H.—3.

Schedule of Amounts received in Warden's Office, Kanieri, by the Receiver of Gold Revenue, for the period from 1st April, 1875, to 31st March, 1876, and as compared with year ending 31st March, 1875

13

						Year ending 31st March, 1876.			Year ending 31st March, 1875.		
						£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.
Miners' Rights, at £1, 402*	•••		•••	•••		402	0	0	472	0	0
Business Licenses, at £5, 6	•••				•••	30	0	0	55	0	0
Do. at £3, 5	•••	•••				15	0	0	18	0	0
Do. at £2, 3		•••		•••	•••	6	0	0	2	0	0
Registrations, at 5s. each, 167				•••		41	15	0	38	0	0
Do. at 2s. 6d. each, 40				•••		5	0	0	2	7	6
Do. at 1s. each, 508		• • •	•••	•••	•••	25	8	0	26	9	0
Spirit Licenses			•••	•••		0	0	0	110	0	0
Fees and fines in Warden's Cour	t					10	18	6	23	9	0
Rents for Agricultural Leases		•••	•••	•••	•••	6	10	0	6	8	0
Sale of Gold Fields' Rules					• • •	0	2	0	0	8	0
Inspection of books	•••	•••		•••	•	0	3	0	0	6	0
Copies of Miners' Rights	•••			•••		0	3	0	0	3	0
Fees for Surveys	•••	•••			•••	24	10	0			
Tota	1				•••	567	9	6	754	10	6

^{*} These do not include those issued at Hokitika by the Receiver of Land Revenue for the Kanieri District, which were thirty.

G. G. FITZGERALD, Warden.

The Under Secretary for Gold Fields, Wellington.

No. 9.

Mr. Warden FitzGerald to the Under Secretary for Gold Fields.

Sir,—
Warden's Office, Stafford, 5th April, 1876.

I have the honor to report upon the state of the Waimea District for the year ended 31st March, 1876, as follows:—

The district is, I consider, fairly prosperous, and continues to support about the same population as hitherto; and, I may add, there is an entire absence of poverty, most of the miners settling down in comfortable cottages, and, by virtue of the Residence Area Clause, taking up half-acres of land;

which they assiduously cultivate.

As a matter of course, water is still much needed to command the terraces and high table-lands, the completion of the Government water race is therefore anxiously looked forward to by all. The works in connection with it are, I believe, making satisfactory progress.

There is little to be said about the workings in the several gullies; but at Callaghan's some fresh ground which has been tried is turning out remunerative, and has caused an increase of population in that neighbourhood.

A small rush has taken place at Houlahan's Flat, on the south side of the Teremakau River, adjoining the mining lease now held by Cushman and others. This rush is attracting some little attention in the district at present.

The only item of information from the Taipo Reefs is that a new mining lease has been applied for at Kelly's Hill; the application is at present in abeyance.

The Chinese population, though somewhat diminished, is inoffensive and industrious, and a new store has recently been opened at Goldsborough by another Chinaman, who is reported to be doing a good trade with his countrymen.

Large numbers of races and dams have been recently registered. Many of these, however, are being taken up a second time either owing to the fact that the certificates had been allowed to lapse or the property abandoned, or in some cases already constructed without registration. 1,130 registration certificates and 689 miners' rights have been issued during the year, the fees in the Wardens' Court amounting to the sum of £44 19s.

During the year a Court-house has been opened at Goldsborough, which seems to answer the requirements of the population in that portion of the district. The Court sits there on each alternate Wednesday.

I am not aware of anything else calling for further comment, but, in conclusion, I would remark that the Waimea District continues to hold its own. Full returns accompany this report.

I have, &c., G. G. FITZGERALD,

C. E. Haughton, Esq., Gold Fields Secretary, Wellington.

Warden.