

the principal alluvial workings of Otago, and is being introduced on the West Coast, and ground is now being worked, yielding from £1,000 to £3,000 an acre, which, for want of fall, would otherwise have had to be left untouched.

YIELD OF GOLD.

The statement to follow shows the export of gold for the year ending the 31st March, 1884, to be of a value of £35,421 less than for the previous year, ending on the 31st March, 1883. The value of the gold exported from New Zealand has kept off and on about a million sterling for many years, and it is not likely to vary much for some time, as the alluvial workings, which contribute nearly two-thirds of the amount, are regulated in a considerable measure by the water-supply, which is a pretty constant quantity; and the quartz-mining, although increasing, does so very gradually. The total value of gold exported from New Zealand up to the 31st March, 1884, was £40,707,074. Of the gold exported for the twelve months before the 31st March, 1884, the West Coast and Nelson contributed 49 per cent.; Otago, 35 per cent.; and Auckland, 16 per cent.: or very nearly one-half, one-third, and one-sixth respectively of the total yield.

YIELD of GOLD during Year ending 31st March, 1883, and 31st March, 1884.

—	Quantity.	Value.	—	Quantity.	Value.
1882.	Oz.	£	1883.	Oz.	£
June quarter ...	40,944	164,253	June quarter ...	52,401	210,205
September quarter ...	74,776	298,445	September quarter ...	59,113	236,422
December quarter ...	62,175	248,060	December quarter ...	65,893	262,928
1883.			1884.		
March quarter ...	70,967	283,797	March quarter ...	62,281	249,579
	248,862	994,555		239,688	959,134

MINING POPULATION AND ITS EARNINGS.

The return of miners (Table No. 9) gives a total of 12,206 employed on the gold fields on the 31st March, 1884. The number returned for the previous twelve months was 14,523. The average number for the year may therefore be stated at 13,364. Taking the value of gold exported at £959,134, the average earnings per man will be £71 16s., an increase of £2 6s. on the earnings per man of last year.

QUARTZ WORKINGS.

TABLE showing the Comparison of the YIELD of QUARTZ WORKINGS in the Years ending 31st March, 1883, and 31st March, 1884.

Name of District.				1882-83.		1883-84.	
				Quartz crushed.	Gold.	Quartz crushed.	Gold.
				Tons.	Oz.	Tons.	Oz.
Coromandel ...	...	...	...	2,907	7,577	1,042	4,018
Thames ...	...	...	...	25,867	43,311	36,228	54,865
Te Aroha ...	...	...	...	...	...	4,316	4,547
Reefton ...	...	...	...	18,928	19,194	23,433	16,547
Lyell ...	...	...	...	7,277	3,949	2,980	1,455
Arrow and Queenstown ...	...	...	...	6,503	4,996	5,500	4,623
Cromwell ...	...	...	...	2,900	2,400	848	850
Lawrence—				64,382	81,427	74,347	86,905
Quartz ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	700
Cement ...	...	...	...	...	6,371	...	6,150
				64,382	87,798	74,347	93,755
Increase 1883-84 ...	...	...	...	...	...	9,965	5,957