THE SCHOOL OF MINES
INGENIO ET DILIGENTIÆ OPES
BALLARAT 1870

Sir,

In reply to your letter 89/332 under date of the 13th Instant I have the honor, by direction, to state for the information of the Honorable the Minister of Public Instruction, that, during the past year (1888) the sum of £3124.11.7 was expended on Buildings & Apparatus at this Institution, as follows - Redemption of Mortgage on ~~the~~ Museum Building and land (including Interest) £1834.6.6.

- Erection and Equipment of Mining Laboratory £1290.5.1.

Of this Amount £1774.2.4 was raised locally by Fees and public subscriptions the total income of the School for the period named from all sources, exclusive of the Government subsidy being £2580.19.10. The income derived from Fees, Public Subscriptions, etc, from 1st January last to date including a sum of £252.5.0 deposited as a special Trust Fund toward the foundation of a Scholarship in Mining Engineering, amounts to £597.

During the current year an addition to the new Mining Laboratory has been erected on contract, at a cost of £120, and other necessary appliances, the cost of which will be £163, have been ordered to be supplied within a month from the present time. - A plan for the further

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extension of this important Department has been drafted by a member of the Council thoroughly conversant with the requirements, but pending receipt of the promised Grant, tenders have not yet been invited for execution of the work. -

The Vice-President informed the Honorable the Treasurer both by letter and verbally that in the present depressed state of Mining it would be futile to attempt to raise a large sum of money by local subscriptions for this purpose; & at the interview with Professor Pearson in November last clearly understood that the condition attached would be waived, and the money made available during the current and next succeeding financial year in two moieties; otherwise the expenditure and liabilities incurred would have been extended over a longer period