

getting a long way out, but the flood which took place in October last carried away a large quantity of tailings, and gives a deal more room. At one place the river came back 250ft. on the tailings-heaps, and carried them away. The channel of the river has altered considerably, and is now much nearer the terrace on the Kumara side than it has been for years past. The river-bed below the bridge is such a great width that it will take a considerable time to raise it much.

The workings are getting gradually nearer the Kapitea Hill, which necessitates some of the tail-races being carried on a very low gradient, in order to be able to sluice into the present tailings channels. The miners have, however, arranged to construct a new channel, to come out in the face of the terrace lower down the river than any of the others, which will relieve the middle channel to a great extent, and make better provision for the deposit of tailings. There is no gainsaying the fact that the richest portion of the ground is getting gradually washed away. Still there is yet a large field to work, which will give employment to a mining population for many years to come.

The following statement shows the sales of water, cost of maintenance, and the approximate quantity of gold obtained by the miners using water from this supply for the year ending the 31st March last:—

Month.	Sales of Water.	Cash received for Sales of Water.	Expenditure.	Outstanding Moneys at the end of each Month.	Number of Men employed.	Approximate Quantity of Gold obtained.	Value of Gold.
1892.							
April	£ s. d. 495 17 1	£ s. d. 458 16 9	£ s. d. 134 2 5	£ s. d. 98 12 4	149	Oz. 744	£ s. d. 2,901 12 0
May	505 12 11	529 14 7	153 18 10	102 3 9	149	758	2,956 4 0
June	493 5 10	518 19 1	146 15 4	95 6 0	146	741	2,889 18 0
July	495 13 6	500 17 1	109 15 4	76 5 9	151	745	2,905 10 0
August	602 2 8	675 10 9	145 4 0	84 8 11	156	900	3,510 0 0
September	635 1 3	505 5 0	134 10 1	83 17 11	150	950	3,705 0 0
October	571 1 8	720 17 6	152 3 6	59 3 9	157	850	3,315 0 0
November	458 7 1	297 2 6	137 12 4	123 11 0	155	680	2,652 0 0
December	382 2 1	517 2 2	171 7 6	61 9 3	156	570	2,223 0 0
1893.							
January	390 19 2	212 7 6	177 13 8	107 0 8	141	580	2,262 0 0
February	450 7 6	500 8 9	160 2 11	150 14 0	128	670	2,613 0 0
March	308 10 0	315 4 2	159 5 1	139 3 5	123	460	1,794 0 0
Total	5,789 0 9	5,752 5 10	1,782 11 0	..	147	8,648	33,724 4 0

The above statement shows the sales of water for last year to be £5,789 0s. 9d., as against £6,645 11s. for the former year; and the expenditure on maintenance £1,782 11s., as against £1,584 10s. 11d. for the year previous, showing that the value of the sales of water last year has diminished to the extent of £856 10s. 3d., while the expenditure on maintenance has increased £198 0s. 1d. The profits on the working last year amount to £4,006 9s. 9d., as against £5,474 3s. 5d. for the year previous. The value of free water given to parties as assistance and to open up new claims was £834 3s. 4d., and the approximate quantity of gold obtained by those who were using water from the race was 8,648oz., representing a value of £33,724 4s. Deducting the value of the sales of water from the value of the gold obtained, it leaves £27,935 3s. 3d. as the earnings of 147 miners for the year, being £190 0s. 8d. a man per annum, or £3 13s. 1d. per week, which is only 3d. a man per week less than the earnings for the previous year. The profits on the working last year is about 10 per cent. on the cost of construction, which now amounts to £40,425 11s. 11d.

The following summary shows the result of working this water-race for the last ten years. During that period the value of the sales of water amounted to £70,847 0s. 3d., while the value of water for that period given towards assistance in opening-out claims, for constructing deviations, and towards the construction of No. 3 Channel, or tail-race, amounted to £11,724 5s. 4d.; making the total value of the sales of water and free water given for assistance, &c., £82,571 5s. 7d.; while the total expenditure in connection with the maintenance has been £15,227 16s. 11d.:—