



THE COUNTY OF
WESTLAND GAZETTE.

Published by Authority.

HOKITIKA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1872.

County Audit Office,
 Hokitika, 8th August, 1872.

The Hon. H. H. LAHMAN, Chairman of
 the County Council, Westland.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward herewith the following documents, viz. :—

1. The County Treasurer's Account of Revenue and Expenditure for the half-year ended 30th June, 1872.
2. Balance Sheet for the same period.
3. Comparative Return, showing the amount of Local Revenue for the half-years ended the 30th June, 1872, and 30th June, 1871, respectively.
4. Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

The Account of Revenue and Balance Sheet I have examined and certified to in the usual manner, but have not done so to the Account of Expenditure, as payments in some few cases have not been completed, and, until the vouchers are placed before me duly receipted, I cannot attach my certificate, but as you are anxious to lay the accounts before the Council, and to prevent any further delay, I can so far state that the figures shown in the Accounts are substantially correct, and on the production of the receipted vouchers, I shall have no hesitation in signing them.

On reference to the Comparative Return, it will be observed that the Revenue for the

two half-years varies very little in amount, there being only a difference of about £300 between them, yet, on examining closely the various items on which an increase or decrease occurs, it is evident that the three principal sources of Revenue, such as Gold Export Duty, Miner's Rights and Business Licenses, and Spirit Licenses, yield less and less every year; yet, on the other hand, the remainder, viz., Mining Surveys, Tolls, Punts, &c., and Incidental Receipts, show a decided increase, and, what is more remarkable, one would think, could not increase at such a rate without the other sources of Revenue being affected in the same manner. The Land Revenue, although it cannot be viewed in the same light as taxes derived from the other sources, has contributed £2988, nearly the amount estimated, and which can be taken as one of the surest signs of the prosperity of the county.

With regard to the Gold Duty collected during the half-year, viz., £7830 12s., I beg to report that only £5165 1s. 1d. was paid into the County of Westland Account; the balance, amounting to £2665 10s. 11d., having been paid into the Public Account (*vide* statement appended) in accordance with instructions received by the Collector of Customs from the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer, authorising this officer to deduct the sum of £3331 19s. 4d. from the Gold Duty in liquida-

tion of a debt due by the County to the General Government, and which, I believe, consisted of a balance of the Consolidated Fund overpaid to the County. The total amount was paid up on the 3rd August last.

In noticing the decrease in the Gold Fields Revenue, I made it my business to find out how many Miner's Rights had been issued during the half-year ended 30th June, 1872. From the statements rendered by the various Receivers of Revenue, I find they amounted to 1571, and that for the previous half-year ended 31st December, 1871, they amounted to 1681, making together for the twelve months 3252 Miner's Rights issued. The gold produced during the same period amounted to 128,544 ounces, giving an average to each miner of nearly 40 ounces per man. It is fair to assume that each miner earns an ounce a week (which the above average will hardly give), how then can the deficiency be accounted for; from the above figures it would not seem as though this tax was being evaded to any great extent.

With regard to the expenditure during the half-year, I beg to report that the provisions of "The County of Westland Act, 1869," have been complied with; at the same time I observe that no mention has been made in the account of any Public Works that have been constructed during the half-year for which payments have been made in land, and which, I respectfully submit, should form portion of this account. It might be made up as a separate or supplementary statement to the cash expenditure. It may

be true that the contractors have not been paid in cash, but there can be no doubt that payment in land is an equivalent. During the past half-year, 315 acres of land have been granted to contractors for public works completed, and as many other Public Works are being undertaken on similar terms, I consider that the County Treasurer should include such transactions in his accounts.

The appointment of an Officer as Storekeeper, has remedied to a great extent, the inconvenience referred to by me in my last report, and although this Officer has been indefatigable in carrying out his duties, so numerous were the arrears and so large the amount of property, that up to the present time he has not succeeded in obtaining a complete account of all the stores belonging to the County Government. I would respectfully suggest that the Storekeeper be called upon to furnish a report as to the state of his Department.

In the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, I observe that no mention is made of the amount for which contracts have been accepted up to the 30th June, 1872. I have referred to this matter as it is simply a question whether (although no progress payments are required during the current six months) they are not still Liabilities of the County Government, and should as such be entered in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

EDWARD PATTEN,
County Auditor.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Dr.		Cr.	
1872.	£ s. d.	1872.	£ s. d.
July 1. To Balance on 31st Dec.,		July 1. By Receipts, as per state-	
1871	8788 4 2	ment	24,948 15 10
„ Expenditure as per		„ Balance	11,273 16 10
statement... ..	27,434 8 6		
	£36,222 12 8		£36,222 12 8

BALANCE SHEET.

DR.		CR.	
1872.	£ s. d.	1872.	£ s. d.
July 1. To Balance of Revenue Account ...	11,273 16 10	July 1. By Colonial Government	7500 0 0
		„ Bank of New Zealand overdraft ...	3773 16 10
	<u>£11,273 16 10</u>		<u>£11,273 16 10</u>

County Treasury,
June 30th, 1872.

THOMAS HORTON,
County Treasurer.

County Audit Office, Hokitika,
August 7th, 1872.

EDWARD PATTEN,
County Auditor.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 30TH JUNE, 1872.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gold Duty Hokitika ...	5280 13 5		
Gold Duty Greymouth...	2204 3 7		
Gold Duty Okarito ...	345 15 0		
	<u>7830 12 0</u>		
Deduct amount paid to Public Account by authority of Hon. Colonial Treasurer ...	2665 10 11	5165 1 1	
Miner's Rights, &c.		3147 14 3	
Spirit Licenses		4312 16 0	
Incidentals		1057 14 2	
Tolls, Punts and Ferries		1578 0 8	
Land Revenue		2988 4 8	
Fees, Fines, &c., Wardens' Courts		133 6 6	
Mining Surveys		565 18 6	
Deficiency Bills		6000 0 0	
			<u>£24,948 15 10</u>

E. & O. E.

County Treasury, Hokitika, June 30, 1872.

THOMAS HORTON,
County Treasurer.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above Accounts, compared the same with the Vouchers and Bank Pass Book, and find them correct.

County Audit Office, Hokitika,
August 7, 1872.

EDWARD PATTEN,
County Auditor.

**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR HALF-YEAR, ENDING 30TH
JUNE, 1872.**

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ADMINISTRATIVE.			
County Chairman's Office	600 0 0		
" Treasurer	362 10 0		
" Solicitor	93 4 11		
		1055 14 11	
COUNTY COUNCIL.			
Expenses of Election	43 19 6		
" Members	350 0 0		
		393 19 6	
			1449 14 5
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.			
WARDENS.—Salaries			
	.....	1677 10 0	
POLICE.—			
	.....	3202 14 0	
Forage	119 14 3		
Shoeing and Farriery	13 4 0		
Conveyance of Prisoners, and Officer's Travel- ling Expenses	140 0 0		
House Rent, Hickson	25 0 0		
Incidental Expenses	48 12 0		
		346 10 3	
			5226 14 3
GAOL.—Salaries			
	.....	837 3 0	
Tools and Materials	36 1 7		
Bedding and Clothing	38 15 8		
Medical Comforts and Incidentals	38 18 3		
Rations	176 7 10		
Forage, Harness, &c.	139 12 9		
		429 16 1	
DISTRICT GAOL.			
Rations	72 8 5		
Medical Comforts and Incidentals	41 17 3		
Bedding and Clothing	1 4 0		
		115 9 8	
			1382 8 9
LAND AND WORKS.			
Expenses of Waste Lands Board	10 15 0		
Clerk to Board	137 10 0		
Clerical Assistance	49 8 9		
		197 13 9	
MINING AND SURVEY BRANCH.—(Salaries.)			
	.....	625 0 0	
Survey Labour	538 11 4		
Travelling Expenses	108 7 0		
Incidentals	47 13 1		
		694 11 5	
ENGINEERING BRANCH.—(Salaries.)			
	.....	250 0 0	
Clerical Assistance	74 10 0		
		324 10 0	
			1841 15 2
HARBOR DEPARTMENT.			
Salaries ... ..	.....	546 10 0	
Hire of Boatmen	24 4 0		
Materials, &c.	90 4 8		
		114 8 8	
			660 18 8
EDUCATION.			
Grant to Schools ... ..	.....	250 0 0	
Expenses of Board ... ..	.....	26 0 0	
			276 0 0
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.			
Inspector's Salary ... ..	.....	150 0 0	
Contingent Expenses ... ..	.....	39 12 0	
			189 12 0
CHARITABLE.			
LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Salaries			
	444 10 0		
Maintenance, Female Ward	341 0 1		
" Lunatics, Christchurch	171 12 0		
" Lunatics, Christchurch	171 12 0		
Rations, Male Ward	144 3 1		
Bedding and Clothing	34 0 0		
Medical Comforts and Incidentals	61 3 7		
		1196 8 9	
			11,027 3 3
Carried forward... ..		1196 8 9	

COUNTY OF WESTLAND.

STATEMENT shewing the total amount of GOLD DUTY received since the 5th March, 1872, the amount paid into COUNTY ACCOUNT, and the amount deducted and paid into the PUBLIC ACCOUNT in accordance with instructions received from the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer by telegram, dated 5th March, 1872, No. 239.

Year.	Month.	Public Account.	County Account	Total.
1872.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	March	918 13 8	156 5 0	1074 18 8
	April	746 17 3	0 0 0	746 17 3
	May	500 0 0	132 12 4	632 12 4
	June	500 0 0	488 8 1	988 8 1
	July	437 3 10	0 0 0	437 3 10
	August 3rd	229 4 7	192 17 7	422 2 2
		£3331 19 4	£970 3 0	£4302 2 4

County Audit Office, Hokitika,
7th August, 1872.

EDWARD PATTEN,
County Auditor.

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