£4,329 0s. 11d. The expenditure on school buildings, sites, plans, supervision, &c., was £1,595 7s. 1d., which, added to a debit balance of £2,399 4s. 3d. with which the year was begun, leaves an apparent credit balance of £334 9s. 7d. Against this, however, there are contract liabilities for new buildings and school additions now in progress amounting to £2,167, so that the Board's Building Account at the close of the year showed an actual indebtedness of £1,822 10s. 5d.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education. J. D. Ormond, Chairman.

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General Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ending 31st December, 1888.

| *Receipts.* | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| To Balance at beginning of year—General Account | 1,461 | 5 | 3 |
| Government grant for buildings | 4,241 | 12 | 0 |
| Other receipts for buildings — From School Fund | 87 | 8 | 11 |
| Government statutory capitation | 15,218 | 11 | 3 |
| Scholarship grant | 293 | 8 | 5 |
| Inspection subsidy | 300 | 0 | 0 |
| Payments by School Commissioners | 2,125 | 16 | 1 |
| District High School fees | 197 | 11 | 4 |
| Donation Tarawera School—Teacher's salary | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Refund of scholarship payment | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | £23,939 | 13 | 3 |

| *Expenditure.* | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| By Balance at beginning of year | 2,399 | 4 | 3 |
| Office staff—Salaries | 250 | 0 | 0 |
| Departmental contingencies | 236 | 7 | 10 |
| Inspector's salary | 500 | 0 | 0 |
| Inspector's travelling expenses | 150 | 0 | 0 |
| Examination of pupil-teachers | 72 | 8 | 0 |
| Teachers' salaries and allowances (including rent, bonus, &c.) | 15,037 | 7 | 11 |
| Incidental expenses of schools | 1,691 | 7 | 0 |
| Training of teachers | 58 | 10 | 4 |
| Scholarships— | | | |
| Paid to scholars | 275 | 0 | 0 |
| Examination expenses | 16 | 8 | 0 |
| School buildings— | | | |
| New buildings | 1,074 | 3 | 6 |
| Improvements of buildings | 124 | 18 | 11 |
| Furniture and appliances | 276 | 4 | 8 |
| Sites | 26 | 6 | 0 |
| Plans, supervision, and fees | 83 | 1 | 6 |
| Interest | 10 | 12 | 6 |
| High School | 206 | 4 | 5 |
| Building Fund, per contra | 87 | 8 | 11 |
| Balance at end of year— | | | |
| On Building Account | 334 | 9 | 7 |
| On General Account | 1,029 | 9 | 11 |
| | £23,939 | 13 | 3 |

H. Hill, Secretary.

Examined and found correct.—James Edward FitzGerald, Controller and Auditor-General.

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## MARLBOROUGH.

Sir,— Education Board Office, Blenheim, 15th June, 1889.

I have the honour to forward you the report of the Board of Education for the District of Marlborough for the year ending the 31st December, 1888.

The Board.—The three retiring members were the Hon. Colonel Baillie, Messrs. A. P. Seymour, and George Henderson. The two former were re-elected; the latter not offering himself for re-election, Mr. C. H. Mills was chosen to fill the vacancy. The Board now consists of Mr. Seymour (Chairman), the Hon. Colonel Baillie, Messrs. Conolly, Hutcheson, Lambert, Mills, Parker, Paul, and Ward. The Board held sixteen meetings during the year.

Schools.—The large Blenheim School was destroyed by fire on the 25th September, 1888. This was a very serious loss, the building being the largest of our schools, commodious, in good repair, and comparatively a building of recent date. A new building in brick is now being erected by the department. The fire has caused great inconvenience in the working of the school, which will be felt throughout the whole of the present year, and probably as far on as May, 1890, the teaching having to be carried on in three separate buildings which the Board is renting as temporary schoolhouses. Aided schools were opened at Wells's Farm and at Hopai Bay, both in the Pelorus Sound. The aided school at Kenepuru was closed in the last quarter of the year. There were thirty-five schools working at the end of the year.

Attendance.—On the 31st December, 1887, the average weekly roll was 1,715, and the average attendance of the last quarter 1,311. At the end of 1888 the weekly number on the roll was 1,735, and the average attendance 1,347.

Teachers.—The staff consisted of fifty-five of all classes, of whom twenty-seven were males and twenty-eight females.

Scholarship.—The winning scholar was Lewis Griffith. The two scholarships, each tenable for two years at the Nelson College, are held by Ernest Rutherford from the beginning of 1887, and the above mentioned from the beginning of 1888.

Buildings.—On Buildings Account we began the year with a credit balance of £102 15s. 7d. We received from the Government grant £719 0s. 6d., and having spent £574 5s. 8d. we close the year with a credit of £247 10s. 5d. on this account.

General Account.—On the 1st January, 1888, we had a credit balance of £192 19s. 4d. We received from the Government for the service of the year £6,035 1s. 3d., and we expended £6,046 2s. 4d., leaving us a balance to credit on the year's transactions of £182 18s. 3d. Certain moneys for the service of the year that were not received until after its close are taken into account in this computation.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Education, Wellington. A. P. Seymour, Chairman.