

## REPORT.

MR. FRANK REED, M.I.M.M., Inspecting Engineer, to the UNDER-SECRETARY FOR MINES.

SIR,—

Mines Department, Wellington, 16th April, 1909.

I have the honour to present the annual reports of inspection of mines, together with reports of Wardens and other officers, accompanied by statistical information in regard to the goldfields and metalliferous mines of the Dominion, for the year ended the 31st December, 1908.

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, 1908, to the 31st March, 1909.

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

- I. Production of Minerals.
- II. Persons employed.
- III. Accidents.
- IV. Gold-mining—
  - (1.) Quartz.
  - (2.) Dredging.
  - (3.) Alluvial.
- V. Minerals other than Gold.
- VI. State Aid to Mining.
- VII. Schools of Mines.
- Annexures.—Reports of—
  - (a.) Inspectors of Mines.
  - (b.) Wardens.
  - (c.) Directors of Schools of Mines.
  - (d.) Water-race Managers.
  - (e.) Mining Statistics.
  - (f.) Examinations under “ The Mining Act, 1908,” and Holders of Certificates.

### I. PRODUCTION OF MINERALS.

The appended statement shows the value of the outputs from the various metalliferous mines and gumfields in New Zealand from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1908 :—

Classification.	1907.	1908.	Increase or Decrease.	Total from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1908.
	£	£	£	£
Gold ... ..	2,027,490	2,004,925	22,565†	73,533,903
Silver ... ..	169,484	175,337	5,853*	1,266,088
Copper-ore ... ..	595	275	320†	19,098
Scheelite ... ..	15,486	6,055	9,431†	32,944
Manganese-ore ... ..	26	...	26†	61,857
Antimony-ore ... ..	2,118	73	2,045†	54,789
Other minerals ... ..	14,967	10,124	4,843†	210,981
Kauri-gum ... ..	579,888	372,789	207,090†	14,395,703
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>2,810,054</b>	<b>2,569,587</b>	<b>240,467†</b>	<b>89,575,363</b>

\* Increase.

† Decrease.