

ACCIDENTS IN GOLD-MINES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1899.

Name.	Mine.	Nature.	Date.
Edward Patton ..	New Zealand Crown Mine ..	Fractured ankle	2 April, 1898.
Robert Reid ..	Ohinemuri Syndicate ..	Shoulder bruised by a fall	2 " "
*William Mangan ..	Waihi-Silverton ..	Fatal accident: timber breaking in shaft ..	7 " "
Esther Joughin ..	Waihi Mine ..	Leg injured by a fall	9 " "
A. E. Tapling ..	Waitekauri Mine ..	Eye injured by explosion of gelignite ..	7 May "
Patrick Hayes ..	Thames-Hauraki ..	Leg broken by cage	9 " "
John Trebilcock ..	Hauraki Anchor ..	Head and shoulder injured by a bucket ..	19 " "
Lloyd Francis ..	New Zealand Jubilee ..	Side injured by a bucket	18 June "
*Richard Handcock ..	Waihi Consolidated ..	Fatal accident: killed by falling down a shaft ..	18 July "
*Walter Devel ..	Montezuma Plant ..	Injured with truck tipping up; died from the injuries ..	29 " "
Jamieson and Boyle ..	Hauraki Mine ..	Slightly injured	21 " "
John Gilroy ..	Hauraki Main Lodes ..	Ankle slightly bruised	30 " "
*Robert McGregor..	New Zealand Jubilee Mine ..	Fatal accident: killed by crossbar descending shaft ..	29 Aug., "
C. Berkery ..	Kathleen Crown ..	Shoulder injured	27 " "
Albert Reid ..	New Zealand Crown Mine ..	Body slightly bruised by a piece of rock ..	18 " "
James Ingles ..	Moanataiari Mine ..	Leg broken by a piece of rock	10 Sept., "
H. Murrell ..	New Zealand Talisman ..	Injured by a piece of rock	23 " "
*B. A. Graham ..	New Zealand Jubilee Mine ..	Fatal accidents: suffocated through the effect of timber catching fire in the mine ..	23 " "
*J. W. Stevens ..			
Henry Giveen ..	Komata Reefs ..	Leg slightly injured	28 " "
John S. Taylor ..	Waitekauri Extended ..	Body injured by a belt	11 Oct., "
Edmond Noonan ..	Komata Reefs ..	Hand and leg injured	1 Nov., "
J. McLachie ..	Waihi Battery ..	Collar-bone broken by falling between vats ..	4 " "
William Connon ..	Alburnia Mine ..	Injured by explosion of a shot	22 " "
John Worgan ..	Deep-sinker ..	Shaken by jumping out of cage	11 Jan., 1899.
J. Newith ..	Waihi Mine ..	Collar-bone broken by a piece of rock ..	12 " "
G. Connell ..	Waihi-Victoria Battery ..	Right hand severely injured by tappet of stamps ..	3 March "
William Murray ..	New Zealand Crown Mine ..	Injured by a piece of rock falling on him ..	8 " "
Henry Kelly ..	New Zealand Crown Mine ..	Arm broken by falling down underlie shaft ..	17 " "
Henry Carlson ..	New Zealand Talisman ..	Arm torn off whilst engaged in putting belt on pulley ..	28 " "

* Fatal.

There were six fatal accidents.

No. 15.

Mr. R. TENNENT, Inspector of Mines, to the UNDER-SECRETARY for MINES, Wellington.

SIR,—

Inspector of Mines' Office, Westport, 3rd April, 1899.

I have the honour to report as follows on the gold-mines in the Marlborough, Nelson, and West Coast districts, for the year ending the 31st March, 1899:—

WAKAMARINA.

Golden Bar and Ravenscliff Quartz-mines.—(17/1/99): Operations on this property have been at a standstill during the year.

COLLINGWOOD.

Parapara Hæmatite-works.—(13/1/99): These works are still being successfully carried on by Messrs. Washbourne Brothers, and last year the output increased to over 100 tons. The proprietors are of opinion that, as the excellent preserving qualities of the hæmatite become better known, the sale will still further increase. The cost of production will be greatly reduced by the introduction of improved machinery, and a large and productive industry established.

Golden Ridge Mine.—(12/1/99): This property is owned by the Taitapu Gold Estates (Limited). Operations are confined to surface prospecting, by eight men, south of the old Golden Ridge workings. So far, nothing of importance has been discovered; but the manager (Mr. H. Fulton) is sanguine of picking up a run of country corresponding with the Aorangi section of the Taitapu Gold Estates, which has lately been giving good returns.

Aorangi (late Pioneer) Mine.—(11/1/99): The development of this property, which is owned by the Australasian Gold Trust (Limited), is being carried out under the management of Frank H. Johnson. The area now being developed consists of 100 acres. The reefs, which vary from 2 ft. to 5 ft. in width, are worked from crosscuts, Nos. 2 and 3 being connected by two winzes, and ventilation thus amply provided for. The crosscuts are connected with the shoot by a ground-tramway, 5 chains in length, the shoot being 150 ft. in length to the hopper. This hopper, which has a holding capacity of 50 tons, is connected by a short tramway with the battery, consisting of three heads, which has been recently erected, a 5-horse-power horizontal engine furnishing the motive-power. The manager intends to push on with developments to the southward of the present workings (which are now well opened out) as there is a favourable change in the nature of the country. In December last, 60 tons of quartz gave a return of 318 oz. 15 dwt. retorted gold, and 97 tons from the same reef was crushed in February for a return of 126 oz of gold.