

Statement showing the Comparative Returns from the Quartz-mines in the Reefton District from the 1st April, 1880, to the 31st March, 1901, and a Similar Return for the Years ending the 31st December, 1901 to 1906.

Years ending			Calls made.			Dividends declared.	Quartz crushed.	Yield of Gold.			Value of Gold.		
			£	s.	d.	£	Tons.	Oz.	dwt.	gr.	£	s.	d.
31st March,	1881	...	10,218	17	6	19,650	29,926	17,597	14	10	68,630	13	10
"	1882	...	25,504	3	4	37,643	14,894	20,154	0	0	78,600	12	0
"	1883	...	64,345	0	0	32,600	18,928	19,194	0	0	74,856	12	0
"	1884	...	49,456	0	0	16,500	23,433	16,547	0	0	64,533	6	0
"	1885	...	29,333	0	0	34,100	34,349	23,997	0	0	93,588	6	0
"	1886	...	24,565	0	0	14,500	27,198	14,591	0	0	56,904	18	0
"	1887	...	21,596	0	0	33,450	23,930	21,143	0	0	83,171	15	5
"	1888	...	30,432	0	0	17,550	24,403	16,775	0	0	66,030	11	5
"	1889	...	38,919	0	0	16,688	28,564	18,663	0	0	72,720	18	0
"	1890	...	27,531	0	0	18,250	32,394	17,780	0	0	69,676	12	1
"	1891	...	20,404	0	0	27,325	39,643	23,347	0	0	91,998	8	10
"	1892	...	25,956	0	0	30,743	35,562	23,390	0	0	95,885	5	1
"	1893	...	18,800	0	0	16,900	37,693	20,171	0	0	80,894	5	1
"	1894	...	14,350	0	0	18,832	34,518	18,413	0	0	73,752	14	11
"	1895	...	10,153	0	0	11,012	26,602	13,426	10	0	53,509	5	1
"	1896	...	8,418	0	0	25,925	29,816	22,025	0	0	87,935	18	4
"	1897	...	9,033	6	8	4,900	13,270	8,365	4	20	33,824	7	1
"	1898	...	7,859	3	4	50	9,751	4,266	7	1	18,253	7	3
"	1899	...	5,920	6	8	900	42,305	21,487	18	15	87,587	1	0
"	1900	...	10,747	8	9	47,050	58,277	26,693	3	18	108,455	17	8
"	1901	...	5,826	9	7	35,300	82,618	33,979	5	5	134,557	7	11
31st December,	1901	...	6,233	6	8	58,199	97,870	46,066	16	12	186,719	6	7
"	1902	...	6,900	0	0	48,475	98,485	46,561	9	9	188,655	2	5
"	1903	...	4,587	0	0	57,641	109,571	58,840	6	15	195,468	16	10
"	1904	...	5,262	0	0	54,674	113,375	49,693	16	7	215,996	3	6
"	1905	...	3,870	0	0	55,343	106,150	44,091	6	11	177,462	19	9
"	1906	...	1,995	16	8	57,826	96,246	40,295	3	16	156,167	18	2
Totals	488,215	19	2	792,026	1,285,771	687,555	2	19	2,715,838	10	3

WESTPORT-CHARLESTON SUBDISTRICT.

In last year's report I dealt very fully with Westport and Charleston, and since that date there is nothing of importance in any of the claims being worked to require special mention.

A considerable number of small alluvial claims continue to be worked, and in many instances are paying more than wages.

A very large area has been taken up in hundred-acre prospecting licenses in Karamea District, which licenses are granted for twelve months, when, if lodes are found, they should be taken up as claims.

The only direct communication is by small steamer from Westport to Karamea.

From information supplied, Mount Radiant is a most promising district for the genuine prospector. It has been proved that copper exists in considerable quantities in the lodes, besides gold, silver, and other minerals.

Up to the present time there has not been that amount of prospecting which the number of prospecting areas taken up warrants; but I feel satisfied when more prospecting has been done some important finds will be made, for there is a very large area of auriferous country open for prospecting.

AHAURA SUBDISTRICT.

Blackball and Healey's Gully.—The number of miners in this district has increased during the year. The Montgomery Terrace Sluicing Company, having resumed operations, have constructed a large dam, and, with a fairly constant supply of water, it is to be hoped that it will meet with a fair share of prosperity. The Republic Sluicing Company's claim is being worked on tribute, and, it is said, with success. The Garden Gully Quartz-mining Company, having met with disappointment in the past, is now sanguine of striking a payable reef. The Paparoa Coal-mining Company, employing about two hundred men, is energetically prosecuting the work of opening up its coal-mine on the Paparoa Ranges. Hillier and party, Hyndman Bros., G. Perotti, and Henry Wessels are all working sluicing claims in this locality, with fair results.

Moonlight.—Very little new ground has been worked in this locality. The Shetland Terrace Sluicing Company, which suspended operations some time ago through shortness of water, having now obtained additional capital, have resumed the completion of their water-race. Mitchell and party are engaged at Upper Moonlight in the driving of a tunnel 450 ft. in length.

Nelson Creek.—During the year five dredges have been at work winning gold to the value of £32,936, out of which the Pactolus Company has returned £16,875 to its shareholders. On the 14th December,