

Financial Years.	Subsidies towards the Erection of Schools of Mines, and Maintenance.	Chemicals and Apparatus, also Mineralogical Specimens supplied to Schools of Mines.	Scholarships.	Salaries of Teachers, and Travelling-expenses, &c.	Total Sums paid by the Department towards the Schools of Mines.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1885-86 ...	...	36 19 9	...	1,223 9 10	1,260 9 7
1886-87 ...	257 16 6	409 1 4	...	2,716 9 3	3,383 7 1
1887-88 ...	253 15 9	253 14 1	...	1,714 9 6	2,221 19 4
1888-89 ...	42 10 0	6 12 9	...	1,139 4 1	1,188 6 10
1889-90 ...	142 2 0	181 14 10	...	716 3 10	1,040 0 8
1890-91 ...	217 6 6	54 8 0	...	620 9 9	892 4 3
1891-92 ...	181 14 0	...	...	689 5 9	870 19 9
1892-93 ...	312 3 4	...	...	670 1 0	982 4 4
1893-94 ...	197 0 5	...	...	858 19 4	1,055 19 9
1894-95 ...	390 0 0	45 10 10	...	773 17 8	1,209 8 6
1895-96 ...	820 0 0	...	50	849 3 0	1,719 3 0
1896-97 ...	352 14 11	58 18 6	100	834 12 8	1,346 6 1
1897-98 ...	1,089 18 6	29 19 9	100	780 19 0	2,000 17 3
Totals ...	4,257 1 11	1,076 19 10	250	13,587 4 8	19,171 6 5

The above statement shows the amount expended on the different Schools of Mines throughout the colony ; but, in addition to this, the sum of £6,750 has to be added, as that has been paid to the School of Mines attached to the University of Otago, £500 being paid last year towards maintaining the school, which makes the total expenditure up to the 31st March last to be £25,721 6s. 5d. This expenditure has extended over a period of thirteen years.

WATER-RACES.

WAIMEA WATER-RACE.

This race is now in good order, and water is supplied to this district and Callaghan's, but, as the Waimea channel is now completed, the connection with the middle branch claims is now being carried on. At Kelly's Terrace the drainage-tunnel is now 2,602 ft. in length, but, as the total length before this work can be utilised is 6,600 ft., it will be some time hence before the water-race can be used.

The following statement will show the receipts and cost of maintenance of the Waimea Race for the year ended 31st March last, together with the approximate quantity of gold obtained by those using water for working claims from that supply :—

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.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.
1897.							
April	59 1 3	77 15 3	48 11 8	10 17 3	61	185	721 10 0
May	84 2 6	82 12 9	60 4 2	10 17 3	50	240	936 0 0
June	68 10 10	59 19 0	46 14 2	10 16 0	54	205	799 10 0
July	71 11 3	82 8 6	57 8 2	10 16 0	52	220	858 0 0
August	73 14 7	70 17 6	49 4 2	10 16 0	51	222	865 16 0
September ..	78 3 7	67 5 0	54 19 2	10 16 0	72	234	912 12 0
October	61 9 7	55 7 9	55 19 2	10 16 1	45	198	772 4 0
November ..	83 17 6	75 12 6	54 4 2	11 7 8	46	252	982 16 0
December.. ..	56 8 9	37 18 6	64 4 2	12 7 7	45	175	682 10 0
1898.							
January	34 1 3	50 16 3	71 19 2	12 4 3	40	115	448 10 0
February	55 12 6	60 17 0	48 4 2	11 19 3	37	173	674 14 0
March	61 5 0	48 7 6	65 9 2	11 19 3	41	190	741 0 0
Totals	787 18 7	769 17 6	677 1 6	..	49.5 (average)	2,409	9,395 2 0

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that the value of the sales of water for the year amounted to £787 18s. 7d., as against £776 19s. 5d. for the previous year, while the cost of maintenance amounted to £677 1s. 6d., as against £669 6s. 3d. for the former year ; thus showing an increase in the cost of maintenance of £7 15s. 3d., and also an increase in the value of the sales of water of £10 19s. 2d. from the previous year.

The average number of men employed in claims worked with water from this supply last year was 49.5, and the approximate quantity of gold obtained by them was 2,409 oz., representing a value of £9,395 2s. Deducting the value of the sales of water from the value of the gold obtained, it leaves the average earnings of the men to be £173 17s. 11d. per man per annum, or £3 6s. 10d.