

Branch Race to Callaghan's and Middle Branch of Waimea Creek.

The cash received for sales of water from this race for the year ending the 31st March, 1906, was £722 5s. 2d., and the expenditure for the same period on gauging, maintenance, and repairs was £561 10s. 5d., showing a credit balance of £160 14s. 9d. on the transactions for the year.

The average number of miners supplied with water for sluicing purposes from this race during the year was 14.5, a decrease of 2.08 as compared with last year, and the approximate quantity of gold obtained by them was 1,751 oz., having a value of £6,828 18s. The total sales of water for the year from this race amounted to £695 2s. 3d., an increase of £9 17s. 8d. on the preceding year, and the cash received for sales of water showed an increase of £203 3s. 10d. Taking into consideration that the water was reduced to half-price on the 1st May, 1905, these figures are highly satisfactory, and show a substantial improvement for the year. The increase of £9 17s. 8d. really represents an increase of £667 0s. 6d. in the quantity of water supplied as compared with the previous year.

The approximate quantity of gold obtained by the miners was 43 oz. greater than during the previous year, representing an increase in value of £167 14s.

The expenditure on gauging, maintenance, and repairs during the year was £34 14s. 3d. greater than the previous year. This increased expenditure was caused by two breaks that occurred in the flush race leading to the Waimea Main Tail-race during wet weather, and the construction of two by-washes to minimise the possibility of a like occurrence in the future.

For the first four months of the year five parties were sluicing into the Waimea Main Tail-race, but a new claim was opened out in August and six parties were sluicing into it during the last eight months of the year, and the Main Tail-race worked most satisfactorily.

Raby and party have extended the Main Tail-race a further distance of 200 ft. during the year, and when they have driven another 100 ft. they intend to open out their claim and start sluicing.

In Callaghan's Flat, Honey and party have been sluicing on a fairly big scale during the year with satisfactory results, and they are prepared to take double the quantity of water that can at present be supplied to them. Manzoni and party have also applied for additional water. This speaks well for the locality, and as there is a large extent of unworked ground commanded by the water from this race I do not anticipate any falling-off in the revenue for some time to come.

Flushing-water was supplied to the Waimea Main Tail-race during the year, and authorised free water to the value of £18 15s. was supplied to Betty and party for opening out their claim.

The following tabulated statement shows the sales of water, cash received, and the cost of maintenance of the Callaghan's and Middle Branch Race for the year ending the 31st March, 1906, and also the approximate quantity of gold obtained by parties using water from the race :—

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 obtained.
1905.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.
April	37 19 5	79 8 6	48 0 9	318 6 2	14	95	370 10 0
May	33 16 0	30 7 6	42 18 5	322 2 2	14	85	331 10 0
June	63 8 1	83 19 4	72 19 10	310 3 5	14	157	612 6 0
July	69 7 1	63 2 2	38 4 0	313 9 7	14	175	682 10 0
August	74 6 8	76 11 4	45 7 7	310 3 8	14	185	721 10 0
September	58 2 1	73 4 8	45 8 11	292 13 7	17	145	565 10 0
October	59 10 0	53 0 6	46 5 11	207 3 10	17	147	573 6 0
November	75 18 9	56 6 5	36 15 0	232 16 2	14	190	741 0 0
December	54 7 1	46 0 0	39 1 3	242 2 0	14	135	526 10 0
1906.							
January	44 9 2	60 15 0	51 16 3	217 14 11	11	130	507 0 0
February	60 7 11	34 11 0	46 10 0	245 0 7	14	150	585 0 0
March	63 10 0	64 18 9	48 2 6	248 10 7	17	157	612 6 0
Totals	695 2 3	722 5 2	561 10 5	..	14.5 (average)	1,751	6,828 18 0

KUMARA RACE.

The cash received for sales of water from this race for the year ending the 31st March, 1906, was £451 10s. 4d., and the expenditure for the same period on gauging, maintenance and repairs was £877 18s. 4d., showing a debit balance of £426 8s. on the transactions for the year; but £246 12s. 5d. of this amount was lost during the first three months of the financial year.

The average number of miners supplied with water from this race during the year was 16.66, a decrease of 3.09 as compared with the previous year, and the approximate quantity of gold obtained by them was 878 oz., of the value of £3,424 4s.

The total sales of water for the year amounted to £438 2s. 2d., a decrease of £374 6s. 11d. on the preceding year, and the cash received for sales of water shows a decrease of £201 19s. 8d. This falling-off is entirely due to the reduction in the price of water which took place on the 1st May, 1905. Had the price prevailing last year been maintained the sales of water would have amounted to £858 17s. 3d., an increase of £46 8s. 2d. on the previous year.

The approximate quantity of gold obtained by the miners was 750 oz. less than during the previous year, representing a decrease in value of £2,925. The expenditure on gauging, maintenance, and repairs