

\$5,445, and to females, \$34,710. Owing to the irregularities of the present year, already referred to, I have found it quite difficult to make up, with certainty the *amount*, and more especially the *average* of salaries,—when the yearly system has been regularly adopted, the estimate becomes quite simple and easy. I may remark, also, that the average and amount of salaries are, of course, affected by the *length* of the year, an engagement for 7 months, for instance, being proportionately less than for 8 months.

I have visited all the 39 municipalities under my supervision twice during the year, except one, (Auckland—one small school), which I visited only once; and have visited nearly all the schools twice. The winter was even more unfavorable for visiting than the previous one; but I managed to reach most of the schools. At the time of writing, I have not yet been able to hold any teachers' meetings, but have arranged for a number to be held in June.

I have found it quite difficult again, this year, to make the required *classification* of the municipalities, in accordance with your circular of Nov. 1882, the instructions being to class as "1st. Excellent; 2nd, Good; 3rd. Middling; 4th, Bad, and 5th, Very Bad," (arranging in the order of merit in each class,) taking into account the following particulars:—

1. The conduct of affairs by Commissioners and Secretary-Treasurer.
2. The condition of the school-houses.
3. The condition and supply of apparatus.
4. The use of authorized text-books.
5. The efficiency of the teachers.
6. The Salaries of teachers, and mode of payment.

The first point is, of course, a general one. For the others, I have, as last year, adopted a careful and rigid system of marking each school on all the five points, and class the municipality according to results. It will readily be seen that a municipality may mark well on some points; e. g., "2" and "5," and by a poor marking on others, say "3" and "4," average low. In the following arrangement, I have indicated average standing by figures, from 0 to 9; higher figures denoting lower rank,—those averaging lower than 9 going into the next lower class. The comparative standing is thus shewn by the figures, and not wholly by the order