

MININD1905-3

THE PROGRESS OF
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY
OF
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1905.

COMPILED BY

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BY ORDER OF

THE HONOURABLE ALEC. HEAN,

MINISTER OF MINES.



Tasmania:

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1905



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MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1905.

Launceston, 25th November, 1905.

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, 1905, as compared with the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1905:—

	During the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1905.		During the Quarter ending 30th June, 1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
* Gold won ozs.	20,225·878	85,914	16,170·296	68,687
Silver Lead Ore raised ... tons	20,739½	65,050	17,701	54,896
† Blister Copper produced ..	2339	188,935	1967	152,778
Copper Ore and Native Copper produced..... ..	315	12,452	215½	11,903
Tin Ore produced..... ..	1050¾	100,502	927¾	82,662
Iron Ore produced	1500	600	1600	700
Coal produced	15,252	12,964	13,283	11,291
Wolfram Ore produced... ..	8	556	9½	747
Bismuth Ore produced... ..	1½	350	¾	200
...		467,323	...	383,864

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

† Value of gold contents deducted.

GOLD.

During the past quarter 10,868½ ozs. of gold were obtained from quartz, 164 ozs. from alluvial, 2199¼ ozs. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, 6419 ozs. from blister copper from the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, and 540 ozs. from the silver-lead bullion from the Tasmanian Smelting Company's works, Zeehan, valued at £85,914.

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 1904, and the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1905:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1905.						TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1904.	Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1905.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.	From Sulphide Ores.			
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	
Beaconsfield	8569½	11	1881	...	...	...	10,461½	4550	7075¾
Mathinna ...	2177¼	...	202	...	...	...	2379¼	4948	2711¼
Mt. Victoria	} 108	8	...	...	...	...	116	180	25
Warrentinna									
Lefroy	13½	3	116¼	...	...	...	182¾	164	315½
Lisle	} ...	45	...	...	...	...	45	147	45
Golconda ...									
Mangana ...	309	...	...	...	...	...	309	282	
Bell Mount.	...	20	...	...	...	...	20	12	2
West Coast.	...	77	...	6419	540	...	7086	7421½	6232
TOTALS	11,177¼	164	2199¼	6419	540	...	20,499½		
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1904.....	8427½	204¾	1659	6000	737	627¼	...	17,654½	
Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1905.....	8432¼	113	1670	6006	185	...	...	...	16,406½

Value £85,914; equal to 20,225·878 ozs. fine gold.

BEACONSFIELD.—The quarter's statistics for the district are as follows:—

	Gold produced, ozs.	Men employed.
Tasmania Mine.....	10,381	708
North Tasmania.....	69½	18
Other Companies.....	—	18
Prospectors.....	11	12
Total.....	<u>10,461½</u>	<u>756</u>

Tasmania Mine.—15,778 tons quartz were crushed, and 10,381 ozs. fine gold obtained (by amalgamation and chlorination), which makes a total of 566,660 tons quartz crushed, and 624,551 ozs. gold won since the mine was first started.

Mr. C. F. Heathcote, A.M.I.C.E., the general manager, reports:—During the last quarter Grubb's shaft has been sunk and timbered to a total depth of 628 feet. The foundations and erection of the engine-house for Grubb's shaft have been completed, and the building is now ready for the reception of the second and third units of the pumping-engine. The erection of a tailings separating plant and cyanide plant has been started.

North Tasmania.—The 69½ ozs. of gold obtained were from 22 tons quartz crushed.

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

	Gold produced, ozs.	Men employed.
New Pinafore.....	116¼	18
McIvor Syndicate.....	13½	15
Lanham and party.....	3	4
Prospectors and others.....	—	52
Total.....	<u>132¼</u>	<u>89</u>

Mr. J. T. Stubs, manager of the New Pinafore, reports:—A considerable amount of genuine prospecting has been done at shallow levels in different parts of the field; though some small finds have been made, nothing of any commercial value has resulted. The New Pinafore Company is at present following up some alluvial wash, which carries excellent prospects of rough reef gold in small patches, and it seems only a question of time when its source will be located. The McIvor Company is busy sinking a main shaft. The Nugget P.A. also contemplates sinking a main shaft to a depth of 150 feet, to test the Sunlight reef. The outlook for the next quarter is rather hopeful.

LISLE AND GOLCONDA.—45 ozs. gold were won from the Lisle district during the quarter, and 18 men employed.

BELL MOUNT.—20 ozs. gold were obtained by a couple of men.

MT. VICTORIA.—The statistics for the district are as under:—

	Tons crushed.	Gold won. ozs.	Men employed.
Long Struggle	60	74	6
New Ringarooma.....	60	34	6
Krushka's Alluvial .....	...	8	1
Total.....	<u>120</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>13</u>

The two quartz mines in this district are reported as looking well.

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

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Gold produced. ozs.	Men.
New Golden Gate	5370	1667	175
Tasmanian Consols	1286	652½	68
City of Melbourne.....	13	22	2
Miners' Dream.....	13	37½	3
Other mines .....	...	...	56
	<u>6682</u>	<u>2379½</u>	<u>304</u>

New Golden Gate.—The company has issued its 35th half-yearly report to the 21st July. During the six months 10,570 tons of quartz have been crushed, from which 4181 ozs. retorted gold have been obtained at the battery, valued at £15,229 3s. 3d. Seventy tons of pyrites were also obtained by concentrating tables, containing 361 ozs. gold, valued at £1210 14s. 8d., and 11,135 tons of tailings and slimes have been treated by cyanide of potassium, which produced 375 ozs. of gold, valued at £1444 18s. 10d., making a total revenue of £17,954 16s. 9d. The cost of raising and crushing quartz, treating concentrates, repairs and renewals to plant, progressive and surface works, and incidental expenses amounts to £15,304 17s. 3d., or £1 8s. 11½d. per ton of quartz crushed. This does not include cost of stores and labour at cyanide plant, which amounts to £1424 17s. 3d., or 2s. 6¾d. per ton of tailings and slimes treated. The profit for the half-year is shown to be £1225 2s. 3d. The total quantity of quartz now obtained from the mine is 262,661 tons, which has yielded 220,870 ozs. of gold, an average of 16 dwts. 20 grs. per ton, and which has realised £840,275 19s. 3d. The total amount paid in dividends is £355,200, or £11 2s. per share. The prospecting operations have failed to open up fresh reserves of payable stone, and the quartz treated has been poorer than heretofore. The east reef at the 1600-foot level carries gold, but is not payable; and the west reef at that level has also been unremunerative.

Volunteer Consolidated.—The drive on No. 5 reef is being extended towards the expected junction, and the end is now in junction country. The ground has been well prospected throughout the mine at this level (450 feet), with irregular and not altogether satisfactory results, and the persistent nature of the reefs indicates a necessity for further exploration by deeper sinking, which should, in fact, be the policy of every mine on the Mathinna field, the New Golden Gate included.

Tasmanian Consols.—A powerful reef is being driven on at the 1400-foot level, and payable stone is being taken from between the 1300 and 1400 feet. The reef in this mine has greatly improved below the 1300-foot level.

Volunteer Consolidated Extended.—This company has secured 18 acres at the head of Black Horse Gully, and is driving on gold-bearing stone from the bottom of a 50-foot shaft.

Miner's Dream.—The underlay drive is on good stone, which is widening in the end and showing signs of becoming more vertical.

Ophir Mine.—Work is going on in the old upper tunnel. The new main shaft sinking has been suspended, temporarily.

MANGANA.—The statistics are as follows:—

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Gold produced. ozs.	M-en.
Golden Entrance	48	309	3
Mangana Reefs .....	...	...	3
Other claims.....	...	...	6
	<hr/> 48	<hr/> 309	<hr/> 12
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

WEST COAST.—*Woody Hills.*—Messrs. Murray Bros. are driving from an intermediate on a small reef, which prospects fairly, and are also rising to connect the higher and "Macquarie" workings with their battery. Fourteen men employed.

May Gold Mine, Lynchford.—An 18-foot waterwheel and a 5-head battery have been erected, and at present the amalgamating tables are being completed preparatory to commencing crushing. Six men employed.

Lake Jukes.—A 5-head battery driven by a 28-foot overshot-wheel commenced crushing on 13th September. Twenty men.

Alluvial Mining.—Seventeen men have been fossicking at Queen River, Harris' Reward, Flannigan's Flat, and around Darwin, winning 43 ozs. gold, in addition to which 34 ozs. have been sold locally.

TIN.

The statistics for this metal for the past quarter are as follows:—

	Ore won.		Men employed.
	tons.	cwts.	
Northern and Southern Division	7	14	17
North-Eastern Division.....	532	8	704
Eastern Division.....	155	10	379
Western Division.....	24	5	105
North-Western Division.....	330	18	290
Total.....	1050	15	1495

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—The output has been as under:—

	tons.	cwts.	Men employed.
Mount Bischoff	318	0	230
Bischoff Extended	7	10	24
Stanhope Alluvial	2	5	3
Waratah Alluvial.....	0	13	4
Other mines near Bischoff			24
Reliance, Mt. Balfour.....	2	10	5
Total	330	18	290

NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.—RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	tons.	cwts.	Men employed.	
			Europeans.	Chinese.
Maurice River	0	8	5	...
Dorset River.....	2	11	11	...
Hope Creek.....	2	0	5	...
Britannia Creek	0	2	1	...
Gorge Creek.....	1	17	7	...
Nugget Creek.....	0	16	...	2
Cascade River.....	4	3	14	7
Black Creek.....	3	14	11	1
Bell's Plains.....	0	6	1	2
Dunn's Creek.....	0	5	2	...
Total	16	2	57	12

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Mine.....	78	0	76	...
Garibaldi Mine	4	15	6	7
Hee Sung.....	8	4	...	8
Yee Gee.....	4	14	...	19
South Mt. Cameron Mine...	20	3	24	...
Cybele Mine .....	...	...	21	...
Scotia Mine.....	12	0	16	...
Wyniford Mine	5	1	18	...
J. Simpson	1	6	3	7
Wilson, Pioneer	0	4	3	...
Ah Hang	1	2	...	9
Wilberforce Pump.....	2	13	4	...
Boobyalla Claims.....	1	10	4	...
Sundry Gladstone Claims...	15	10	25	11
Total.....	155	2	200	61

Pioneer Mine.—Mr. Cecil Ryan, manager, reports:—For the three months ending 30th September, this company sluiced 104,700 cubic yards of the upper drifts for 78 tons of stream tin. The tailings are being dumped into the old workings, and No. 2 plant (12-inch pump) having nearly filled its dump to the limit of its lift, will shortly be lowered to raise the lower bench of drift to the sluicing level of the larger sluicing plant (No. 1). The building up of the tailings dam to the height necessary to enable the water to flow out of the tailings paddock without pumping will be continued by a branch tail-race from No. 1 plant; as soon as this is done, the present pumping plant (No. 3) will come into operation as an independent sluicing plant.

South Mt. Cameron Tin Mine.—Mr. H. P. Cecil, manager, reports:—In future we ought to be able to treat more stuff, as we have laid down another run of sluice-boxes, which will enable us to sluice continuously during the time we are cleaning up the paddock from the present boxes. The present prospects appear to be very favourable. During the past quarter 29,000 cubic yards have been treated, for 20 tons 3 cwts. tin ore.

DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines	207	12	} 150	...
New Bros. Home, No. 1 ...	63	15		...
Briseis Extended	23	13	43	...
Cascade River Claims	8	8	18	19
Main Creek Claims	3	2	17	...
Total.....	306	10	228	19

Briseis Tin Mines.—Mr. Lindesay C. Clark, general manager, reports:—Overburden removed at the Briseis, 138,200 cubic yards; drift sluiced, 113,700 cubic yards. At the New Brothers' Home No. 1 Company, overburden removed, 29,732 cubic yards; drift sluiced, 56,400 cubic yards.

The rainfall was, at mine, 13·88 inches on 48 wet days; at Ringarooma dam, 17·02 inches on 47 wet days.

The average daily water supply:—

Cascade	66	Tasmanian sluice-heads
Main Creek	12	" "
Ringarooma	102	" "
	<u>180</u>	

Generally, satisfactory progress has been made. The Briseis Hill overburden is now all comparatively soft, although a certain amount of trucking is required. The major portion of the hard part of the southern hill has been removed.

BRANXHOLM DISTRICT.—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine.....	6	18	41	...
New Ruby Flat	19	10	15	...
Contact Mine.....	2	4	3	...
S. Hawkes.....	2	0	5	...
J. Watt and party.....	0	8	5	..
Smith and Baker	0	15	3	...
Ah Moy & Co.	1	15	...	10
Sun Kee.....	0	7	...	1
Total	<u>33</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>11</u>

MOORINA DISTRICT.—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Native Youth	6	0	9	...
Moa	4	10	7	...
Moorina Tin Mine.....	3	7	7	...
Weld Tin Mine	4	10	12	...
Argus Mine.....	2	0	4	...
Other Claims	0	10	5	...
	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>...</u>
<i>Total North-Eastern Division</i>	<u>532</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>103</u>

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Middlesex claims	7	14	17	...

EASTERN DIVISION.—The following are the statistics for the quarter:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwts.	Europeans.	Chinese.
<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>				
Weldborough Tin Mining Co.	3	8	5	...
Cascade Tin Mining Co.	1	17	...	5
Bryce Bros.	2	3	3	...
W. Evers	1	12	3	...
Chinese Claims.....	12	17	...	56
Other Claims.....	8	16	16	...
Total	30	13	27	61
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>				
Anchor Mine	59	8	120	...
Australian Mine	3	3	6	...
Liberator Mine.....	0	13	4	...
Lottah Claims.....	1	5	6	...
Blue Tier Claims.....	4	10	26	...
Chinese Tier Claims.....	1	0	...	7
Total	69	19	162	7
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>				
Royal Ruby	5	6	7	...
Thureau's Deep Lead.....	0	17	2	...
Hunt Tin Mining Co.	3	2	2	...
A. Williams & Co.	2	9	6	2
C. Miller and Co.....	0	18	4	...
Other Claims.....	2	17	20	...
Total	15	9	41	2
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>				
Mount Rex	31	15	25	...
South Esk	1	19	11	...
Dalrymple and Brookstead	...		18	...
Ben Lomond and Storey's				
Creek	1	15	5	...
Sundry Claims	4	0	20	...
Total	39	9	79	...
<i>Total Eastern Division.....</i>	155	10	309	70

Anchor Mine.—Mr. J. B. Lewis, manager, reports:—36,329 tons of stone have been crushed, for a return of 59 tons 8 cwts. tin ore. A much larger quantity should have been crushed, but on account of heavy renewals and repairs in the battery, we have been able to keep only an average of 91 stamps running. A much smaller proportion of the stone crushed than usual has come from the old faces, the new faces to the east of the mine sending out an increased quantity; and in future the bulk of the stone will come from these, as their extension will command an almost inexhaustible supply of tin-bearing rock, which, though not rich, can, with care, be made payable. No abnormally rich patches have been struck in the faces for many months. The water supply still remains good, and the weather has been favourable for work.

Mt. Rex Mine.—Mr. Mark Ireland, manager, reports:—2452 tons stone crushed, for 31 tons 15 cwts. The known payable stone at No. 2 level is worked out, and only the No. 1 level is being worked. Since the close of the quarter, the work at this mine has been suspended.

Mt. Cameron Water-race.—Mr. F. S. Grove, under instruction from the Mt. Cameron Water-race Board, has cut a race on the western side of the Old Chum Creek, connecting that creek with the main race; and has deviated the main race where it crossed the Old Chum Creek. This new connecting race is about 28 chains long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide at bottom, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, with a batter of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1; and has a fall of 0.05 feet per chain. The intake is on a solid rock bar, which makes a splendid foundation for the concrete weir required to divert the water into the race. The flood-gate is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ chains along the race from the intake, where the race first goes into rock cutting, and is concreted into the solid rock. At about 9 chains from the intake the race picks up a small creek, the bank across which, 1 chain long, is of rammed clay, stone-faced on the race side, and backed with the material from the excavation. There was a good deal of rock to shoot through on this race, and also a lot of cement and soft granite. The whole is very solid, and should last many years. It is expected to add from 4 to 6 sluiceways per eight hours to the water supply of the main race, and will not be long in repaying the money expended on its construction. The deviation of the main race is about 10 chains long (including an iron flume approximately 137 feet in length and about 12 feet high at deepest place), $4\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide on bottom, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, with a batter of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1. The fall on the eastern side is 0.05 feet per chain; the flume falls 0.1; and the race on the western side, 0.08 feet per chain. The original flume crossing the Old Chum Creek (No. 26) was about 264 feet long and 40 feet high in the middle. It had fallen into a state beyond repair, and its collapse would have meant practically cutting off all the race water. It was found that by going a few chains up the creek, a better crossing could be obtained,

considerably reducing both length and height of flume required. The cutting on the eastern side of the creek was mainly good, but the western side was nearly all granite. The flume erected on the deviation is made of 14-gauge steel plates, which were dipped in boiling asphaltum.

WESTERN DIVISION:—

	Tin ore won. tons. cwts.	Men employed.
Mayne's Tin Mine.....	10	9
Reinison Bell Mine.....	2	10
Sundry Claims.....	12½	34
Prospectors and others . . .	...	52
Total	<u>24½</u>	<u>105</u>

SILVER.

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

	Ore.	Tons.	Value. £	Men.
<i>Zeehan Mines:</i>				
Mount Zeehan, Tas.	galena.....	1999	17,365	194
Zeehan-Montana	"	939	13,303	212
Zeehan-Western	"	304	4148	135
"	gossan	126	403	
"	carbonates	304	845	36
Zeehan-Queen	galena	100	1226	
"	flux	233	126	
Florence	galena	284	2108	60
Silver King	gossan	93	41	3
Oonah	gossan	80	371	15
"	sulphide	1020	441	
Nubeena	galena	18	203	8
"	"	18	90	
Silver Queen Extended	galena and flux	20	58	10
New Mount Zeehan	galena	143	312	7
Zeehan-South Comstock	"	146	1260	43
Tengdahl's tribute	"	134	1234	34
<i>Dundas Mines:</i>				
Red Lead	flux ore	622	235	4
Comet	galena.....	347	1852	60
"	gossan.....	2090	973	
West Comet	flux	4000	1700	50
Ring Valley	fahl ore	67	1203	10
Ring River (Tas. Cop- per)	sulphide	575	930	6

	Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men.
<i>Rosebery Mines :</i>				
Primrose	galena	1134	1212	20
Tasmanian Copper	silver-lead	2073	1600	21
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines :</i>				
North Farrell	galena.....	388	3298	80
Murchison River	"	51	460	10
Tasmanian Smelting Co. ....	.....	...	...	225
Sundry Mines and Claims...	.....	...	...	175
Total		<u>17,308</u>	<u>56,997</u>	<u>1418</u>

MOUNT ZEEHAN (TASMANIA).—*Spray Mine.*—Mr. T. Vincent, manager, reports:—No. 4 winze 94 feet below No. 4 level, lode 10 feet wide, rich antimonial ore. No. 4 level, south drive, 442 feet, poor; north drive, 271 feet, poor. No. 3 level, No. 3 lode, north drive, 290 feet, poor; passed through bunch pay ore. No. 2 shaft, No. 30 lode, south, 753 feet, strong lode, very promising. Mine generally looking well.

Zeehan-Montana.—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—During the quarter exploratory work has been carried on at Nos. 4, 5, and 6 levels on Nos. 2, 3, and 8 lodes. Eight drives are being advanced at these levels, and new shoots of ore have been cut in Nos. 2 and 3 lodes at Nos. 5 and 6 levels. These lodes have, with the exception of the crosscuts passing through them, not been worked or explored below No. 2 level. At Nos. 5 and 6 levels good payable ore has been discovered, and the mine at time of writing has reserves of ore in sight equal to any period of its existence. No. 2 shaft has reached 400 feet, and, after sinking for a well below No. 4 level, crosscuts will be started both at the 300 and 400-foot levels. The pumping engine at No. 1 shaft has been repaired, and a new balance-bob put in. Sinking to No. 8, or 800-foot, level will be resumed in a few days.

Zeehan-Western.—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—Three drives are being extended at No. 11 (800-foot) level, and one crosscut, but so far nothing of permanent value has been found. Eighty-eight men are tributing at various levels, on a royalty system, making good wages, while the company receives a fair revenue.

Zeehan-Queen.—Mr. T. H. Vincent, manager, reports:—Stoping Clarke's lode, No. 1 level; results payable. At No. 2 level have driven 212 feet north and south on No. 3 lode without result.

Florence Mine.—Mr. F. K. Astell, manager, reports:—No. 1 level, south of shaft, advanced to 464 feet; lode cut, and is now being driven upon. Stopping on south lode between Nos. 2 and 1 levels, with good results.

Silver King.—Capt. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—Low-grade ore has been scraped from the tips, &c., of the old south workings. A fair amount of capital is indispensable to the development of this property.

Oonah.—Capt. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—The known stannite above water-level is worked out, and vigorous prospecting is being carried on. Going south in the No. 4 adit level the lode at present is 4 feet 6 inches, but hard and barren. The chief producer at present is the kaolin lode, which, at the time, carries gossan 2 feet wide, worth 120 ozs. silver per ton. The Tasmanian Smelting Co. draws upon our reserves of stannite seconds as required; 1020 tons have been delivered, and 2000 tons are still on hand. The copper show has been let on tribute for five years, and is to be developed on a fairly large scale.

Silver Queen Extended.—Mr. C. Stevens, manager, reports:—222 feet have been driven, 55 feet stoped, 9 feet risen, and 132 feet trenched.

DUNDAS AND MT. READ.—*Ring Valley.*—Mr. John Moyle, manager, reports:—A fair amount of work has been done the past quarter, comprising driving, rising, and stoping. No. 1 level has been advanced to 1108 feet. The lode formation is 7 feet wide, but valueless. A feature of this lode is that it is enclosed between two highly polished (slickensided) walls, and the channel is discharging a quantity of water.

MT. FARRELL DISTRICT.—*Murchison River Mine.*—Mr. J. H. Astell, manager, reports:—No. 3 tunnel in 350 feet. Should cut the main lode at 532 feet, giving 110 feet of backs under No. 2 level.

Tasmanian Smelting Company.—Mr. T. Kapp, manager, reports:—Ore purchased during the quarter ending 30th September, 12,036 tons, containing 2569 tons lead, 411,877 ozs. silver, 504 ozs. gold. Bullion exported, containing 2698 tons lead, value £37,230; 413,455 ozs. silver, value £51,607; 540 ozs. gold, value £2284.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—

	Ore produced. tons.	Value. £	Men employed.
Magnet Mine.....	2978½	6453	125
Long Tunnel.....	453	1600	15
Other mines.....	...	...	9
	<u>3431½</u>	<u>8053</u>	<u>149</u>

Magnet Mine.—The lode at No. 6 has been driven on north and south for nearly 100 feet. In the south face it is about 18 feet wide, and consists of bands of ore of about the same value as when

first intersected. In the north face it is about 9 feet wide, of which 4 feet are exceedingly rich, in fact, richer than before met with in the mine, and, moreover, practically free from zinc. It consists of alternating bands of coarse and fine galena, with a little sulphide of silver and proustite, and a phenomenally large quantity of native silver. A short distance north of the crosscut a rise has been started, to connect with No. 5 level above. This is now up about 40 feet, carrying high-grade ore the whole of the way. A stope has also been opened out above the level, and this is yielding good grade ore. The system of timbering is a modification of the square set. It is in a series of three parallel drives. The timbers used are of large size, 17 to 20 inches in diameter. Fifty feet further south should bring the workings under the shoot of ore that was driven on in No. 5. The ore going towards the north is practically a new make, which just rose to the level of No. 5. Along its whole course, where driven on, it is stronger under foot than anywhere else. In the south end of the mine a rise has been put up from No. 4 level, to connect with Hill's winze, which was sunk from No. 1 level south. The connection has been effected, and the distance between the levels, 140 feet, is all in ore. Two immediate drives are now being put in, following the ore-shoot to the south. At the extreme north end of the mine, in No. 2 level, a shoot of ore has been discovered, and is being broken out and followed to surface. It is intended to rise from No. 4, to intersect the same body. A survey has been almost completed to increase the water power at the mine, by using the Arthur River water and again restoring it to its main channel above the intake of other mines. It is probable that electric power will be installed at the mine in place of the present compressed air plant.

COPPER.

Mount Lyell Mine.—Mr. Robt. Sticht, general manager, reports:—The quantities of ore treated and metal produced during the quarter ending 30th September were as follows:—

Ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated:—

	Dry weight.			
	tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore	77,210	0	1	19
North Lyell Mine ore	28,005	5	3	24
Purchased ore.....	357	1	0	7
Metal-bearing fluxes:				
From North Lyell Mine	758	0	2	15
" Royal Tharsis Mine	803	0	3	9
" South Tharsis Mine	7	19	0	22
" Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	2155	17	1	20
Total	109,302	8	0	14

Quantity and value of metal produced:—

	£	s.	d.
Blister Copper, 2339 tons, containing—			
Copper, 2310 tons, valued at.....	166,560	4	10
Silver, fine, 192,332 ozs., valued at.....	22,374	12	5
Gold, fine, 6419 ozs., valued at	27,280	15	0
	<u>£216,215</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>

Number of men employed:—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine	339
" " North Lyell Mine	428
" " Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	48
" " North Crown Lyell	9
" " Prince Lyell Mine	2
" " Reduction Works	1087
" " Mt. Lyell Railway.....	128
" " North Lyell Railway.....	17
	<u>2058</u>

Inspector Curtain reports that prospecting has been continued from the No. 8 level, in the vicinity of the old South Lyell ground stope. At the North Lyell profitable stoping continues from the lowest, or No. 6, level to No. 1. Below the former the main shaft has been sunk 50 feet, chiefly through high-grade sulphide ore. Electric plant has been installed for hoisting, and for lighting the main shaft, plats, and galleries; also for signalling by telephone between each chamber and the winch-driver. At the Lyell Tharsis Mine serviceable quantities of high-grade ore are won by open-cut and underground stoping. Operations at North Crown Lyell and Prince Lyell mines have been of a prospecting nature.

Lyell Blocks Mine.—230 men employed. 2325 feet risen and driven. 267 tons concentrates produced.

The *Crown, Tasman-Comstock, Crown Lyell Extended*, and copper mines of Mt. Lyell West are idle at present, but reported as contemplating resumption of work. Two men.

Several of the old mineral sections in the vicinity of Lake Dora and Mount Sedgwick have been re-applied for.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.—The Copper King Mine at the Blythe shipped 48 tons copper ore during the quarter, valued at £672. Nine men were employed.

IRON.

The *Tasmanian Iron Company*, at the Penguin, raised 1500 tons of pure hematite ore, employing 20 men.

WOLFRAM.

The production has been as follows:—

	tons.	cwts.	Men employed.
All Nations Mine	2	5	2
Ben Lomond Mines	5	15	7
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>

COAL.

The output this quarter was 15,252 tons, against 13,283 tons the previous quarter. The raisings at the respective collieries were as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Men employed.
Mount Nicholas Colliery	7425	70
Cornwall "	5744	59
Cardiff "	42	1
Spreyton (Allison's)	300	4
Dulverton Colliery	244	4
Teasdale's (Dulverton)	118	2
Brightburn (Ruilton)	70	3
York Plains Colliery	124	3
Mt. Cygnet "	780	6
Catamaran "	380	6
Sandfly "	25	2
Total	<u>15,252</u>	<u>160</u>

Samples of coal from seams at the undermentioned collieries have been taken by Mr. M. J. Griffin, Inspector of Mines for the Northern and Southern Division, and assayed by Mr. W. F. Ward, Government Analyst, as follows:—

	Fixed Carbon.	Gases, &c.	Ash.	Moisture.
Sandfly, anthracite, 3' 6" seam	80·8	8·0	9·0	2·2
Mt. Cygnet	63·9	13·2	22·0	0·9
Catamaran, upper seam	67·8	24·5	3·7	4·0
Ditto second seam	65·6	27·7	3·9	2·8

CONCLUSION.

The values of minerals raised this quarter have again mounted, being £467,323, against £383,864 the preceding quarter. The increase is distributed among all minerals, and applies to tonnages as well as values. 4055 ozs. more gold were won, 123 tons more tin ore, 3038 tons more silver-lead ore, 472 tons more copper, and 1969 tons more coal. A further increase of 323 men engaged in the mineral industry throughout the State has taken place.

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending the 30th September, 1905:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern	942	1	943
North-Eastern	614	103	717
Eastern	762	70	832
North-Western	439	...	439
Western	3870	...	3870
Total	6727	174	6801

Value of mineral output per man employed, £68 14s. 3¼d.

The dividends paid during the quarter were:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines—						
Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited			Nil			
From Gold Mines			Nil			
From Tin Mines:—						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered	13,500	0	0			
Pioneer T.M. Co., Ltd.	3375	0	0			
Wilberforce Pump Co., No. 1, N.L.....	75	0	0			
New Ruby Flat T.M. Co., N.L.....	475	0	0			
				17,425	0	0
From Silver Mines:—						
Mt. Zeehan (Tasmania) Silver-lead Mines, Ltd.....	4198	0	0			
Zeehan-Montana Mine, Ltd.....	2000	6	0			
				6198	0	0
Total .....			...	£23,623	0	0