

ore is considered of a payable grade, and a site is being cut for the erection of a five-stamp mill. A level is being driven to intersect the lode and open up communication with the mine and battery.

Keep-it-Dark Mining Syndicate.—Prospecting is conducted on this property, adjoining the Golden Point lease. A winze 30 ft. in depth was sunk and a reef 3 ft. wide was cut, showing high scheelite value.

Griffin's Claim.—Sinking winze. Claim about 2 mile from Macrae's Township. Two men employed. 14 tons carted to Golden Point for treatment returned 2 tons 10 cwt. scheelite concentrates, realizing £210 10s.

Forbes Mining Syndicate, Stoneburn.—An area of 171 acres 1 rood 3 perches is held by this company at Stoneburn, seven miles from Dunback. Extensive prospecting has been carried out. 2,000 ft. of driving has been done on various lodes, which vary in width from 3 ft. to 6 ft. at slight inclination. The prospecting and developing results are thought by the owners to warrant the erection of a ten-stamp mill. Steps are being taken to form a company to carry out the work. Five tons and a half of hand-picked scheelite, valued at £440, was obtained during development. The value is gold and scheelite. Six men have been employed on an average throughout the year.

Nenthorn.

Wealth-of-Nations (Stanley and party).—This claim is located on the east side of Deighton Creek, Nenthorn. A drive has been commenced, and is expected to cut a reef in 200 ft. of driving. The prospects are considered good.

Waipori.

The various reefs in this district were not worked during the year.

Bald Hill Flat.

Advance Mine, Obelisk Range.—The face of the range where the mine is located is very much broken, and considerable movement has taken place, rendering the permanent location of the reef in solid country very difficult to determine. Prospecting has been vigorously carried on, and a large cut sluiced out in the face of the hill, and an outcrop of crushed quartz disclosed. This is now being driven on, and the dirt saved for treatment. The drive is extended 46 ft., and, although the country still appears a slip, it is hoped the present discovery will give some indication as to the position of the lode in the solid. Two men employed.

Bannockburn.

Carrick Gold-mining Company.—Development has been conducted on the two reefs existing on the property. A low-level tunnel has been commenced some 200 ft. below the present workings, and is driven 65 ft., requiring about 200 ft. to cut the Royal Standard reef. The battery has been run intermittently when ore was available for treatment, the main supply being drawn from two stopes—one in the Royal Standard and one in the White Horse reef. The average widths of the reefs is 2 ft. 6 in. Only a small tonnage of oxidized ore has been treated. Twenty-three men are employed.

Star-of-the-East Gold-mining Company.—This property, situated near the top of the Carrick Range, was worked many years ago. The present owners have opened up one of the old surface levels, and commenced to develop the outcrop of the reef. A battery of ten stamps (steam-driven) has been repaired, and the quartz coming from the opencut workings is being treated. The reef is soft and mullocky, containing broken fragments of quartz, and is upwards of 3 ft. wide. Four men employed.

Evans and Ledingham's Quartz-mine.—In the drive on the reef from the outcrop to the south a slide was met with, completely cutting out the reef. During the winter months a prospecting-drive was put in to pick up the reef on the other side of the slide, and although it was continued for a considerable distance it failed to locate the lode. 125 tons was treated, for a return of 78 oz. 6 dwt., valued at £374 1s.

Cromwell.

Cromwell Gold-mines Development Company.—Work in the low-level tunnel being driven on this property was discontinued early in the year, the face being in 650 ft., out of a total distance of over 2,000 ft. required to drain the old workings of the Bendigo Mine. The property was sold by auction, and was bought in by the owners.

Alto Mining Syndicate.—This syndicate has taken up an area of 19 acres included in the original Alto mining property at Bendigo. Operations are being conducted on a parallel leader adjacent to the Alto reef. A shaft has been sunk, at the bottom of which the reef is showing 1 ft. in width, and carrying good prospects in gold. The battery originally belonging to a defunct company has been purchased by the syndicate, and an aerial tramway is in course of erection to convey the ore to the mill.

Macetown.

New Zealand Consolidated Mines (Limited).—Mining was again commenced on this company's property towards the end of the year. A rise is being put up from the new low level to what was the old company's low level. The distance through is 210 ft.; 193 ft. is completed. Ventilation is provided by a small fan. A winze has also been sunk 28 ft. below the new low level, and preparations are being made to commence an underhand stope. Work has also been commenced at the All Nations section of the property, and an aerial tramway completed. Fourteen men are employed.

Shotover.

An area has been taken up on the Shotover Consolidated line of reef by Paulin and Trip. Some payable tone in small quantity was obtained.