

lies on the bottom and raises the river-bed. The following table will show the result of working the channel during the past year :—

Month.	Channel-fees.	Value of Gold-dust obtained from the Channel.	Amount of Cash received for Channel-fees.	Expenditure.	Amount of outstanding Moneys at End of each Month.	Number of Men using the Channel.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1886.						
April .. ..	173 12 3	.. ..	310 18 11	484 8 7	96 6 10	149
May .. ..	5 3 9	.. ..	120 3 2	559 0 8	64 14 1	163
June .. ..	168 4 6	.. ..	277 10 9	540 9 1	5 11 3	132
July .. ..	138 6 10	.. ..	141 4 8	622 8 0	6 0 4	156
August .. ..	119 15 2	153 16 0	267 5 7	998 19 2	12 4 6	105
September .. ..	123 6 3	139 13 0	269 14 11	540 7 4	6 1 6	116
October .. ..	95 12 6	177 14 0	107 5 11	387 2 4	3 5 0	83
November .. ..	110 1 4	145 11 0	93 8 4	469 6 9	3 5 0	95
December .. ..	84 19 7	93 19 0	109 18 0	289 8 9	8 13 9	95
1887.						
January .. ..	57 8 9	79 1 0	27 13 8	317 10 7	14 12 6	91
February .. ..	115 11 3	84 16 0	89 14 2	288 4 0	10 13 4	91
March .. ..	112 1 6	83 9 0	80 17 2	460 6 2	10 5 0	91
Totals .. ..	1,304 3 8	957 19 0	1,895 15 3	5,957 11 5	..	114 average.

The value of channel-fees for the year has been £1,304 3s. 8d., against £2,219 18s. 7d. for the previous year; and the amount of cash actually received for fees, including the payment of arrears which were standing on the 31st March, 1886, was £1,895 15s. 3d. In dealing with the receipts from the channel it is only fair to treat the value of channel-fees for the year—viz., £1,304 3s. 8d.; to which must be added £957 19s. which was obtained for gold got in the channel; thus making the total revenue £2,262 2s. 8d., or £42 4s. 1d. more than the previous year. The expenditure on maintenance has been £5,957 11s. 5d., against £6,215 13s. for the previous year. The expenditure has to a certain extent been lightened by the number of persons who left the channel to sluice into the new one; and the revenue has been greatly increased, although there are not so many using it, by the amount of gold that has been obtained. Previous to this year the expenditure on maintenance was nearly £3 for £1 obtained as fees; but this year, taking the amount of gold into account, it cost about £2 14s. for every £1 of fees and value of gold. The amount of outstanding moneys on the 31st March, 1886, was £149 0s. 9d., and on the 31st March last this was reduced to £10 5s.

The average number of men using the channel last year was 114, against 161 during the previous year. The value of free use of channel given to the miners during the past year was £261 12s. 6d., against £12 12s. 8d. the previous year. The total cost of this channel to date has been £17,200 12s. 6d.

#### WAIMEA-KUMARA WATER-RACE AND SLUDGE-CHANNEL.

Although the whole of the different works have been dealt with separately, they have to be taken conjointly to get at the advantages accruing from their construction, as they are all one work and under one management. The following table will show the results of the working of this water-race and sludge-channel conjointly :—

Month.	Sales of Water and Channel-fees.	Cash received for Sales of Water and Use of Channel.	Expenditure on Maintenance.	Arrears of Sales of Water and Channel-fees at the End of each Month.	Number of Men employed.	Approximate Amount of Gold obtained.	Value of Gold.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.
1886.							
April .. ..	1,105 16 3	2,093 14 7	710 3 10	1,438 0 2	335	1,602	6,087 12 0
May .. ..	122 16 5	703 2 9	845 6 1	1,094 12 6	323	1,320	5,016 0 0
June .. ..	836 7 0	1,385 16 1	740 13 8	607 11 4	320	1,465	5,567 0 0
July .. ..	608 0 1	917 4 3	769 7 6	563 12 5	320	1,604	6,095 4 0
August .. ..	877 11 4	1,034 9 0	1,223 15 11	582 2 9	299	1,502	5,709 8 0
September .. ..	930 17 1	1,446 0 5	729 5 2	488 18 0	314	1,529	5,809 5 0
October .. ..	893 9 11	1,155 0 0	599 11 2	462 2 0	312	1,569	5,965 2 0
November .. ..	947 17 10	949 14 9	740 19 5	494 6 1	312	1,462	5,556 15 0
December .. ..	770 9 6	1,184 6 1	526 18 9	430 1 10	317	1,020	3,874 19 0
1887.							
January .. ..	430 9 8	596 1 0	534 9 1	191 11 10	319	872	3,324 5 0
February .. ..	904 17 0	683 9 2	437 6 4	261 14 8	311	1,402	5,328 16 0
March .. ..	1,022 5 3	854 6 3	615 3 4	334 3 1	315	1,562	5,935 9 0
Totals .. ..	9,450 17 4	13,008 4 4	8,473 0 3	..	..	16,912	64,269 15 0

The total value of the sales of water and channel-fees for the past year was £9,450 17s. 4d., while the previous year they amounted to £13,799 11s. 3d.; thus showing a decrease of £3,348 13s. 11d., which is due principally to the cause already mentioned when dealing with the Kumara branch supply—namely, the reduction in the price of water, and a month's free water being given to the claim-holders to establish the system of payment in advance. The total expenditure on maintenance for the year has been £8,473 0s. 3d., while that of the previous year was £8,802 10s. 6d.; thus showing a decrease in the expenditure for last year of £329 10s. 3d. The arrears for sales of water and channel-fees on 31st March, 1886, were £2,623 5s. 7d., and on the same date this year they amounted to £334 3s. 1d. This shows that £2,289 2s. 6d. of outstanding moneys has been