

## RETURN

To an Address of the Legislative Assembly for a Return showing the annual cost of maintaining the Barkerville Assay Office, the amount of fees paid to the said Office, and the amount of gold assayed.

By Command.

WM. SMITHE,  
*Minister of Finance.*

TREASURY,  
18th April, 1877.

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.
Assayer, Salary .....	\$ 2,000 00	\$ 2,000 00	\$ 2,000 00	\$ 2,000 00
Melter, do. ....	1,200 00	900 00	900 00	900 00
Chemicals, fuel, &c.....	889 66	406 52	315 75	404 63
Freight .....	779 83	224 11	257 12	231 65
Cost of Maintenance .....	\$ 4,869 49	\$ 3,530 63	\$ 3,472 87	\$ 3,536 28
Amount of Fees .....	\$ 1,929 75	\$ 1,020 00	\$ 1,115 75	\$ 719 27
Amount of Dust Assayed * .....	Oz. 19,590·00	Oz. 19,151·13	Oz. 27,956·58	Oz. 16,762·85
Value of Gold Assayed * .....	\$ 327,183 86	\$ 330,179 97	\$ 487,504 98	\$ 286,480 95

\* NOTE.—The Returns of the quantity and value of Dust Assayed during 1873 being incomplete, the above figures are only approximate.

In the same year a sum of \$1,567 was realized by the sale, in England, of Slag accumulated during the preceding five years.