

the size of the stone, but generally best where the reef is thin; average value, 16 dwt. per ton. A winze from No. 1 level, to test the descent of the ore-body, preparatory to driving the No. 2 adit-level, is sunk between 50 ft. and 60 ft. on a reef which averages 2 ft. in width. The quality of the ore seems to improve with the depth. A contract to drive the No. 2 adit-level will be let in the course of a few days. The distance estimated to cut the lode is 400 ft. During the past few weeks the mine-manager has been engaged opening up a new line of reef which runs in close proximity to the main lode. They form an obtuse angle with each other, and their course is east-north-east north and south. This ore-body, which averages 1 ft. in width, appears to be of high grade, and has been intersected by an adit at a depth of 90 ft. from the surface. The size and quality of the stone are similar to the outcrop-stone. A tram-line is being constructed to convey the ore to the paddock, and in the course of a few weeks stone will be obtainable for battery purposes. Mr. T. Crabb, mine-manager, has at present thirty men employed under his charge.

#### Ross.

*Antonio Zala's Tunnel, Donnelly Creek.*—(13/9/98): This old subsidised tunnel is now driven 1,027 ft. Up to the present nothing of a promising character has been found to warrant further expenditure.

*Gagliardi and Son, Mount Greenland.*—(13/9/98): This subsidised tunnel is now driven 416 ft. So far, developments have proved nothing of importance.

#### ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES.

*Progress Extended Quartz-mines.*—(3/7/98): A chamber-man in B shaft named George Faulkner fell into the shaft with a loaded tub from No. 6 level, and was killed.

*Big River Quartz-mine.*—(19/1/99): A miner named John Morton was killed by a stone which fell from the face, striking him on the head while he was assisting to lift a cap-piece.

*Progress Extended.*—(14/2/99): At the bottom of B shaft a sinker named John Mason met with an accident, which terminated fatally, by the descent of the cage crushing his body. (22/3/99): A miner named David Spalding received a scalp wound and bruised shoulder by a fall of stone while preparing a set of timber at the face. Injuries not serious.

#### NELSON AND WEST COAST DISTRICTS.

The following statement, compiled from the monthly returns furnished by owners of quartz-crushing machines, shows the quantity of stone crushed, and the yield of gold from the various mines for year ending the 31st March, 1899:—

| Name of Mine.                         | Ordinary Quartz Crushed. |        |      |     | Tailings. |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----------|-------|------|-----|---------------|-------|------|-----|
|                                       | Amalgamation.            |        |      |     | Cyanide.  |       |      |     | Chlorination. |       |      |     |
|                                       | Tons.                    | oz.    | dwt. | gr. | Tons.     | oz.   | dwt. | gr. | Tons.         | oz.   | dwt. | gr. |
| Alpine Extended ...                   | 11,286                   | 3,245  | 7    | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Progress ...                          | 29,942                   | 12,301 | 3    | 12  |           |       |      |     | 314           | 1,271 | 14   | 0   |
| " ...                                 | 6,340                    | 2,660  | 13   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Wealth of Nations ...                 | 1,498                    | 602    | 12   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Keep-it-Dark ...                      | 2,224                    | 891    | 9    | 13  |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Big River ...                         | 730                      | 1,067  | 7    | 0   | 2,489     | 613   | 7    | 0   |               |       |      |     |
| Victory ...                           | 77                       | 82     | 19   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Golden Lead ...                       | 24                       | 29     | 18   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Sir Francis Drake ...                 | 1,573                    | 573    | 14   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Welcome ...                           | 60                       | 50     | 15   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Merrijigs (Fleming and party) ...     | 20                       | 24     | 3    | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| A1 Tributaries ...                    | 4                        | 5      | 15   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Kelly, Edge, and Smith ...            | 76                       | 14     | 10   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Last Chance ...                       | 350                      | 148    | 16   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| No. 2 South Dark ...                  | 12                       | 4      | 7    | 12  |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Australasian Gold Trust (Limited) ... | 177                      | 510    | 15   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Julian ...                            | 110½                     | 129    | 19   | 7   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Cæsus ...                             | 750                      | 589    | 12   | 0   |           |       |      |     |               |       |      |     |
| Cumberland ...                        |                          |        |      |     | 6,335     | 1,700 | 10   | 20  |               |       |      |     |
| Totals ...                            | 55,253½                  | 22,933 | 15   | 20  | 8,824     | 2,313 | 17   | 20  | 314           | 1,271 | 14   | 0   |

#### ALLUVIAL MINING.

##### MAHAKIPAWA.

*The King Solomon Mine.*—(2/7/98): The auriferous gutter which forms the ancient bed of the Mahakipawa Creek is the seat of operations. Since Mr. Alexander Campbell (mine manager) took charge, the tunnel entered a narrow gorge 5 ft. in width, that was driven in for 100 ft., when the position of the level was raised 10 ft. by a jump-up. On this higher level the gutter was followed