

I expect in my next annual report to be able to record a great amount of vitality in the district, more especially as before that time the large works at present in hand will have been completed.

I append the statistics of the district under my charge for the past year.

I have, &c.,

The Under Secretary for Gold Fields, Wellington.

CHARLES BROAD,
Warden.

Enclosure in No. 7.

DISTRICT OF BULLER.

STATISTICS of Resident Magistrate's and Warden's Offices for the Year ending March 31st, 1878.

—	Westport.	Charleston.	Lyell.	Total.
Miners' Rights issued	174	257	191	622
Business Licenses	11	<i>Nil.</i>	11	22
Summonses in Warden's Court	6	17	8	31
Applications for registered Rights	97	407	130	634
Applications for Gold-mining Leases	1	...	9	10
Applications for Agricultural Leases	4	...	2	6
Resident Magistrate's Court—				
Number of Criminal Cases	172	10	46	228
Number of Civil Cases	278	56	66	400
Revenue—				
Fees and Fines of Resident Magistrate's Court	£ s. d. 292 4 8	£ s. d. 56 1 9	£ s. d. 161 4 2	£ s. d. 509 10 7
Receiver of Gold Revenue	818 14 6	731 18 0	726 17 6	2,277 10 0
Clerk to Licensing Court	10 13 0	3 2 6	7 18 6	21 14 0
Amount received as Deposits on Gold-mining and Agricultural Leases	91 5 0	153 15 0	283 2 6	528 2 6
Gold exported from Westport	17,130 18 16 oz. dwt. gr.	17,130 18 16 oz. dwt. gr.
Duty	£ s. d. 1,714 2 6	£ s. d. 1,714 2 6
Value	68,563 13 4	68,563 13 4

No. 8.

Mr. Warden SHAW to the UNDER SECRETARY for GOLD FIELDS.

SIR,—

Warden's Office, Reefton, 8th May, 1878.

In forwarding the usual statistical returns for the districts under my charge for the year ending March 31st, 1878, I have the honor to report generally as follows:—

Inangahua District.

The sittings of the Resident Magistrate's and Warden's Courts are held twice weekly. The following synopsis will indicate the business transacted and revenue collected:—

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT.—Criminal cases, 114; Committed for trial, 3; Civil cases, 420; Amount sued for, £3,301 16s. 4d.; Amount received, £1,630 13s.; Fees and fines, £506 2s. 11d.

WARDEN'S COURT.—Cases heard, 11; Applications for cancellation of gold-mining leases, 4; Other applications, 236; Gold-mining leases applied for, 67; Agricultural leases applied for under Gold Fields and Mines Acts, 2.

	REVENUE.	£	s.	d.
Publicans' licenses	975	0	0
Fees on application for licenses, transfers, &c.	30	15	6
Revenue collected by Receiver of Gold Revenue, exclusive of rents, &c, on leases under Nelson Waste Lands Act	£1,005	15	6
Resident Magistrate's Court fees and fines	2,527	4	4
		506	2	11
Total	£4,039	2	9

There is a noticeable absence of serious crime in this mining population, attributable, doubtless, in a great measure to the comparative certainty of means of livelihood and the high rate of wages obtainable, but chiefly, in my opinion, to the intelligence and discipline that are required of quartz miners.

From the foregoing tables it will be observed that but two applications were made for agricultural leases under the Gold Fields or Mines Act in this district during the past year. These are the prominent exception to the many scores of applications made under "The Nelson Waste Lands Act," and the marked preference shown for the latter system deserves remark, from the serious inconvenience and loss it entails upon miners. In many instances auriferous ground is belted by strips of flat country,