

APPENDICES TO THE MINES STATEMENT.

APPENDIX A.

REPORTS RELATING TO METALLIFEROUS MINES AND STONE-QUARRIES.

The INSPECTING ENGINEER OF MINES to the UNDER-SECRETARY OF MINES.

SIR,—

Wellington, 14th April, 1916.

I have the honour to present my tenth annual report on metalliferous mines, together with annexures and statistical information, for the year ended 31st December, 1915.

In accordance with the usual practice, the tables showing expenditure through the Mines Department on roads, bridges, tracks, prospecting operations, &c., are for the period covered by the financial year—viz., from the 1st April, 1915, to the 31st March, 1916.

The reports, &c., are divided into the following sections:—

- I. Production of Minerals.
 - II. Persons employed.
 - III. Accidents.
 - IV. Gold-mining.
 - (1.) Quartz-mining.
 - (2.) Dredge Mining
 - (3.) Alluvial Mining
 - V. Minerals other than Gold.
 - VI. Stone-quarries.
 - VII. State Aid to Mining.
 - (1.) Subsidized Prospecting.
 - (2.) Subsidized Roads on Goldfields.
 - (3.) Government Prospecting-drills.
 - (4.) Government Water-races.
 - VIII. Schools of Mines.
- Annexures,—
- Reports of—
- (a.) Water-race Managers.
 - (b.) Directors of Schools of Mines.
 - (c.) Mining Statistics.
 - (d.) Examinations under the Mining Act, 1908, and Lists of Certificate-holders.

I. PRODUCTION OF MINERALS.

The following statement shows the value of the exports from metal-mines and kauri-gum fields from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1915:—

Classification.	1914.	1915.	Increase.	Total from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1915.
	£	£	£	£
Gold	895,367	1,694,553	799,186	84,648,463
Silver	62,085	95,583	33,498	2,096,382
Other minerals	29,338	33,161	3,823	550,508
Kauri-gum	497,444	279,133	218,311*	17,536,140
Totals	1,484,234	2,102,430	618,196	104,831,493

* Decrease.

Owing to the prohibition by the Banking Amendment Act, 1914, which came into operation on the 5th August of that year, of the export of gold except with the consent of the Minister of Finance, the value of gold and silver exported is no indication of the annual production. During 1915 the prohibition was removed, and the quantity of bullion exported during that year considerably exceeded that won during the same period.

The official returns from gold-mines show that bullion to the value of £1,348,489 was produced during 1915, being approximately £154,160 less than the production of the previous year.