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THE PROGRESS OF  
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY  
OF  
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1904.

COMPILED BY

W. H. TWELVETREES,

GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST.

BY ORDER OF

THE HONOURABLE C. LENNOX STEWART,

MINISTER OF MINES.



Tasmania:

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART.

1904.



PROGRESS OF THE  
**MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA**

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1904.

*Launceston, 12th November, 1904.*

THE following table shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of Metals and Minerals raised during the quarter ending 30th September, 1904:—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Gold won .....	16,754·844*	71,170
Silver Lead Ore raised .....	14,237 tons	58,991
Blister Copper produced .....	2044 "	138,685†
Copper Ore produced .....	... "	...
Tin Ore produced .....	868 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	66,798
Iron Ore produced .....	2000 "	800
Coal produced .....	20,890 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	17,757
Flux Ore produced .....	3133 "	1523
<b>TOTAL VALUE .....</b>	...	<b>£355,724</b>

Owing to the Commonwealth having ceased to compile returns of ore exported, the usual comparative statistics have had to be omitted.

\* Fine gold, including gold contained in blister copper and silver-lead bullion.

† Value of gold contents deducted.

## GOLD.

During the past quarter 8427½ ozs. of gold were obtained from quartz, 204 $\frac{3}{10}$  ozs. from alluvial, 1659 ozs. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, 6000 ozs. from blister copper from the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, 737 ozs. from the silver-lead bullion from the Tasmanian Smelting Company's works, Zeehan, and 627 ozs. from the sulphide ores from Mount Read; valued at £71,170.

The following table shows the quantities obtained from the various sources on the different fields during the period under review, together with the totals for the corresponding period of 1903, and the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1904:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1904.						TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1903.	Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1904.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.	From Sulphide Ores.			
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	
Beaconsfield	3702½	10½	837	...	...	...	4550	4371	6390
Mathinna ...	4239	...	709	...	...	...	4948	4043 $\frac{2}{10}$	3312½
Mt. Victoria	127	3	...	...	...	...	130	54	49½
Warrentinna									
Lefroy .....	51	...	113	...	...	...	164	318	337½
Lisle .....	...	147	...	...	...	...	147	138	128
Golconda ...									
Mangana ...	282	...	...	...	...	...	282	14 $\frac{16}{30}$	166
Bell Mount.	...	12	...	...	...	...	12	14	15
Middlesex...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Coast.	26	31 $\frac{13}{10}$	...	6000	737	627 $\frac{4}{10}$	7421 $\frac{16}{30}$	7663	7646 $\frac{6}{25}$
TOTALS	8427½	204 $\frac{3}{10}$	1659	6000	737	627 $\frac{4}{10}$	17,654 $\frac{16}{30}$	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1903.....	6834	328	1920	5503	880	1137	...	16,602	...
Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1904.....	8964½	216	1274½	5849	825 $\frac{16}{30}$	915½	...	...	18,044 $\frac{16}{25}$

Value £71,170; equal to 16,754·844 ozs. fine gold.

BEACONSFIELD.—Seven hundred and eighty-three men were employed in this district during the quarter, of whom twelve were prospectors. At the Tasmania Mine, 5920 tons of quartz were crushed, and 4500 ozs. gold obtained (by amalgamation and chlori-

nation), being a total for the entire history of the mine of 522,918 tons quartz crushed, and 593,288 ozs. 13 dwts. 17 grs. gold obtained. Good progress has been made with preliminary work in connection with the erection of the new machinery. Seven hundred and fifty-three men were employed.

*North Tasmania Mine.*—Wilson and Manion's tribute party is working here at the intermediate, between the 200-ft. and 300-ft. levels. The make of stone is small. During the quarter, 37 ozs. of gold were obtained. Four men employed.

*Bonanza Mine.*—The amalgamation proposals with the Amalgamated West Tasmania Co. have fallen through. The shaft is being sunk below 400 feet.

*Ophir Mine.*—Prospecting from the 400-ft. level has not yielded results altogether satisfactory, and work has been started in a small prospecting shaft a little way west from the main shaft. It is now down to a depth of 100 feet.

Prospectors in the Beaconsfield district obtained 12½ ozs. gold during the quarter.

LEFROY.—The quarter's statistics are as follows:—

	Gold produced, ozs.	Men employed.
New Pinafore.....	134	23
Digney Association .....	29	4
Others .....	1	23
	<u>164</u>	<u>50</u>

The New Pinafore Company's half-yearly report, on August 31st, shows that during the six months gold to the value of £1343 16s. 5d. was obtained (69 ozs. 12 dwts. from 155 tons of quartz crushed, and 300 ozs. 12 dwts. by cyaniding accumulated tailings). The total amount of gold won since the inception of the company is 50,081 ozs. 21 grs., the realised value being £194,407 6s. 4d.; £71,500 were paid in dividends, and the calls which have been made amount to £24,624 6s. 10d.

Laird and Son are still prospecting at the Industry; Weetman and Crockford on the Reward reef; Higgs and Stag are working alluvial. Three parties are prospecting north of Chums' reef, and one north of South reef. Lanham and Son are sluicing surface; Clarke and Son working alluvial; and Gee King & Co are erecting a cyanide plant.

LISLE.—The Dredging Company obtained 147 ozs. of gold with 25 men.

MT. VICTORIA.—The quarter's returns are as follows:—

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Gold produced. ozs.	Men.
Long Struggle .....	40	62	4
Mercury .....	46	44	12
M'Caul Bros. ....	30	21	2
Krushka's Freehold ....	...	3	1
Reform Extended .....	...	...	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	116	130	21
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MATHINNA.—The statistics for the quarter are as follows:—

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Gold produced. ozs.	Men.
New Golden Gate .....	5640	3964	} 160
"    "    " Sand...	9711	709	
Volunteer Consolidated...	380	198	35
King Edward .....	30	20	4
Miner's Dream .....	11	57	4
Other Mines .....	...	...	86
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Total .....	...	4948	289
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*New Golden Gate.*—The Directors, in their report for the half-year ending 31st August, state that 10,320 tons of quartz were crushed, from which 5859 ozs. of retorted gold were obtained at the battery, valued at £21,941 3s. 7d. Eighty tons of pyrites were also obtained by concentration, containing 589 ozs. of gold, valued at £2237 12s. 3d., and 19,674 tons of tailings and slimes have been treated by cyanide of potassium, which produced 831 ozs. of gold, valued at £3203 8s. 3d., making a total revenue of £27,382 4s. 1d. The cost of raising and crushing quartz, treating concentrates, repairs and renewals to plant, progressive and surface works, and all other expenses incidental to working the mine and managing the company amounts to £14,426 2s. 1d., or £1 7s. 11.49d. per ton of quartz crushed. This does not include cost of stores and labour at cyanide plant, which amounted to £2327 8s. 2d., or 2s. 4.39d. per ton of tailings and slimes treated. The profit for the half-year is shown to be £10,628 13s. 10d.; and six dividends have been paid, amounting to 6s. per 32,000th share, or £9600. The total quantity of quartz obtained from the mine to the 31st July was 241,751 tons, which have yielded 207,231 ozs. gold, an average of 17 dwts. 3 grs. per ton, realising £790,024 0s. 8d. The total amount paid in dividends is £344,000, or £10 15s. per share.

Mr. T. Andrews, the mine manager, reports:—At the 1600-ft. level a new chamber was cut at the south end of the shaft, 10 × 10 × 12, for the erection of the new electric pump. A crosscut

has been driven east to prove the east reef, and with very favourable indications. No work has been done on the west reef at this level, but as soon as the new pump is erected driving will be started north and south on the strong body of stone showing in this level. At the 1500-ft. level the north drive on west reef was started. A nice body of payable stone was entered after driving some distance, and this is a good indication for the bottom levels. At the 1300-ft. level a prospecting drive has been driven south of the slide, proving another shoot of stone 59 feet long, and averaging 8 feet wide, but of low grade. A rise put up through this block is disclosing ground increasing in value. The 1200-ft. level has been extended south of the slide, and has been connected with the level above by a rise, opening a nice block of dividend-paying stone. The 800-ft. level has been extended south of the second slide, proving a short block of payable stone. The 700-ft. level has been connected with the level above by two rises through two short blocks of payable stone, now being stoped. At the 500-ft. level successive slides were met with, breaking the reef into short blocks, which it is hoped will prove remunerative. All the stopes continue to show large bodies of dividend-paying stone.

Mr. T. J. Andrews reports:—The average assay value of the tailings has been low, but the extraction shows a good profit over working expenses. The accumulated tailings heap is almost finished. A large portion of the remainder being slimes, cannot be treated, as they cannot be leached in the ordinary way, and are not rich enough to treat by agitation. The gold won by the use of cyanide now totals £52,679 11s. 6d.

*Volunteer Consolidated.*—The wide body of stone at the junction of No. 4 with another reef at the 450-ft. level was cut off by a slide, and the drive on No. 4 is being continued beyond the fault. The intention is to prove the mine systematically.

*Volunteer Consolidated Extended.*—At the end of the quarter the reef was struck, and 4 feet of payable stone passed through.

MANGANA.—

	Crushed.	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	tons.	ozs.	No.
Golden Entrance.....	76	270	7
Miami .....	8	12	2
Total.....	<u>84</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>9</u>

These mines were worked on tribute.

**WEST COAST.—Coronation Mine.**—Mr. Wm. Allan, manager, reports:—A large body of water being struck in the lower level, No. 2, Capt. Kenny's shaft was sunk deeper and opened out from east. The schist and porphyry belt was met with in this drive, showing that the supposed saddle formation does not exist. A few tons of stone were taken out from the northern shoot, when it cut out very thin. This stone went  $12\frac{1}{2}$  dwts. gold per ton. The water difficulty in the lower level being overcome, this level has been extended south, with poor results. A shaft is being sunk to test the south end of the reef. Men employed, 4.

**May P.A., Lynchford.**—Mr. Joseph May, the secretary, reports:—Driven on course of reef 30 feet east, also a crosscut north 33 feet; are now opening out east. Fifty-two tons of quartz returned 26 ozs. gold. Two men.

**Woody Hill Mines.**—Messrs. W. and T. Murray report:—Stopping and driving on quartz. A storage dam has been constructed, and ten chains of road-making completed. Five men.

**Lake Jukes.**—Mr. H. S. Muir is sinking a winze on the auriferous formation recently met with. The gold is in disturbed felsitic rock, traversed by numerous heads or partings. Mortar prospects give 2 ozs. free gold per ton. Four men.

**Mt. Darwin.**—Twelve men have been engaged in creek and terrace sluicing, but their earnings are not known.

### TIN.

The production of tin ore at and near Waratah during the quarter was as follows:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Men employed.
Mount Bischoff .....	318	0	290
Wombat Mine .....	5	0	10
Waratah Alluvial.....	1	15	3
Stanhope Alluvial .....	3	0	3
Total .....	327	15	246

**Mt. Bischoff.**—Mr. H. W. Ferd. Kayser's report for the six months ending 30th June (published in July) shows that 636 tons tin ore were obtained, making a total since the formation of the

company of 62,866 tons 18 cwts. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. The quantities dealt with during the six months were:—

	tons.	cwts.	
60 head battery, 38,969 tons stuff, producing.....	384	16	dressed ore.
15 " " 11,680 " " .....	157	7	"
Slime sheds .....	80	19	"
Ring-tail sheds.....	12	18	"
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>"</b>

The average percentage of ore obtained from the whole mine was 1.255. The reduction of ore by stampers equalled 5.05 tons per stamp-head per 24 hours' running time. The cost of mining, crushing, and dressing a ton of stanniferous material is as follows:—

	s.	d.
Mining, including new works and maintenance .....	2	11.836
Filling, hauling, and emptying trucks .....	0	5.566
Crushing, dressing, and maintenance of plant .....	0	9.962
Slime sheds.....	0	1.171
Ring-tail sheds .....	0	2.111
Management and supervision .....	0	7.479
Plant .....	0	2.052
Development and progressive work .....	0	2.627
Diamond-drilling .....	0	7.224
Waterworks .....	0	0.031
Ore-bagging .....	0	0.527
Stores .....	0	5.630
Sundries .....	0	0.717
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7.933</b>

NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.—The output in this division has been 338 tons 8 cwts., and the men employed were 683.

The returns for the Ringarooma district were as follows:—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Star of Peace Co. ....	3	7	25	...
Mammoth Co. ....	...	...	6	...
Hope Creek Claims .....	1	13	6	...
Dorset Claims .....	0	19	8	...
Cascade Claims .....	3	5	22	3
Maurice River .....	1	14	12	...
Black Creek .....	2	16	17	...
Britannia Creek.....	1	2	4	...
Tin Pot Creek .....	0	10	2	...
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>3</b>

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICT.—The quarter's returns are as below:—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer mine .....	71	0	60	...
Scotia mine .....	14	13	14	...
Garibaldi mine .....	11	10	8	8
Sun Tan Kee .....	6	10	...	28
Argus .....	3	12	...	9
Boobyalla Proprietary .....	3	18	4	...
Emerald .....	3	8	2	...
E. R. Groves .....	2	13	2	...
Ruby .....	8	1	5	14
Cybele .....	3	18	5	...
Wah Chung's .....	4	10	...	4
Garibaldi and Wyniford ...	2	5	5	12
Little Mt. Horror .....	2	4	10	...
Ringarooma River .....	2	5	8	8
South Mt. Cameron .....	...	...	15	...
East Mt. Cameron .....	2	9	9	1
Gladstone .....	5	1	15	2
Mount Cameron .....	...	6	4	...
Mussel Roe .....	...	13	9	...
Other Claims .....	2	4	5	2
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>88</b>

MOORINA DISTRICT.—The following is the quarter's output:—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Native Youth Tin Mine ...	4	3	8	...
Moorina Tin Mine .....	4	10	8	...
Weld Tin Mine .....	5	3	8	...
Moa Tin Mine .....	2	15	7	...
Other Claims .....	1	5	4	1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mt. Horror .....</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>1</b>

DERBY DISTRICT.—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis .....	106	14	170	...
Ringarooma mines .....	1	4	2	...
Cascade claims .....	1	19	...	19
Main Creek mines .....	3	12	11	...
Tin Pot Creek mines .....	1	7	4	...
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>19</b>

## BRANXHOLM DISTRICT.—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine.....	28	...	32	...
Ruby Flat.....	11	6	6	29
	<u>39</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>29</u>
<i>Total North-Eastern Division</i>	<u>338</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>543</u>	<u>140</u>

EASTERN DIVISION.—The statistics for the quarter show 182 tons 13 cwts. tin ore raised, and 377 men employed. The particulars are as follows:—

	Tin ore obtained.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>				
Weldborough Tin Mine .....	2	18	5	...
R. B. Inglis .....	3	18	2	5
Chinese claims .....	6	6	...	51
Other claims.....	16	0	31	...
	<u>29</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>56</u>
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>				
Anchor Mine .....	62	5	190	...
Liberator and Cambria .....	0	10	2	...
Ogilvie's Lease (Blue Tier). .....	0	10	2	...
Direen's Lease .....	0	10	3	...
Kirwan & White's" Lease (Blue Tier) .....	0	10	2	...
Woolley Bros., Crystal Creek .....	1	13	2	...
Chinese Claims.....	0	14	...	5
Miners claims .....	2	2	10	...
	<u>68</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>5</u>
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>				
Royal Ruby .....	13	6	19	...
Thureau's Deep Lead .....	2	5	8	...
Hunt P.A.....	3	5	7	...
Other claims.....	6	14	35	1
Paul Beahr, Scamander .....	...	...	3	...
	<u>25</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>1</u>
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>				
Mount Rex .....	45	15	38	...
South Esk .....	12	16	12	...
Ben Lomond Claims .....	0	14	2	...
Hercules .....	0	2	2	...
	<u>59</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>...</u>
<b>TOTAL EASTERN DIVISION</b>	<u>182</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>62</u>

WEST COAST.—The quarter's output was:—

	tons.	cwt.	Men employed.
Mayne's Tin Mine.....	20	0	12

## SILVER.

WEST COAST.—The registered output of silver ores in the Western Division for the quarter ending 30th September is as follows:—

	Ore.	Tons.	Value. £	Men.
<i>Zeehan Mines:</i>				
Mount Zeehan, Tas.	galena .....	1745	12,505	192
Zeehan-Montana	" .....	1007	11,449	203
Zeehan-Western	" .....	73	870	} 38
"	gossan.....	107	232	
"	flux .....	15	6	} 31
Oonah	silver-lead, &c.....	16½	123	
"	stannite .....	112½	1147	} 38
"	flux ore .....	408	163	
Zeehan-Queen	galena .....	9½	57	} 3
Silver King	silver-lead .....	15	57	
"	flux ore .....	10	4	} 9
"	zinc ore .....	10	8	
Silver Queen Extended	galena.....	1½	16	8
Nubeena	" .....	50½	514	5
Watt and M'Auliffe	" .....	25½	270	
<i>Dundas Mines:</i>				
Hercules	zinc-lead .....	2236	1176	} 170
"	zinc-blende .....	2738	7614	
Comet	silver-lead .....	285	} 1329	34
"	flux ore .....	600		
West Comet	" .....	2100	900	30
Ring Valley	fahl ore .....	130	925	14
<i>Rosebery Mines:</i>				
Primrose	sulphide and gossan	1744	1383	15
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines:</i>				
North Mt. Farrell	galena.....	437	3496	75
Murchison	" .....	101	742	8
	Total .....	13,976½	44,986	873

*Mount Zeehan (Tasmania).*—Mr. T. Vincent, manager, reports:—No. 6 shaft, installing additional pumping and boiler power. Queen Extended still improving. Spray, No. 4 level, south 225 feet, good ore. No. 3, south 235 feet, last 80 feet good payable ore, looks well in face. Crosscut to No. 3 lode at 550 feet cut a burst of water, flooded Nos. 3 and 4 levels. 14K 3 level clear of water; men in face. Tunnel level, sinking 3 winzes No. 3 lode. Prospects of mine never better.

*Zeehan-Montana.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—The development work at No. 1 shaft is being carried on at both No. 5 (500 feet) and No. 6 (600 feet) levels. No. 8 lode, No. 5 level, has been driven on for a total distance of 270 feet; lode payable for 250 feet; lode in hard quartzite. The same lode is showing payable ore at No. 6 level. No. 6 lode, No. 6 level, has the appearance of improving in value, and offers fair inducement for deeper development. The payable ore on this lode only reached a depth of 420 feet. Below this, to No. 5 level, the lode was not payable; and at No. 5 level, the lode channel was, for the most part, filled with slaty material. At No. 6 it is a strong carbonate of iron lode, with bunches of galena in places. A rise put up from No. 6 to No. 5 level proved the lode to be ore-bearing for 60 feet above No. 6, a favourable sign for the lode again becoming profitable. It is intended now to start sinking No. 1 shaft 200 feet, in order to give the lode a further trial at the deeper level. The west crosscut is in 800 feet from the shaft, and Clark's lode is expected to be cut any day.

*Zeehan-Western.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—Sinking of the shaft is still in progress, and is now 745 feet below surface. At 100-ft. level a double 10-in. plunger pump has been put in. Development work is being carried on at No. 8 level on No. 1 lode, and on No. 4 lode, No. 4 level.

*Oonah.*—Capt. W. Fisher reports:—Stoping has been carried on between levels 3 and 4. This ground will be worked out in about three months, and fresh development will be necessary for any further work above water-level. At the gossan tunnel, as height was attained, the chute of gossan got shorter and poorer, and work is now being carried on in the winze below the main level, where there are 2 feet of carbonate of iron, carrying 50 ozs. silver per ton. At the Junction, the lode went poor in No. 3 level. There is a good siderite lode at No. 4.

*Zeehan-Queen.*—Mr. T. H. Vincent, manager, reports:—No. 1 shaft: Have now reached a total length of 800 feet on Clark's lode at No. 1 level; results good. In No. 2 level have intersected No. 5 lode, west of shaft, poor, and are now driving south on its course. Are also crosscutting west to intersect No. 3 lode.

*Silver King.*—Capt. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—The water being up, work is confined to shallow workings and surface prospecting. A fair quantity of gossan has been met with, but of too low grade to pay even for fluxing purposes. A trial parcel of zincblende was taken, but its realisation was not profitable.

DUNDAS AND MT. READ.—*Ring Valley Mine*.—Mr. John Moyle, manager, reports:—At No. 1 tunnel level driving, rising, and stoping have been carried on on a limited scale. The lode is very wide and hard at the northern end of the present workings, and poorer. The No. 1 tunnel is in 1025 feet, 2 rises are up 30 feet, and total length of stoping ground is 111 feet.

*Hercules Mine*.—Mr. Sydney Thow, general manager, reports:—2236 tons of zinc-lead ore, containing 395 ozs. gold, 30,525 ozs. silver, and 203 tons lead, value £1176, and 2738 tons of zinc-blende, containing 232 ozs. gold, 19,916 ozs. silver, and 274 tons lead, were won during the quarter. The main crosscut, No. 6, has been extended to 963 feet, passing through bands of silicious schists, which have carried disseminated sulphides of iron and copper in unpayable quantity, and so far no ore of commercial value has been exposed by this crosscut. However, to thoroughly test the country, it has been decided to continue driving to the 1100-ft. distance.

*Tasmanian Smelting Company, Limited*.—Mr. P. Kunze, manager reports:—Ore purchased during the quarter ending 30th September, 6423 tons, containing 1693 tons lead, valued at £19,678; 220,786 ozs. silver, valued at £25,962; 763 ozs. gold, valued at £3228. Bullion exported, 1968 tons lead, 266,323 ozs. silver, 737 ozs. gold. One hundred and eighty-five men employed.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—*Magnet Mine*.—Mr. R. F. Waller, mine manager, reports:—3170 $\frac{3}{4}$  tons silver-lead ore, value £8198 17s. 10d., were shipped to New South Wales during the quarter. The regular output is being fully maintained at this mine. The No. 5 level continues to look well, the lode here yielding a large quantity of first-class sulphide ore. About 4000 tons of good milling seconds are accumulated, ready to be operated upon by the new mill when the latter is completed. A fine new air-compressor has been installed recently. One hundred and twenty men employed.

#### HEAZLEWOOD AND WARATAH.—

	Silver ore won. tons.	Men employed.
Long Tunnel, Mt. Stewart .....	200	40
Washington, Whyte River.....	13	3
Silver Cliff, Waratah .....	10	2
Godkin, Whyte River .....	...	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	223	49
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## COPPER.

*Mount Lyell Mine.*—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports the quantities of ore treated and metal produced during the quarter ending 30th September to have been as follows:—

Ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated:—

	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore .....	74,704	14	3	4
North Lyell Mine ore .....	27,175	16	0	27
Purchased ores.....	106	18	3	4
	<hr/>			
By-products from Crotty Smelting Works.....	101,987	9	3	7
Metal-bearing fluxes from—				
North Lyell Mine .....	6	3	0	9
Royal Tharsis Mine .....	2145	12	1	19
Cupriferous clays:—	49	11	2	27
North Lyell Mine .....	58	4	2	6
King Lyell Mine .....	1	19	1	6
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	104,249	0	3	18
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The quantity and value of metal produced was—

Blister copper, 2044 tons, containing—	£	s.	d.
Copper, 2019 tons, valued at.....	117,142	7	7
Silver, fine, 194,602 ozs., valued at.....	21,542	8	10
Gold, fine, 6000 ozs., valued at .....	25,500	0	0
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Total value.....	£164,184	16	5
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Number of men employed—

At the Company's	Mt. Lyell Mine .....	310
"	North Lyell Mine .....	504
"	Reduction Works .....	1004
"	Mt. Lyell Railway.....	146
"	North Lyell Railway.....	18
		<hr/>
	Total .....	1982
		<hr/>

*North Lyell Mine.*—The last, or No. 6, level, which was opened from the winze or auxiliary shaft, shows the main ore-body much contracted at this depth (600 feet). In addition to production, 16 prospecting faces are in operation, and many of these have already opened bands and pockets of serviceable ore. The main shaft, after passing through some tight country, is about to be opened out on a level with the deepest workings of the winze or auxiliary shaft, with which it will be connected. At the Lyell Blocks Mine shaft the 450-ft. western crosscut has been re-opened.

The three open faces at surface supply fair-grade ore, besides filling for the principal underground workings.

At the Reduction Works the No. 1 nest of furnaces has been shut down, and the matte is now produced solely at No. 2 plant, where four alternating furnaces are constantly at work, and one is under preparation. An experimental magnetic separating plant is in course of erection, for treating the metal-bearing fluxes.

*Lyell Blocks.*—The work underground has mainly consisted of operations on the line of clay, dividing a main block into smaller ones, and opening these out. The concentrating mill started on the 29th August. Men employed, 115.

*Crown Lyell.*—Another level, No. 5, has been opened, and two ends are kept going from it; one north, 50 feet, with the country; and the other west, or across it. The object of the latter is to intersect the prospects which were located overhead. Eleven men employed.

*Tasman-Comstock Consolidated.*—Driving south from the Queen tunnel without any improvement. Two men employed.

*Tasman and Crown Lyell Extended.*—The connection between Nos. 3 and 2 levels has not yet been effected. Five men employed.

*South Mt. Lyell.*—The plant on this property is being dismantled and removed.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—*Blythe and Stowport.*—*Copper King Mine.*—This is on Messrs. Clarke and Sice's property. Work is now mainly confined to driving south on the lode from No. 2 cross-cut tunnel. Length of tunnel, 84 feet, and of the drive on lode, 43 feet. The face shows a lode channel 5 feet wide, with 18 to 22 inches on the east wall of very dense copper pyrites. The remainder of the lode-filling is graphitic slate and low-grade ore. No. 3 tunnel, a little to the north, yielded the greater portion of the first consignment of ore sent to the Lyell Smelters, which returned 14 per cent. copper. No. 4 tunnel, further north, is being driven into a formation corresponding with the strike of the main lode. The formation is graphitic, with strings of quartz and low-grade copper ore.

*Rutherford Mine.*—The shaft is now down 59 feet. It is intended to sink to a depth of 130 feet before cross-cutting to the lode.

Further discoveries near the Blythe are reported, and the prospects of the field are encouraging.

## COAL.

The output this quarter was 20,890 $\frac{1}{4}$  tons, against 15,783 tons the previous quarter. The raisings of the respective coal mines were as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Men employed.
Cornwall .....	10,708	120
Mount Nicholas .....	8088	73
Cardiff .....	96	3
Dulverton .....	192	7
Teasdale's, Dulverton .....	167	4
Spreyton .....	220	6
Bound's (Illamatha).....	250	7
York Plains .....	227 $\frac{1}{4}$	4
Sandfly .....	200	18
Mt. Cygnet .....	742	6
Total .....	20,890 $\frac{1}{4}$	248

*Illamatha Coal Mine.*—The seam here is generally about 18 inches in thickness, and dips slightly into the hill west. A downthrow fault of a couple of feet makes drainage difficult.

*Spreyton Colliery.*—The seam worked west of the main road has had to be left for the present, owing to faulting and influx of water. The workings are now east of the road opposite Bound's.

*Teasdale's.*—Here, too, faulting (and rolls) impede work, and the former makes drainage difficult.

*Mount Nicholas.*—Faulting of the seam is still a source of trouble. The main heading going north-east has now reached an 8-foot downthrow fault running north and south. The course of the heading is now altered to follow on the high side of this fault.

## IRON.

The quarter's output of the Tasmanian Iron Company's Mine at the Penguin was 2000 tons. Twenty-five men were employed.

## CONCLUSION.

Owing to the inability of the Commonwealth Customs authorities to furnish, in future, returns of ore exported, the statistics of these quarterly reports have become slightly disorganised. The raisings from the mines will have to be taken as the basis of the report. It is not possible all at once to obtain accurate information in this respect, and for this reason, as well as in consequence of

the difference between export and mine values, comparisons will appear to suffer, even though there be no decrease in reality. The present report submits the figures of output according to the actual returns received from the different districts.

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending the 30th September, 1904:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern .....	973	1	974
North-Western .....	415	...	415
North-Eastern .....	564	140	704
Eastern .....	809	62	871
Western .....	3465	...	3465
Total .....	6226	203	6429

Value of the mineral output per man employed, £55 6s. 7½d.

The dividends paid during the quarter were:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines.....			Nil.			
From Gold Mines:—						
New Golden Gate G. M. Co., N.L. ....	4800	0	0	4800	0	0
From Tin Mines:—						
Pioneer T. M. Co., Ltd. ....	4050	0	0			
Mt. Bischoff T. M. Co., Registered ...	13,500	0	0	17,550	0	0
From Silver Mines:—						
Mt. Zeehan (Tasmania) Silver-lead Mines, Ltd.....	4198	4	0			
West Comet Pros. Syndicate, N.L.....	64	0	0	4262	4	0
Total .....			...	£26,612	4	0