

start crushing. From all present appearances there is reasonable hope of the gold return for the current year exceeding that of last year by a fair amount. A large number of claims for dredging purposes have been granted during the year; indeed, nearly all the available ground has been taken up, but necessarily a very long time must elapse before any work can be done.

I am indebted to the managers and directors of the companies mentioned in this report for furnishing me with the material enabling me to compile it, and I desire to thank them for the assistance so readily given.

RETURN of PROSPECTING LICENSES and SPECIAL CLAIMS Granted by the WARDEN at REEFTON,
for the Year ended 31st March, 1900.

PROSPECTING LICENSES (DREDGING).

Date of Grant.	Licensee.	Name of River or Creek.	Area.	Locality.
1899.			Acres.	
July 1	Malloy, T. J.	Inangahua	100	Black's Point.
Aug. 1	Hankin, H. G.	"	100	Near Landing Creek.
" 1	Uddstrom, Charles	Little Grey	70	Near Antonio's Creek.
" 1	Kerr, James	"	70	Near Stoney Creek.
Sept. 29	Doig, Alexander	Blackwater	20	Near Big River Junction.
Oct. 13	Stevenson, James	Inangahua	100	Near Boatman's Creek.
" 13	Naylor, Frederick	"	75	Near Inangahua Junction.
" 13	Butson, Thomas	"	70	South of and adjoining Stevenson's.
" 13	Aitken, R. M. . . .	Coal Creek	40	A mile and a half from junction with Inangahua.
" 27	Pattinson, Timothy	Slab Hut	60	Near Tawhai.
" 27	Furness, Samuel	Antonio's	50	Near Township.
" 27	Cumming, Thomas M. . .	Big River	50	Near Cariboo.
Nov. 10	Rogers, Francis	Boatman's Creek	48	
" 10	Notman, Alexander	Inangahua River	100	North and adjoining Stevenson's.
" 24	McLarry, Patrick (freehold) ..	"	98	Cronadun.
" 24	Magnus, John	Inangahua	80	Near Reefton Bridge.
Dec. 8	Shannon, John	Devil's Creek	88	Near Golden Point.
" 22	Irving, Walter	Adamstown Creek	80	
1900.				
Jan. 12	Cairns, Robert	Devil's Creek	36	Near Golden Point.
" 12	Boatman's Creek Sluicing Company	Boatman's Creek	30	
Mch. 9	Gill, John	Snowy Creek	100	Three miles up from Grey Road.
" 9	Taylor, Joseph	Big River	68	
" 9	Gill, John	Mossey Creek	30	
" 9	Gill, John	Snowy Creek	60	Near Taylor's Clearing.

SPECIAL CLAIMS.

Date of Grant.	Name of Licensee.	Name of Claim.	Area.	Where situated.
<i>Quartz.</i>				
1899.			A. R. P.	
Feb. 24*	G. J. Willis	Western Keep-it-Dark	30 0 0	Crushington.
Mar. 10†	G. Perotti	"	85 3 24	Golden Point.
" 10‡	Boatman's Exploration Gold-mining Co.	"	30 0 0	Victoria Range.
" 10‡	Ditto	"	29 2 30	"
" 10‡	"	"	29 3 30	"
" 10‡	"	"	5 3 10	"
" 10‡	"	"	30 0 0	"
" 10	Lord Edward Gold-mining Co. ..	"	16 2 6	Big River.
" 10	Big River Gold-mining Co. ..	"	37 3 0	"
" 10	Golden Lead Mining Co. ..	"	73 0 19	Merrijigs.
" 10	Hercules Quartz-mining Co. (Ltd.) ..	"	16 1 37	Crushington.
" 10§	R. Dumphy	"	62 3 15	Big River.
" 24	J. Morris	"	30 0 0	Merrijigs.
" 24	Hercules Quartz-mining Co. ..	"	16 2 0	Crushington.
" 24	Cumberland Extended Co. ..	"	10 0 0	Merrijigs.
" 24	"	"	28 3 0	"
" 24	"	"	29 3 36	"
" 24	"	"	57 2 9	"
April 7	Consolidated Goldfields, N.Z. ..	Cadman	100 0 0	Boatman's.
" 7	"	Blake	100 0 0	"
" 7	"	Salisbury	100 0 0	Black's Point.
" 7	"	Juno	49 2 0	Murray Creek.
" 7	"	Golden Fleece	95 0 0	"
" 7	"	Royal	99 2 0	"
" 7	"	Low-level Tunnel	100 0 0	Black's Point.
" 7	Kirwan's Reward Co. ..	Earl Brassey	29 3 30	Victoria Range.
" 7	"	Kirwan's Reward	29 3 20	"
" 7	"	Lady Brassey	29 3 31	"
" 7	"	Lord Brassey	93 2 4	"

* Surrendered 26th January, 1900. † Revival. ‡ Surrendered 15th September, 1899. § Surrendered 22nd December, 1899.
|| Surrendered 29th September, 1899.