3.—No. 23. 4 PAPERS IN REFERENCE TO RETURNS FROM GOLD FIELDS.

No. 4.

CIRCULAR to WARDENS.

WARDENS of Warden's Courts within Gold Fields, are requested to be good enough to fill up and forward quarterly,* to the Under-Secretary of Public Works for Gold Fields, Wellington, the enclosed forms of Return. The first return is to be completed up to the end of March, 1872.

Colonial Secretaty's Office, (Judicial Branch), Wellington, 23rd February, 1872.

No. 5.

CIRCULAR to WARDENS.

Wardens upon Gold Fields are informed that the Under-Secretary for Gold Fields (Public Works Department), has been authorised to place himself in immediate communication with them for the purpose of obtaining the information necessary for compiling the Mineral Statistics of the Colony.

By order,

Colonial Secretary's Office, (Judicial Branch), Wellington, March 27, 1872.

granical W

R. G. FOUNTAIN,
(For the Assistant Law Officer).

No 6.

Mr. HAUGHTON to Mr. SHEEHAN, Gold Fields Secretary, Auckland.

Public Works Office (Gold Fields Branch),

Wellington, 4th April, 1872.

I have the honor to enclose for your information copy of Circular (A), which, by direction of the Government, has been forwarded to the Wardens, and shall feel much obliged if you will favour me with such returns; from your office, up to 31st March last, as may enable satisfactory statistics to be laid before Parliament.

I have, &c., C. E. HAUGHTON.

Enclosure in No. 6.

CIECULAR to WARDENS .- (A.)

Wellington, 26th March, 1872.

I beg to forward you copy of a Resolution agreed to by the House of Representatives in 1869, and have the honor to request that, in addition to filling up the forms already transmitted to you by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, you will furnish me with such a general report of the state of your district up to 31st March, instant, as may enable satisfactory statistics to be laid before Parliament.

I have, &c., C. E. HAUGHTON.

Enclosure in Circular A.

ORDER of the House of Representatives, dated 3rd August, 1869.

That it is desirable that the Government should cause to be laid upon the table of this House, during each session, a Report embodying a general account of the present condition of the Gold Fields of the Colony, their advancement or otherwise during the preceding year, and their probable prospects; together with particulars showing the average price of provisions during the year on each Gold Field, the rate of wages, estimated population, and such other information as would afford a comprehensive idea of the general condition of the mining interest in the Colony; and that His Excellency be requested to forward a copy of such Report to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 7.

CIRCULAR to RESIDENT MAGISTRATES.

Colonial Secretary's Office (Judicial Branch),

Wellington, 15th February, 1870.

The House of Representatives having ordered "that there be laid on the table a return of the number of Mining Companies incorporated under the provisions of the 'Mining Companies Limited Liability Act, 1865,' in the various Provinces of New Zealand, and also the number of shareholders in the said Companies," I have the honor to request you to be good enough to furnish me with the required information for your district, up to the 31st March next.

I have, &c.,

W. GISBORNE.

^{*} By a subsequent Circular these Returns are required only to be made annually.
† These Returns have been furnished under cover of a letter from His Honor the Superintendent of Auckland, dated 8th July, 1872, and are laid before Parliament.