marine	22,400	0 0	24,269	0 3	1,869	0 3	...	...
Miscellaneous... ..	67,000	0 0	64,766	14 0	...	...	2,233	5 3
TERRITORIAL REVENUE:—								
Land Sales	1,100,000	0 0	729,079	3 3	...	...	370,920	16 9
" on Deferred Payments	22,000	0 0	8,615	3 6	...	...	13,384	16 6
Depasturing Licenses, Rents, Assessments, &c.	107,677	0 0	132,035	5 4	24,358	5 4	...	...
RECEIPTS SPECIALLY APPLICABLE:—								
Amount required out of Surplus Land Revenue of 1877 to provide for Arrears of Survey,—								
Hawke's Bay	4,512	0 0	2,833	19 4	...	...	1,678	0 8
Canterbury	30,000	0 0	17,014	1 9	...	...	12,985	18 3
Provincial Liabilities,—								
Balance on 30th June, 1878	5,733	0 0	5,733	9 0	0	9 0	...	...
Receivable from Loan of 1877	80,000	0 0	80,000	0 0	...	...	...	...
Receivable from Wellington Trust and Loan Company	15,970	0 0	1,600	0 0	...	...	14,370	0 0
Receivable from Sale of Reclaimed Land	89,000	0 0	84,953	13 1	...	...	4,046	6 11
Miscellaneous	5,000	0 0	7,648	19 11	2,648	19 11	...	...
Totals	4,045,537	0 0	3,751,598	13 10	180,452	12 6	474,390	18 8
RECAPITULATION.								
ORDINARY REVENUE	2,585,645	0 0	2,682,084	18 8	96,439	18 8	...	...
TERRITORIAL REVENUE	1,229,677	0 0	869,729	12 1	...	...	350,947	7 11
RECEIPTS SPECIALLY APPLICABLE	230,215	0 0	199,784	3 1	...	...	30,430	16 11
							390,378	4 10
							96,439	18 8
Totals	4,045,537	0 0	3,751,598	13 10	...	...	293,938	6 2

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the ESTIMATED and ACTUAL EXPENDITURE in respect of the under-mentioned SERVICES for the Years 1877-78 and 1878-79.

	Estimates, 1877-78, as passed.	Expenditure, 1877-78, including Liabilities on 30 June, 1878.	Estimates, 1878-79, as passed.	Expenditure, 1878-79, including Liabilities on 30 June, 1879.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Public Departments	180,749 17 0	194,833 6 7	185,073 18 7	198,679 1 5
Law and Justice	139,745 3 7	148,313 12 4	144,454 7 4	151,355 10 9
Postal and Telegraph	232,325 0 0	226,227 16 9	245,139 0 0	246,685 15 8
Customs	41,103 16 6	39,330 0 9	40,906 13 1	41,552 0 11
Marine	39,511 3 1	34,739 5 3	48,359 14 10	46,366 0 1
Native*	33,963 19 7	38,450 12 10	32,239 15 0	48,851 10 7
Militia and Volunteers	31,322 12 10	24,992 9 5	30,178 12 0	29,755 10 8
Constabulary	138,625 10 0	137,911 7 1	144,964 0 0	158,812 16 8
Public Domains and Buildings	28,869 4 0	31,599 6 4	32,541 4 0	31,612 16 6
Totals	866,216 6 7	876,397 17 4	903,857 4 10	953,671 3 3

* Exclusive of charges on the Civil List.

RETURN of NATIVE EXPENDITURE, including Liabilities.

	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil List	6,385 15 4	4,597 6 1	9,484 9 9
Annual Votes—			
Salaries	19,909 13 4	19,014 0 4	15,321 1 8
Contingencies	4,893 2 6	5,767 18 8	16,741 0 6
Native Schools	2,461 5 0	13,129 9 6	16,189 15 0
Native Lands Frauds Prevention Act	311 18 3	348 0 3	467 13 10
Wairarapa 5 per cent. Land Purchase Account	163 3 3	191 4 1	131 19 7
Totals	34,124 17 8	43,047 18 11	58,336 0 4

CONSOLIDATED FUND.—REVENUE of the FINANCIAL YEAR 1879-80.

	Estimates of late Government.	Estimates as Revised.	More than before.	Less than before.
	£	£	£	£
Ordinary Revenue—				
Customs	1,250,000	1,200,000	...	50,000
Stamps	180,000	165,000	...	15,000
Land-Tax	150,000	147,300	...	2,700
Railways	950,000	900,000	...	50,000
Postal	135,000	135,000	...	...
Telegraphic	90,000	80,000	...	10,000
Judicial	45,000	48,000	3,000	...
Land and Deeds	36,000	36,000	...	...
Registration and other Fees	33,000	34,000	1,000	...
Marine	23,000	22,100	...	900
Miscellaneous	50,000	46,500	...	3,500
Territorial Revenue—				
Land Sales	368,000	248,000	...	120,000
Depasturing Licenses, &c.	132,000	132,000	...	...
				252,100
				4,000
Total	3,442,000	3,193,900		248,100

CONSOLIDATED FUND.—ESTIMATED REVENUE (from present sources) and EXPENDITURE for the Financial Year 1879-80.

Estimated Revenue as revised by the present Government.		Expenditure as estimated by the late Government.	
	£		£
Ordinary Revenue,—			
Customs ...	1,200,000	Civil List ...	29,750
Stamps ...	165,000	Interest and Sinking Fund ...	1,325,373
Land-Tax ...	147,300	Under Special Acts, including Subsidies, &c. ...	411,771
Railways ...	900,000		<u>1,766,894</u>
Postal ...	135,000	Annual Appropriations,—	
Telegraphic ...	80,000	Class I.—Colonial Secretary ...	232,035
Judicial ...	48,000	II.—Colonial Treasurer ...	22,640
Land and Deeds ...	36,000	III.—Minister of Justice ...	124,089
Registration and other Fees... ..	34,000	IV.—Postmaster-General and Commissioner of Telegraphs... ..	271,319
Marine ...	22,100	V.—Commissioner of Customs ...	91,741
Miscellaneous ...	46,500	VI.—Commissioner of Stamps ...	25,853
	<u>2,813,900</u>	VII.—Minister of Education ...	245,015
Territorial Revenue,—		VIII.—Minister of Native Affairs ...	53,093
Land Sales ...	248,000	IX.—Minister of Lands and Mines ...	227,565
Depasturing Licenses and Assessments,—		X.—Minister for Public Works ...	702,941
Rents and Miscellaneous ...	132,000	XI.—Minister of Defence ...	327,849
	<u>380,000</u>		<u>2,324,140</u>
	<u>£3,193,900</u>	Total as estimated ...	£4,091,034
		Deduct Contingent Defence Expenditure, chargeable on Loan ...	140,000
		Additional Expenses for Legislative Department, second Session ...	£3,951,034
			23,000
Balance for which provision must be made during the present Session of Parliament ...	911,958	Deficit of the Year 1878-79 ...	£3,974,034
			131,824
	<u>£4,105,858</u>		<u>£4,105,858</u>

ACCOUNT of the PUBLIC WORKS FUND, from 1st JULY to 30th SEPTEMBER, 1879.

RECEIPTS.	£		s.		d.		EXPENDITURE.	£		s.		d.		Advances Outstanding, 30 September, 1879	£		s.		d.		Total.		
Balance on 30 June, 1879,—							Immigration	506,205	10	6	26,915	11	11	19,442	11	9	46,358	3	8				
Cash in the Public Account							Public Works Departmental				300	0	0	3,211	0	8	3,541	0	8				
Advances to be accounted for,—							Railways	207,662	9	7	56,187	3	10	243,919	3	8	300,056	7	6				
In the colony							Surveys of New Lines				6,357	19	6	1,734	7	0	2,304	6	0				
In London							Roads				20,647	1	10	23,399	0	4	29,757	0	4				
Special Receipts, under section 9 of "The Railways Construction Act, 1878,"							Land Purchases				1,250	0	0	15,914	12	7	36,561	14	5				
Miscellaneous Recoveries							Water-Races				2,375	8	5	6,174	4	5	7,424	4	5				
							Telegraph Extension				800	0	0	16,693	0	7	19,068	9	0				
							Public Buildings				1,110	9	6	80,317	14	8	81,117	14	8				
							Lighthouses				4,000	0	0	1,007	14	11	1,565	7	2				
							Miscellaneous				175,024	13	0	29,744	2	1	30,854	11	7				
							Contingent Defence				298,045	19	3	80,000	0	0	4,000	0	0				
							Services not provided for				504,733	13	10	204,220	0	0	204,220	0	0				
							Outstanding Balances of Votes of 1878-79				£1,021,853	12	5				£1,021,853	12	5				
Balance, being amount expended in anticipation of New Loan...							Orders sent to Agent-General,—																
							Immigration																
							Public Works Departmental																
							Railways																
							Works on open Lines																

* This amount is not included in the Treasury Accounts to 30th September, but as the orders were sent to the Agent-General within the quarter, it is convenient to show them in this place.

STATEMENT of the AMOUNT required out of the NEW LOAN to meet LIABILITIES incurred to 30th JUNE, 1880, and FURTHER ENGAGEMENTS.

Public Works Departmental ...	£		s.		d.		Public Works Departmental ...	£		s.		d.		Further Engagements.	
Railways							Immigration	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0		
Surveys							Public Works Departmental	191,500	0	0	191,500	0	0		
Roads							Railways	2,500	0	0	2,500	0	0		
Water-races							Works on open Lines								
Public Buildings							Liabilities to be met during Three Months ending 31 December, 1879.								
Miscellaneous Public Works							£								
Immigration							s.								
Land Purchases							d.								
Telegraph							6,030	10	4	6,030	10	4			
Marine							401,987	4	3	401,987	4	3			
Works on open Lines							1,928	18	11	1,928	18	11			
Contingent Defence							28,726	16	9	28,726	16	9			
							10,811	2	1	10,811	2	1			
							124,790	0	0	124,790	0	0			
							56,887	9	6	56,887	9	6			
							28,600	0	0	28,600	0	0			
							80,000	0	0	80,000	0	0			
							58,250	0	0	58,250	0	0			
							400	0	0	400	0	0			
							123,406	0	0	123,406	0	0			
							921,818	1	10	921,818	1	10			
Totals							733,553	0	0	733,553	0	0			
							504,733	13	10	504,733	13	10			
							2,160,104	15	8	2,160,104	15	8			
							60,000	0	0	60,000	0	0			
							1,085,992	0	0	1,085,992	0	0			

