

No. 128.

SIR,—

Niue, 18th January, 1904.

I have the honour to forward to you herewith a return of exports from Niue for the quarter ended the 31st December, 1903, together with a statement showing the total exports for the year ending the 31st December, 1903.

You will observe that the total exports amount to £7,861 18s. 2d., or, excluding £210 reshipment, to £7,651 18s. 2d. This is an increase of £936 0s. 10d. over the exports for 1902. The export of copra has increased by 33 tons, being 446 tons, in round numbers, against 413 tons in 1902. A gratifying increase has also occurred in the quantity of hats exported—viz., 1,527 dozen—the figures being 4,293 dozen last year against 2,766 dozen the year before, representing an increased money-value of £1,130 13s. 9d. Fungus has decreased somewhat, but it is a product which depends greatly upon the rainfall, being more abundant in wet years.

I estimate that the copra crop for the current year will show an increase, although the price will be much lower. The greater demand and enhanced prices for hats will, however, more than compensate for any falling-off in copra. New markets appear to be opened up for Niue hats, and good prices are offered, which should stimulate production to an appreciable extent.

Generally speaking, I think we have every reason to be satisfied with the year's exports, and consider that a settled form of government has conducted very materially towards the prosperity of this island.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Government Agent, Niue.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister of Trade and Customs, Wellington.

Enclosures.

EXPORTS FROM NIUE FOR QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To New Zealand—				To Tonga—			
Hats, 639½ dozen	408	6	5	Copra, 35 tons 17 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. ..	358	19	1
Copra, 5 tons 18 cwt. and 24 lb. ..	47	5	9	Fungus, 1,862 lb.	26	5	6
Fungus, 1,540 lb.	19	5	0	Hats, 50 dozen	30	0	0
Curios, 2 cases	24	10	0				
	£499	7	2		£415	4	7
To Sydney—				To Rarotonga—			
Copra, 135 tons 13 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. ..	1,085	7	3	Hats, 318 dozen	336	14	0
Fungus, 2,036 lb.	21	3	4	Fungus, 367 lb.	3	16	6
Provisions	1	12	9				
	£1,108	3	4		£340	10	6

Summary.

	£	s.	d.
Copra, 177 tons 9 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. ..	1,491	12	1
Hats, 1,007½ dozen	775	0	5
Fungus, 5,805 lb.	70	10	4
Curios, 2 cases	24	10	0
Provisions	1	12	9
	£2,363	5	7

C. F. MAXWELL,

Government Agent, Niue.

1st January, 1904.

EXPORTS FROM NIUE FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.

To New Zealand—				£	s.	d.	To Rarotonga—				£	s.	d.			
Hats, 2,427½ dozen	..	..	..	1,613	12	0	Hats, 455 dozen	..	..	..	432	13	0			
Copra, 44 tons 19 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.	..	..	..	429	2	6	Fungus, 367 lb.	..	..	..	3	16	6			
Fungus, 5,077 lb.	..	..	..	64	9	9										
Curios	..	..	..	98	3	1					£436	9	6			
				£2,205	7	4	To Tonga—									
							Copra, 226 tons 4 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.	..	..	..	2,258	18	8			
							Hats, 1,401½ dozen	..	..	..	899	5	9			
							Fungus, 12,893 lb.	..	..	..	181	0	0			
							Curios	..	..	..	89	8	6			
							Kava, 160 lb.	..	..	..	2	0	0			
							Merchandise reshipped	..	..	..	210	0	0			
											£3,640	12	11			
							To Samoa—Curios				..	..	..	£13	12	6
							To Melbourne—Curios				..	..	..	£15	0	0
Summary.														£	s.	d.
Copra, 446 tons 17 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,093	8	5			
Hats, 4,293½ dozen	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,961	10	9			
Fungus, 27,267 lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	331	17	7			
Curios	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	251	4	1			
Arrowroot, 981 lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	4	7			
Kava, 160 lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0	0			
Provisions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	12	9			
Merchandise reshipped	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	210	0	0			
												£7,861	18	2		

C. F. MAXWELL,

Government Agent, Niue.

1st January, 1904.