

and 5,454oz. of silver. 112 men were employed in the mine and battery. Mr. John McConnell, the general manager of the company, says: "The nature of work done in the Crown Mine during the year has been driving, stoping, and general mining work. Above the mine, Riley's dam has been repaired, and the water-race to the old battery site thoroughly renovated for the purpose of supplying power for driving a complete rock-drilling plant, which is being erected where the battery stood. This plant comprises one forty-horse-power air-compressor and four Hornaut drills. The compressed air for driving the drills will be conveyed to the mines, a distance of about 16 chains, by means of 4in. pipes, and carried from the main pipe into the drives by pipes of 2½in. in diameter. During the year the machinery in connection with our new works has gone very smoothly, and the treatment of the ore has been all that could be desired, the bullion recovered showing an extraction of 94 per cent. of the average value of the ore, and the percentage of cyanide of potassium used being 12 per cent."

Earl of Glasgow Mine (Malcolm, Fleming, and party, owners).—This mine is at a high elevation, being situated to the south-eastward of the Karangahake trig. station. A considerable amount of work was done in opening up old drives and driving on leaders; 20 tons of quartz were crushed at Owaharoa for a return of 35oz. of gold. Three men were employed. The party has been prospecting the ground a great deal on the surface, and has decided to erect a small battery, consisting of five heads of stamps and pans. The past month they have been engaged in the preliminary work of battery-site, water-race, and tramways, &c., from the mine to the mill.

Diamond Mine (Tresize and Sheehan, owners).—A parcel of 9 tons of quartz yielded 38oz. of gold. Two men were employed.

Talisman (A. Shepherd and others, owners).—A considerable amount of work has been done in opening up the reef, which is from 3ft. to 5ft. in thickness; 523ft. of driving has been done. Four men were employed. The prospects obtained from the quartz are very promising, and the owners are in treaty with an English syndicate for the purchase of the mine. If the purchase of the mine is completed, a crushing-plant is to be erected near the junction of the Waitawheta and Ohinemuri Rivers. Without expenditure of capital, mines in this district cannot be developed.

The *Golden Treasure*, *Imperial*, and *City of Perth Licensed Holdings* have been prospected off and on during the year.

OWHAROA DISTRICT.

Smile of Fortune Mine (John Abbott, owner).—The chief work during the year was first stoping at the creek-level. The quartz from the reef at this point did not pay, and attention was then directed to crushing mullock-tips on the surface, and filling from old stopes. 1,023 tons were crushed for 112oz. gold. Six men were employed.

Farmer and party: Three tributers worked a block of the reef near the surface, and crushed 230 tons, for 85oz. 10dwt. of gold.

Madden's Folly.—Work was confined to driving the Government tunnel, which is now in 600ft. Four men were employed.

Cadman Mine (Alexander Mackay and party, owners).—This mine was lately taken up. The workings are on a mass of stringers of quartz and mullock on the south side of the river. A wire tramway was erected across the river, and a horse is used to draw the quartz over to the battery. 33 tons yielded 38oz. of gold. On an average, two men were employed.

In the *Success Mine*, Jones and party have been driving on a reef, but have not discovered any payable quartz. Proceedings for forfeiture have been instituted.

WAITEKAURI DISTRICT.

Jubilee (E. K. Cooper and others, owners).—This mine was held by employing two men. During the year Mr. Cooper has been in England attempting to get money to further prospect and work the ground. He met with great difficulties, and had to leave England before completing the business, which he is endeavouring to do by letter and cable.

Work has been occasionally carried on in the Young New Zealand, Mangakara, Welcome, and Skene's claims. Sundry crushings yielded 130oz. of gold.

WHAKAMOEHOU (WAITEKAURI NORTH) DISTRICT.

Golden Cross Mine (Golden Cross Gold-mining Company, owners).—A battery of five stamps, driven by water-power, was erected, and 600 tons of quartz crushed, yielding 1,632oz. of gold. The result was so encouraging that it was resolved to erect another five head of stamps and a complete cyanide plant. No further crushing will therefore take place until the new plant is finished. A low-level adit is also being driven from near the battery; this will give about 50ft. of a block below the top workings. Twenty men were employed on an average.

Grace Darling (Grace Darling Gold-mining Company, owners).—This mine is situated on the west branch of the Waitekauri Creek, on the spur leading down from the Komata Tramway. The reef in the surface-level was 4ft. to 8ft. in thickness, and gave good prospects. A cross-cut was driven below No. 1 level for a distance of 190ft., and the reef cut. A winze was sunk about a depth of 80ft., connecting the two levels, and the low level driven 50ft. on the reef, which is 7ft. in thickness. The quartz is generally of a friable character, and gold is freely seen in portions of the reef. The company is erecting a ten-stamp mill, with complete cyanide plant, to be driven by water-power, and, as the dry-crushing process will be adopted, a large drying-kiln will be excavated in the solid rock. It is expected that the mill will be ready for crushing about the end of the month of June. The low level will be connected with the battery by a shoot 100ft. and a ground-tramway about 8 chains in length. Five men were employed.

Progress Mine (H. Hughes and party, owners).—This mine is on the same line of reef, and to the northward of the Grace Darling. A cross-cut was driven 100ft., and the reef, which