

McCurdy's Claim, in which two men were employed, has crushed 18 tons of quartz for 77oz. of gold; and *Berry's Claim* crushed 9 tons for 57oz. 9dwt. of gold.

There are several small claims working in the district, but the returns have not amounted to much.

WAIOKARAKA DISTRICT.

May Queen Mine, 29 acres 2 roods 27 perches (May Queen Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. H. W. Moore was manager until the 1st March, when Mr. T. B. Hicks succeeded him).—Twenty-five men were employed, and 2,482 tons of quartz crushed for a yield of 2,068oz. 9dwt. of gold. The workings were chiefly at No. 2 level, 394ft. from the surface. The shaft has been sunk 100ft. and the run of gold in the No. 4 reef stoped out. A large winze has also been sunk on the reef 80ft., and another level is to be opened up, and a connection made with the old Queen of the May shaft for the purpose of drainage. A 9-horse power engine is used for winding. It is contemplated amalgamating the Trenton and May Queen mines, and to move the winding engine from the Trenton ground and erect it on the old Queen of the May shaft. This work would be a saving, inasmuch as the May Queen shaft need not be sunk deeper for the present.

Crawford's Special Claim has not been worked during the year, and the work carried on in the *Hauraki Mine* has not led to any favourable results.

KARAKA DISTRICT.

The Adelaide Mine (owned by Mr. G. W. Bull and party), has been worked by seven tributers, who crushed 157 tons of quartz for 131oz. of gold. Workings were on the main reef, which is about 2ft. in thickness.

Lone Hand Mine, 26 acres 3 roods 35 perches (Lone Hand Gold-mining Company, Limited, owners; Mr. Thomas Moyle, manager).—Four wages-men and eight tributers were employed; 283 tons of quartz yielded 467oz. 19dwt. of gold.

Claremont Mine, 1 acre (Mr. George Bryant, owner and sole workman).—Crushed 3 tons of quartz for 154oz. 13dwt. of gold. The quartz is from small leaders and flinty junctions.

E. and M. Mine, 1 acre 3 roods 10 perches (Messrs. Fieney and Johnson, owners).—One hundred and seventy-two pounds of quartz were crushed for a yield of 131oz. 3dwt. of gold. The quartz is of the same nature as the Claremont.

Hokianga Mine, 2 acres and 36 perches (Jenkins and party, owners).—Three men have been employed, and 65 tons of quartz was crushed for 175oz. 7dwts. of gold. The quartz is of the same nature as before mentioned, only the veins are larger.

Karaka Mine, 10 acres (F. White and party, owners).—Three owners and one wages-man were employed, and 215 tons of quartz crushed for 123oz. gold. The workings have been on a large reef, chiefly at the surface. A drive was put in on the reef 70ft. and a portion stoped out. There are several other reefs and leaders in the ground, which was formerly known as the Halcyon Claim. The party purchased the old Halcyon battery of five stamps and two berdans, and have added a Watson and Denny pan. They have made a water-race 29 chains in length, and have 137ft. pressure on the Pelton-wheel which drives the battery; there is, however, very little water in the upper Karaka Creek during the summer months, and the battery could not be worked lately.

Several small claims have been worked near the old Lucky Hit and Auckland, but the returns have been only moderate.

UNA HILL AND TE PAPA DISTRICT.

Dives Mine, 20 acres 3 roods 21 perches (Dives Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. John Ross, manager).—Twelve wages-men have been employed, and 480 tons of quartz was crushed for 720oz. of gold.

Occidental Mine, 21 acres and 9 perches (Occidental Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. Thomas Black was succeeded by Joseph Govan as manager lately).—Twelve wages-men were employed, and 439 tons of quartz crushed yielded 662oz. of gold. About 600ft. of drives has been done, and 150 fathoms of reefs stoped out. The natural ventilation was effected by making another outlet to the mine.

Pride of Karaka Mine, 20 acres (Pride of Karaka Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. J. E. Hardman, manager).—Eight wages-men were employed, and 160 tons of quartz crushed for 267oz. 10dwt. of gold. The low level was continued through hard rock and the reef cut at 400ft., and a winze sunk, connecting with the surface-workings, 104ft. The reef, which is about 1ft. in thickness, has proved payable.

Magnolia Mine, 17 acres (Magnolia Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. Henry Rabe, manager).—Eight wages-men were employed, and 240 tons of quartz crushed for 199oz. 14dwt. of gold. About 100ft. was driven on the reef, and 25 fathoms stoped out. Ventilation was completed by connecting the low level with the upper workings.

North Star Mine, 30 acres (North Star Gold-mining Company, Limited, owner; Mr. R. McDonald, manager).—This mine was chiefly worked on tribute, nine men being employed, and two wages-men were driving a low-level cross-cut. The tributers crushed 101 tons of quartz for 217oz. 18dwt. of gold.

Boyle's Claim.—One man crushed 8 tons for 41oz. 6dwt. The Welcome Claim crushed 78 tons for 51oz. 19dwt. Just in Time Claim, two men, crushed 133 tons for 29oz. of gold.

HAPE CREEK DISTRICT.

Consols Mine, 29 acres 3 roods 31 perches (Consols Gold-mining Company, owner; Mr. John F. Carter, manager).—Seventeen wages-men and ten tributers were employed. The owners crushed 100 tons for 100oz. 16dwt., and the tributers 220 tons for 207oz. 19dwt. of gold. Winding and pumping gear was erected and the shaft pumped out, and a considerable amount of work was done. The winding gear and pump are driven by a 40-horse power steam-engine.