

per man per week. This cannot be taken as their net earnings, as the cost of pipes, tools, and timber required in working the claims has also to be taken into consideration. The value of free water given to open up claims and for working poor ground during the year was £100. This free water, however, is necessary, as the ground is becoming more expensive to work every year. The total cost of this water-race and branches up to the end of March last was £136,988 8s. 8d.

#### CALLAGHAN'S BRANCH WATER-RACE.

This race, since its completion, has been a great boon to the miners in this district, and has enabled them to work claims hitherto unprofitably worked through want of a proper supply of water. The following statement shows the receipts and cost of maintenance of this race, and also the quantity and value of gold obtained by those using the water :—

| 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. |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1897.           | £ s. d.         | £ s. d.                           | £ s. d.      |                                              |                         | Oz.                                    | £ s. d.                 |
| April .. ..     | 11 0 0          | 11 0 0                            | 11 10 0      | ..                                           | 5                       | 20                                     | 78 0 0                  |
| May .. ..       | 11 15 0         | 11 15 0                           | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | 5                       | 21                                     | 81 18 0                 |
| June .. ..      | 22 0 0          | 22 0 0                            | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | 6                       | 45                                     | 175 10 0                |
| July .. ..      | .. ..           | .. ..                             | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | ..                      | ..                                     | .. ..                   |
| August .. ..    | 6 5 0           | 6 5 0                             | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | 6                       | 20                                     | 78 0 0                  |
| September .. .. | 36 15 0         | 36 15 0                           | 10 10 0      | ..                                           | 6                       | 43                                     | 167 14 0                |
| October .. ..   | .. ..           | .. ..                             | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | ..                      | ..                                     | .. ..                   |
| November .. ..  | 13 15 0         | 13 15 0                           | 11 10 0      | ..                                           | 10                      | 42                                     | 163 16 0                |
| December .. ..  | .. ..           | .. ..                             | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | ..                      | ..                                     | .. ..                   |
| 1898.           |                 |                                   |              |                                              |                         |                                        |                         |
| January .. ..   | 28 10 0         | 28 10 0                           | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | 10                      | 49                                     | 191 2 0                 |
| February .. ..  | .. ..           | .. ..                             | 10 0 0       | ..                                           | ..                      | ..                                     | .. ..                   |
| March .. ..     | 42 0 0          | 42 0 0                            | 11 15 0      | ..                                           | 11                      | 75                                     | 292 10 0                |
| Totals .. ..    | 172 0 0         | 172 0 0                           | 125 5 0      | ..                                           | 7·37<br>(average)       | 315                                    | 1,228 10 0              |

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that the value of the sales of water for the year amounted to £172, and that the cost of maintenance was £125 5s. The average number of men employed was 7·37, and the gold obtained by them 315 oz., of the value of £1,228 10s. Deducting the value of the sales of water from the value of the gold will show the average earnings to have been £143 4s. 7d. per man for the year, or £2 15s. per week.

The total cost of this race up to the 31st March last was £6,027 15s. 6d.

#### KUMARA WATER-RACE.

This race still continues to supply water to a number of men, notwithstanding the area of rich ground is getting less every year. The known area of gold-bearing terraces that can only be worked with increased water-supply must be dealt with on a large scale, and, until a much greater supply of water is available, returns cannot be expected to continue in such a satisfactory manner as hitherto.

The Loop-line Dam is now raised, and capable of storing a considerable additional quantity of water. The No. 5 main tail-race is not yet completed, the difficulties met with in having wet and running ground to contend with has caused such lengthy delay in furthering the work. The amount paid in subsidising this work up to date has been £3,316 6s. 5d.

The amount expended on the race was—Loop-line Dam, £493 14s. 2d.; moving siphons, £208 12s. 6d.

The following statement shows the revenue derived from sales of water, and also the cost of maintenance, for the year ended 31st March, 1897 :—

| 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. |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1897.           | £ s. d.         | £ s. d.                           | £ s. d.      | £ s. d.                                      |                         | Oz.                                    | £ s. d.                 |
| April .. ..     | 243 11 2        | 314 1 6                           | 183 5 4      | 157 15 9                                     | 77                      | 405                                    | 1,579 10 0              |
| May .. ..       | 240 5 1         | 277 14 0                          | 134 4 3      | 134 4 6                                      | 73                      | 390                                    | 1,521 0 0               |
| June .. ..      | 204 19 1        | 155 1 2                           | 167 17 10    | 171 14 3                                     | 66                      | 265                                    | 1,033 10 0              |
| July .. ..      | 210 11 1        | 150 0 0                           | 152 2 7      | 219 3 6                                      | 62                      | 345                                    | 1,345 10 0              |
| August .. ..    | 266 15 6        | 215 12 6                          | 160 11 6     | 240 5 1                                      | 71                      | 445                                    | 1,735 10 0              |
| September .. .. | 147 4 8         | 246 10 0                          | 138 8 2      | 153 10 8                                     | 70                      | 245                                    | 955 10 0                |
| October .. ..   | 296 9 10        | 318 18 4                          | 175 14 1     | 138 0 3                                      | 76                      | 505                                    | 1,969 10 0              |
| November .. ..  | 213 1 9         | 377 5 6                           | 175 8 6      | 112 16 8                                     | 76                      | 374                                    | 1,458 12 0              |
| December .. ..  | 255 19 11       | 66 0 0                            | 133 9 7      | 154 3 7                                      | 76                      | 470                                    | 1,833 0 0               |
| 1898.           |                 |                                   |              |                                              |                         |                                        |                         |
| January .. ..   | 208 16 2        | 190 0 10                          | 128 19 7     | 171 1 9                                      | 74                      | 375                                    | 1,462 10 0              |
| February .. ..  | 415 13 9        | 199 0 0                           | 139 7 10     | 389 11 1                                     | 70                      | 556                                    | 2,168 8 0               |
| March .. ..     | 185 15 3        | 252 0 0                           | 151 10 9     | 321 14 3                                     | 71                      | 345                                    | 1,345 10 0              |
| Totals .. ..    | 2,889 3 3       | 2,762 3 10                        | 1,841 0 0    | ..                                           | 71·83<br>(average)      | 4,720                                  | 18,408 0 0              |