

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st March, 1882.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Expenditure.</i>			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
1881—April	...	176	10 0	1881—April	...	75	19 10
May	...	86	5 10	May	...	377	10 6
June	...	190	12 1	June	...	104	15 3
July	...	153	1 8	July	...	85	18 7
August	...	186	9 2	August	...	84	16 8
September	...	188	2 1	September	...	96	15 8
October	...	229	15 10	October	...	84	17 0
November	...	233	17 11	November	...	82	0 0
December	...	184	0 10	December	...	86	12 8
1882—January	...	157	10 10	1882—January	...	82	0 0
February	...	197	11 8	February	...	76	6 8
March	...	207	15 0	March	...	118	0 8
				Balance Cr.	...	835	19 5
		<u>£2,191</u>	<u>12 11</u>			<u>£2,191</u>	<u>12 11</u>

The following table shows the approximate amount of gold obtained by persons using water from the Nelson Creek Water-race, and their average earnings during the year ending the 31st March, 1882 :—

Month.	No. of Men Employed.	Approximate amount of Gold obtained.
		Oz.
1881—April	73	294
May	69	184
June	63	300
July	68	335
August	64	307
September	67	324
October	72	386
November	69	368
December	67	293
1882—January	66	271
February	66	379
March	64	367
	<u>808</u>	<u>3,808</u>
Value of gold, at £3 16s. 6d. per oz.	...	£14,565 12 0
Deduct sales of water	...	2,191 12 11
		<u>£12,373 19 1</u>

Average number of men employed, 67. Average earnings per man per annum, after deducting money paid for water, £184 13s. 8d.

I have, &c.,
HENRY A. GORDON,
Manager.

The Under-Secretary for Gold Fields, Wellington.

No. 21.

Mr. J. Gow, Manager of the Waimea-Kumara Water-Race, to the UNDER-SECRETARY for GOLD FIELDS.
SIR,—

Manager's Office, Kumara, 4th April, 1882.

I have the honor to make the following general remarks on the working and maintenance of the Waimea-Kumara Races and Sludge Channel for the year ending 31st March, 1882 :—

Waimea Race.—This race maintains about the same number of miners as last year, and I think their earnings average much the same, except some of the Chinese, who are working very poor ground; they seem, however, contented with much smaller pay than would satisfy most Europeans. As the shallow ground at the heads of the gullies is being worked out, the miners move downward towards Stafford, and are now opening up extended claims on Tunnel Terrace, where the ground is from 40 to 73 feet deep, and much resembles the Kumara workings in character, but I believe not in value, per cubic yard. The extension of Branch B race will command all this terrace, which will very soon be the chief mining centre in this district, and will give employment to a good number of miners for many years. The sales of water for the incoming year promise to be equal to the past year.

Kumara Race.—There are now only a few claims working remuneratively in the old style—viz., by windlass or whip, which are here termed “feeder claims.” Much of the ground which has been worked in this way has lately been taken up in extended claims, with a view of sluicing into the sludge channel, and many of the feeder claims at a considerable distance from the line of channel have quite lately been abandoned in consequence of the new discoveries near Woodstock, where all who are doing very little here are moving in the hope of getting a golden claim; even the Government race-maintenance men, who have been in this employment for years, have gone to the new rush. This rush will slightly reduce the sales of water for a time, but I do not anticipate a serious loss.

Kumara Sludge Channel.—This is, I believe, the most important work of its kind in New Zealand, and calculated to be the salvation of this gold field. It will enable the miners to sluice away a very