

The following is a record of rainfall and temperature for the year:—

Month.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Total Fall.	Maximum Fall.	Date.	Highest Reading of Ther- mometer.	Date.	Lowest Reading of Ther- mometer.	Date.
1908.		Inches.	Inches.		Degrees.		Degrees.	
April ...	10	3·66	1·25	21st	75	30th	37	18th
May ...	13	6·18	1·53	31st	70	2nd	24	22nd
June ...	10	2·90	0·75	4th	68	6th	20	21st
July ...	9	2·23	0·85	31st	60	1st	17	31st
August ...	9	3·65	1·13	17th	63	31st	17	1st
September ...	7	3·81	1·03	16th	67	7th	25	19th
October ...	10	3·76	1·40	2nd	79	9th	25	31st
November ...	3	1·37	1·20	19th	80	29th	25	3rd
December ...	4	4·06	1·50	23rd	86	19th	34	9th
1909.								
January ...	7	2·44	0·80	28th	83	23rd	30	17th
February ...	1	0·10	0·10	12th	83	16th	32	23rd
March ...	10	7·90	2·00	26th	86	1st	32	3rd
Totals ...	93	42·06	...	...	...	...	...	...

Statement of Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Amount at 31st March, 1908	5,209	17	3
Formation	90	8	0
Tree-planting	95	7	6
Clearing	56	3	0
Cartage of trees	108	10	0
General upkeep of plantation	377	17	5
" repairs	119	18	11
Horse-feed purchased and grown	144	3	11
Fencing	250	19	7
Buildings	370	3	3
Tools, implements, &c.	52	15	10
Miscellaneous works	3	0	0
Salaries—			
Supervision of prison labour	294	4	8
" free labour	123	7	6
Nurseryman's proportion of	42	15	6
Supervision	24	6	8
	£7,363	19	0

H. A. GOUDIE,
Nurseryman in Charge.

WHAKAREWAREWA PLANTATION.

(Approximate area, 8,912 acres; approximate altitude, 1,200 ft.)

During the past season trees to the number of 2,078,250 were dealt with. 1,841,100 were planted on a new area of 838½ acres, and the remainder—237,150—were used to replace failures in former plantings. The total area planted to date in this reserve is 3,157½ acres, containing 6,883,226 trees.

Prison Labour.—The employment of prison labour has again been attended with very satisfactory results, for which much credit is due to the Prisons departmental officers for the manner in which they have assisted to carry out the various works on which the men were employed. The daily average of men employed was 13·16, and their work was valued at £971 10s., or an average for the year of £73 16s. 5d. per man, thus showing an increase of 10s. 4d. per man on the previous year's results.

Free Labour.—An average daily number of 32·72 men were employed, and the cost of the various works undertaken was as follows: Clearing for tree-planting, £1 10s. 10d. per acre; pitting, 10s. 6d. per thousand; planting, 8s. 6d. per thousand; and formation of roads, including clearing line, £1 11s. 9d. per chain. Taken all round, the area planted during the past season was the roughest so far taken in hand, and the growth of manuka, tutu, and fern on it was very heavy. This accounts for the increase that will be noticed in the cost of clearing, pitting, and planting as compared with the cost of the same works during the past season.

In maintenance work the chief item was pruning, which was carried on amongst the older larch throughout the summer. A considerable amount of work was also done in keeping down the growth amongst the trees, and in the maintenance of fire-breaks.