

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that the value of the sales of water for the year amounted to £3,598 3s., while the expenditure for maintenance for the same period was £3,179 14s. 7d. For the previous year the value of the sales of water was £3,849 1s. 10d., and the expenditure £2,646 6s. 6d. This shows that there was a decrease in the revenue last year to the extent of £250 18s. 10d., while the cost of maintenance has increased to the extent of £533 8s. 1d.

The total value of free water given to the miners to open up new ground and construct new tail-races, and also for working claims which did not prove payable, amounted for the past year to £448 2s. 5d. The number of men employed in claims worked with water from these supplies was 120·08. Deducting the value of the sales of water from the approximate value of the gold obtained from claims worked with water from these supplies, which amounted to 7,284 oz., representing a value of £28,407 12s., it leaves £24,809 9s. as the average earnings of the miners, which is equal to about £206 14s. 10d. per man per annum.

The total cost of the whole of these works, including the cost of acquiring Wylde's Water-race —£790 9s. 4d.—up to the 31st March last was £189,203 4s. 1d.

The following statement will show the receipts and expenditure for the last fourteen years ending the end of March last of the Waimea and Kumara Water-races.

Waimea Race.				Kumara Race.			
Year.	Sales of Water.	Expenditure on Maintenance.	Net Profit.	Sales of Water.	Expenditure on Maintenance.	Net Profit.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1886	1,790 16 0	1,131 18 1	+ 658 17 11	9,788 16 8	1,459 19 5	8,328 17 3	
1887	1,675 19 4	1,116 10 0	+ 559 9 4	6,470 14 4	1,398 18 10	5,071 15 6	
1888	1,612 11 3	1,027 17 11	+ 584 13 4	7,169 10 3	982 12 0	6,186 18 3	
1889	1,416 6 8	860 2 5	+ 556 4 3	6,716 6 10	1,024 1 9	5,692 5 1	
1890	1,240 9 7	795 7 7	+ 445 2 0	3,550 4 8	1,424 13 3	2,125 11 5	
1891	1,388 17 5	933 3 3	+ 455 14 2	6,665 12 8	1,766 4 3	4,899 8 5	
1892	1,121 16 2	784 13 10	+ 337 2 4	6,645 11 0	1,584 10 11	5,061 0 1	
1893	1,015 12 3	858 0 4	+ 157 11 11	5,789 0 9	1,782 11 0	4,006 9 9	
1894	828 15 8	919 9 4	— 90 13 8	5,582 4 7	1,919 8 5	3,662 16 2	
1895	988 0 7	1,061 9 4	— 73 8 9	4,646 19 9	1,976 17 7	2,670 2 2	
1896	795 13 6	770 3 8	+ 25 9 10	4,106 11 3	1,943 8 7	2,163 2 8	
1897	776 19 5	669 6 3	+ 107 13 2	3,502 17 0	1,786 15 9	1,716 1 3	
1898	787 18 7	677 1 6	+ 110 17 1	2,889 3 3	1,841 0 0	1,048 3 3	
1899	886 8 7	1,005 10 8	— 119 2 1	2,711 14 5	2,174 3 11	537 10 6	
Totals	16,326 5 0	12,610 14 2	3,715 10 10	76,235 7 5	23,065 5 8	53,170 1 9	

This table shows that there has been a net profit derived from the working of the Waimea Race of £3,715 10s. 10d., and £53,170 1s. 9d. from the Kumara Race, for the above period.

MOUNT IDA WATER-RACE.

This race continues to furnish a supply of water for sluicing and elevating claims in the Naseby district. On account of the altitude, the local sources from which water for mining purposes is derived are not very extensive, nor capable of contributing sufficient water for the field; but with the continuous supply from the Mount Ida race in addition, a considerable population is maintained. A flow of fifteen sluice-heads was continuous during the year. This is to be attributed to the favourable season, the rainfall having been of such an extent and duration that the whole of Central Otago was benefited.

The Mount Ida Race being of great length, careful supervision is necessary, and much clearing and repairing required, as the ditch runs along sidelings, and has been cut through material subject to slips, that have to be removed in order to keep the race open.

The following statement will show the revenue derived from sales of water, the cost of maintenance, and the approximate quantity and value of gold obtained by the miners using water from this race for the year ending 31st March last:—

Date.	Sales of Water.	Cash received.	Maintenance.	Number of Men employed.	Approximate Quantity of Gold obtained.	Value.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.
1898.						
April	58 12 5	58 12 5	85 0 8	55	152	
May	78 10 7	85 14 6	84 10 8	53	160	
June	62 17 9	65 8 1	84 10 8	44	135	
July	92 13 1	92 13 1	83 16 8	38	142	
August	132 11 8	137 0 0	166 2 8	50	219	
September	12 6 3	14 2 3	138 11 8	18	10	
October	188 18 0	198 10 0	94 1 8	55	323	
November	213 0 7	223 0 7	88 4 8	67	340	
December	132 11 8	137 0 8	122 15 8	57	445	
1899.						
January	158 10 10	158 10 10	98 14 8	55	410	
February	155 5 3	158 5 3	94 16 8	51	269	
March	210 10 11	212 10 11	90 7 8	50	290	
Totals	1,496 9 0	1,541 8 7	1,231 14 0	49·42 (average)	2,895	11,145 5 0