

STATEMENT showing REVENUE RECEIVED in NASEBY DISTRICT during the Year ending the 31st December, 1901.

	£	s.	d.
Miners' rights (190 at 10s., twenty-seven at 5s.; Consolidated—two at £1, one at £1 10s., one at £3, one at £4) ...	112	5	0
Water-race licenses (150 at 2s. 6d., eight at 5s.) ...	20	15	0
Registrations (five at 1s.) ...	0	5	0
Application fees ...	30	7	0
Rents and royalties ...	615	0	9
Warden's Court fees and fines ...	5	8	0
Miscellaneous receipts ...	55	16	9
Total ...	£839	17	6

STATEMENT showing REVENUE RECEIVED in BLACK'S SUB-DISTRICT during the Year ending the 31st December, 1901.

	£	s.	d.
Miners' rights (fifty-four at 10s., and seven at 5s.) ...	28	15	0
Water-race licenses (eight at 2s. 6d., and two at 5s.) ...	1	10	0
Registrations (at 1s.) ...	3	1	0
Application fees (thirty-six) ...	3	12	0
Rents and royalties ...	186	18	9
Warden's Court fees and fines ...	9	9	6
Miscellaneous receipts ...	1	7	0
Total ...	£234	13	3

Mr. Warden BURGESS to the UNDER-SECRETARY for MINES, Wellington.

SIR,—

Warden's Office, Queenstown, 25th March, 1902.

I have the honour to forward herewith the annual statistical returns, and to submit the following report on mining matters in the sub-districts under my supervision, for the year ended the 31st December, 1901.

QUEENSTOWN AND ARROW.

Dredging.

Dredging in this district has proved singularly unfortunate. There is not at the present time one dredge that is paying its way. The Dart Company's dredge on the Dart River, at the head of Lake Wakatipu, ceased operations towards the end of the year, and the company went into liquidation. The dredge proved unsuitable, and the company was subjected to many delays and inconveniences, so that in the end they were compelled to suspend operations before they had the opportunity of properly testing the ground. A new company has been formed to acquire the claim and dredge, and operations will shortly be resumed. The claim is certainly worthy of a good trial.

There are no dredges at present at work on the Shotover River. The Arthur's Point Company's dredge, after a very unsatisfactory career for several months, is now closed down permanently, and will probably be removed from the claim. Only a very small portion of the claim was dredged, and that proved almost worthless. The company, finding itself in financial difficulties, discontinued operations, leaving the nature of the other portion of the claim undetermined. It is not likely the claim will be again worked.

Further up the river the pontoons of the Moke Creek dredge are completed. The machinery is not yet erected, but it should not be long before this is done and the dredge at work. The river-banks and bottom are rocky, and this may interfere with the successful dredging of this claim; otherwise, from its position and the past known auriferous nature of the surrounding country, it should prove a payable investment.

The Maori Point Company has purchased the Tacon's Cardrona dredge, which has been carted over piecemeal from Cardrona Valley. The re-erection of the machinery is now going on at Deep Creek, and the dredge will soon be at work. At the Lower Shotover the Shotover Company's dredge, which has been lying idle for many months, has been taken to pieces, and is now being removed to Gore. On the Upper Kawarau the Galvanic, Eclipse, Kawarau Bridge, Arrow Junction, and Kia Ora dredges were completed and began operations during last year, but so far the results obtained have been unsatisfactory. The Arrow Junction dredge has had by far the best returns, but not sufficiently good to prevent the company from going into liquidation. The dredge and claim have been acquired by the United Morven Company, who are about to resume operations. The Merrimac and Metallic dredges have also been completed, but have not been working. The former has been sold to the Golden Molyneux Company for removal to its claim between Alexandra and Roxburgh. The Metallic Company, having built their dredge on the banks of the Kawarau River, outside their own claim, found it impossible, after many attempts, to get it over the natural obstacles in the river, and were obliged to abandon the undertaking. The dredge has been sold, and is now being removed to Island Block.

On the lower parts of the Kawarau, within this sub-district, matters remain in much the same condition as they were left at the time of my last report.