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THE PROGRESS OF  
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY  
OF  
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1911

COMPILED BY

W. H. WALLACE

SECRETARY FOR MINES

BY ORDER OF

THE HONOURABLE A. E. SOLOMON

MINISTER FOR MINES



Tasmania:

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

1911



PROGRESS OF THE  
**MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA,**  
 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1911.

Hobart, 11th November, 1911.

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, 1911, as compared with the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1911:—

	During the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1911.		During the Quarter ending 30th June, 1911.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
• Gold won .....	oz. 8073·965	34,296	9389·022	39,882
Silver-lead Ore produced	tons 22,033·46	86,997	8988·94	41,372
† Blister Copper produced	„ 1706	110,019	2136	135,736
Copper Ore and Copper produced .....	„ 577	4435	677	8344
Tin Ore produced .....	„ 1037·45	131,594	997·85	130,595
Coal raised .....	„ 16,056	7395†	16,529	7623†
Wolfram Ore produced...	„ 15·71	1855	20·59	2201
Bismuth .....	„ 3·46	1384	3·32	1328
Shale .....	„ ...	...	100	50
Osmiridium .....	oz. 38·5	253	...	...
	...	378,228	...	367,131

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

† Value of gold contents deducted.

‡ Value at pit's mouth.

## GOLD.

During the past quarter 3189·25 oz. gold were obtained from quartz, 155·33 oz. from alluvial, 2151 oz. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, and 2600 oz. from blister copper from the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, valued at £34,296.

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 1910, and the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1911:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th September, 1911.					TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1910.	Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1911.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.			
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.
Beaconsfield 3	...	...	2151	...	...	5259	5237	6117
Mathinna ...	71·5	...	...	...	...	71·5	386·5	841
Mt. Victoria	}	75·75	...	...	...	75·75	27·24	54
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron	}	...	...	...	...	9·75	175	23·5
Lefroy .....								
Lisle .....	}	66	...	...	...	66	75	37·5
Lilydale.....								
Golconda ...	}	13·58	...	2600	...	2613·58	2829·75	2426
West Coast.								
<b>TOTALS</b>	3189·25	155·33	2151	2600	...	8095·58	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1910.....	3887·5	171·99	1911	2760	...	...	8730·49	...
Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1911.....	5314·5	68	1698·5	2418	...	...	...	9499

Value, £34,296; equal to 8073·965 oz. fine gold.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Tasmania Mine.....	5259	476
North Tasmania.....	...	...
Total.....	5259	476

*Tasmania Mine.*—Twelve thousand eight hundred and eight tons of quartz crushed, and 5259 oz. of gold obtained (by amalgamation and cyanide process), which makes a total of 917,811 tons quartz crushed, and 782,358 oz. gold obtained since the mine was first started.

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

	Gold produced. oz.	Men employed.
Creek Cyanide .....	...	...
New Pinafore.....	9·75	3
Others .....	...	...
Total .....	<u>9·75</u>	<u>3</u>

LISLE, GOLCONDA, &C.—Sixty-six ounces of gold have been won from these fields. Ten men have been employed.

ALBERTON.—Sixty-three ounces were obtained from this district by five men.

*Alluvial Gold and Dredging Companies.*—Gold has been obtained by the following companies in streaming tin:—

	Standard Gold. oz.
South Mt. Cameron Dredge .....	2·75
S. Mt. Cameron T.M. Co. ....	10
Briseis Co. ....	...
Total .....	<u>12·75</u>

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

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Sand treated. tons.	Gold produced. oz.	Men.
New Golden Gate .....	60	...	65	4
O'Brien's.....	10	...	6·5	5
Others .....	...	...	...	37
Totals .....	<u>70</u>	<u>...</u>	<u>71·5</u>	<u>46</u>

WEST COAST.—Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

*McDowell Prospecting Association, Linda Valley.*—Work on this property has been confined to driving an adit 120 feet on the southern slope of the conglomerate flanks of Mt. Lyell; that gives 60 feet (50 feet vertical) of "backs." The country passed through is a soft "becciated ochreous formation," merging into

clay, until, at a distance of 112 feet from the entrance, it butts on to clean sandstone. This has been followed 37 feet easterly, where a "breast" of "rotten" conglomerate was intercepted, upon whose strike (340°) a rubbly "wash" interspersed with irregular veins of "pipeclay" has been driven on for 30 feet, and found carrying gold, from dwts. to 4-oz. pieces; while adhering to the rubble (sandstone) numerous specimens have been recovered by sluicing. About midway on the floor of this last drive a winze has been attempted, but owing to water, only a limited depth can be expected. However, by "blind-stabbing" promising prospects are obtainable that leave little doubt this unique proposition is worth favourable consideration. Two men are employed.

*Elliott P.A., Specimen Creek, Lynchford.*—An 11 feet by 12 inch breast water-wheel, to drive a 2-head "dolly," has been erected, beyond which, and cutting 6 chains of water-race and the necessary fluming, no other work has been done. Two men employed.

*Alluvial.*—Parties are working in the Creek (Jackson's) and its branches below McDowell's show, at Linda, and some are winning gold. Others are scattered, the more important being Root and mates, who have endeavoured to bottom "deep ground," but to the present this has not been accomplished. On the Queen River and its tributaries several men are out fossicking, but they have made no returns. Currie is systematically working his claim below Lynchford, from whence to Hall's Creek the country is receiving the attention of other prospectors.

Mr. Charles L. C. Nicholson reports that he has purchased 13·58 ozs. Ten men employed.

### TIN.

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

	Ore won. tons.	Value. £	Men employed.	
			Europeans.	Chinese.
Northern and Southern Division	10·05	1005	41	...
North-Eastern Division .....	489·80	63,823	674	80
Eastern Division .....	126·10	15,740	332	39
North-Western Division .....	326·70	41,113	490	...
Western Division .....	84·80	9913	222	...
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>1037·45</b>	<b>131,594</b>	<b>1759</b>	<b>119</b>

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	Ore won. tons.	Men employed.
Mt. Bischoff .....	270	406
Mt. Bischoff Extended .....	49	75
Weir's Bischoff Surprise .....	5.15	6
Wombat .....	2.55	3
Totals.....	<u>326.7</u>	<u>490</u>

## NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Clifton .....	6.75	20	...
Pioneer Tin Mine .....	126	105	...
Aberroe .....	6.50	15	...
South Mt. Cameron .....	17.25	18	...
Garibaldi.....	3.70	15	2
C. A. MacDonald.....	7	13	...
South Mt. Cameron Dredge...	3.75	18	...
Other Claims .....	47.10	105	48
Totals.....	<u>218.05</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>50</u>

RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Bell's Hill.....	4	7	...
Federal .....	2.80	6	...
Other Claims .....	3	22	...
Totals.....	<u>9.80</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>...</u>

DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines.....	143	150	...
Clyde .....	2.45	3	...
Abbotsford .....	.95	4	...
Waverley .....	4	7	...
Other Derby Claims .....	8.80	21	15
Totals .....	<u>159.2</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>15</u>

**BRANKHOLM DISTRICT:—**

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine.....	41·50	50	...
New Ruby Flat .....	23·00	24	...
Other Claims .....	6·30	17	15
Totals.....	70·80	91	15

**MOORINA DISTRICT:—**

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Wilberforce Pump Co. ....	12·00	10	...
Weld Tin Mine .....	5·75	11	...
Native Youth .....	4·20	7	...
New Banca.....	2·50	9	...
Other Moorina Claims .....	7·50	17	...
Totals .....	31·95	54	...
<i>Totals for North-Eastern Division .....</i>	<i>489·80</i>	<i>674</i>	<i>80</i>

**EASTERN DIVISION.**

<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Fancy Creek Co. ....	5·05	9	...
Bryce Bros. ....	0·45	4	...
Other Claims .....	20·20	38	35
Totals.....	25·70	51	35

*Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.*

Anchor Mine.....	55·50	150	...
Emu Tribute .....	2·20	4	...
Others .....	9·15	37	4
Totals.....	66·85	191	4

EASTERN DIVISION—*continued.*

<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
J. M'Auliff .....	2·80	4	...
A. Williams .....	0·95	4	...
J. C. Macmichael .....	2·10	8	...
T. Budgeon .....	0·80	3	...
J. Smith .....	1·20	3	...
C. Miller .....	1·60	6	...
Others .....	2·10	15	...
Totals.....	11·55	43	..
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>			
Rex Hill .....	1·50	6	...
Gipp's Creek.....	0·75	...	...
S. Esk .....	3·75	5	...
Foster.....	1	6	...
New Roy's Hill .....	15	30	...
Storey's Creek .....	...	...	...
Totals .....	22·00	47	...
<i>Totals for Eastern Division</i>	<u>126·10</u>	<u>332</u>	<u>39</u>

## NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.
		Europeans.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine...	10·05	41
Lady Barron Mine .....	...	...
Totals .....	<u>10·05</u>	<u>41</u>

## WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.
		Europeans.
Boulder .....	20	29
Renison Bell .....	38	60
Montana Tin Syn.....	9·55	18
Others .....	17·25	115
Totals .....	<u>84·80</u>	<u>222</u>

## SILVER.

WEST COAST.—The registered output of silver ore in the Western Division for the quarter ending 30th September, 1911, is given below:—

<i>Zeehan Mines:</i>	Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men
Zeehan-Montana	galena .....	548·3	£9688	150
Zeehan-Western	" .....	108·7	1675	32
Zeehan-Queen	" .....	5·4	85	5
ditto	flux .....	257	210	
Mt. Zeehan (Tas.)	galena .....	195	2543	26
Oonah	pyrites .....	448	290	13
South Comstock	" .....	382	152	7
Block 10	galena .....	21·5	185	
Tasmanian Smelting Co.'s Sections	" .....	1	18	4
T.L.F.	" .....	13·92	115	9
<i>Dundas Mines:</i>				
Adelaide	galena .....	...	...	40
Hercules	zinc-blende .....	1759·7	4609	130
Ditto	sulphide.....	6565·4	22,344	
Mariposa	galena .....	94	128	3
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	...	633	11,600	54
Ring Valley	antimonial ore .....	176	820	20
Comet	gossan .....	3524	2750	30
<i>Rosebery Mines:</i>				
Tasmanian Copper	...	...	...	4
Primrose	sulphide .....	2951	9742	25
Metals Extraction Co.	...	...	...	42
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines:</i>				
Mackintosh	galena .....	...	...	...
Mt. Farrell	" .....	...	...	...
N. Mt. Farrell	" .....	524·74	5080	106
<i>North Pieman:</i>				
Chester Mine	pyrites .....	2423·80	1093	43
<i>Mt. Lyell:</i>				
Tasman & Crown Lyell Ext....	.....	...	...	22
<i>Sundries:</i>				
Dunkley Bros. ....	.....	...	...	75
Tasmanian Smelting Co. ....	.....	...	...	270
Others .....	.....	...	...	55
<b>Total .....</b>		<b>20,632·46</b>	<b>£73,127</b>	<b>1165</b>

MT. READ DISTRICT.—*Hercules Mine.*—Mr. Claude H. Moxon reports:—The production of zinc ore has been maintained and shipments made to Europe amounting to 1760 tons. The whole of this quantity has been won from the "E" ore-body. In the beginning of July the production of lead-sulphide ore was recommenced for sale, and since then 6565 tons of ore have been

delivered to the Tasmanian Smelting Company's works at Zeehan. The ore has been extracted from the various ore-bodies, but chiefly from the "E" lode. Development work has been continued as much as possible, but owing to the difficulty in obtaining practical miners not so much as was desirable was completed. The connection between Nos. 4 and 5 B level was made, and a further depth of 50 feet proved to the "E" ore-body, which, at a moderate estimate, should mean an additional 30,000 tons to the ore reserves. A quantity of surface work has been done, new ore-bins erected, and officers' quarters built during the quarter, and generally speaking all works are proceeding very satisfactorily.

*Zeehan Dundas Blocks*:—Mr. T. H. Vincent, manager, reports:—During quarter development of No. 5 lode at No. 1 level has been proceeded with. The total distance driven on the lode is 430 feet. Nothing new has been discovered. Stoping has been carried on on Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 lodes with remunerative results. Stock of second-class ore is being treated at Mt. Zeehan mill.

Installation of additional boiler-power is in hand, with a view to the deepening of the shaft.

*Tasmanian Smelting Company*.—Mr. H. Harris, manager, reports:—Ore bought during the quarter, 12,009 tons, containing 1795 tons lead, 214,097 oz. silver, 1744 oz. gold.

**MT. FARRELL DISTRICT**.—Mr. L. C. H. Woodroffe, manager, reports:—During the quarter ended September 30, 1911, 2904 tons of crude ore have been produced, which, on concentration, yielded 524.74 tons of marketable ore. The bulk of this has been furnished by the stopes on the No. 3 lode at the No. 3 level, and by those on the various lodes at the No. 5 level.

Further developmental work has been undertaken at this latter level, and in continuing the drives northwards small additional extents of payable ore have been opened up.

**MT. LYELL DISTRICT**.—*Tasman and Crown Lyell Extended*.—Mr. Edward Carter reports:—Sixty feet of sinking, 60 feet rising, and 120 feet of driving, with 22 men. The concentrating mill is nearing completion, and will be working during the next term.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Round Hill Mine .....	...	...	2

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Magnet Mine.....	1401	£13,870	201
Victorian Magnet .....	...	...	5
	<u>1401</u>	<u>£13,870</u>	<u>206</u>

## COPPER.

*Mt. Lyell Mine.*—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports:—  
The ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated during the quarter ending the 30th September, 1911, were as follow:—

Ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated at Reduction Works:—

	tons.	Dry weight.		
		cwt.	qr.	lb.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore .....	46,787	11	2	6
North Lyell Mine ore .....	29,259	0	0	18
Purchased ore.....	107	2	3	7
Metal-bearing flux from North Lyell Mine .....	68	6	1	13
	<u>76,222</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>

## Quantity and value of metal produced:—

Blister Copper, 1706 tons, containing—	£	s.	d.
Copper, 1686 tons, valued at .....	98,057	15	2
Silver, fine, 109,735 oz., valued at .....	11,961	2	3
Gold, fine, 2600 oz., valued at .....	11,050	0	0
Total.....	<u>£121,068</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>

## Number of men employed:—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine .....	334
" " North Lyell Mine.....	443
" " Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	...
" " Crotty.....	26
	<u>803</u>
" " Reduction Works.....	737
Railway Department—Mt. Lyell Railway .....	129
" " North Lyell Railway.....	17
	<u>146</u>
Total.....	<u>1686</u>

*Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Groups.***Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—**

*Mt. Lyell Mine.*—Operations on the usual progressive lines were continued until within a week of the quarter's termination, when work ceased owing to a difference arising between the members of the local branch of the Miners' Association and the management, which unfortunately continues; consequently, apart from Mr. Sticht's usual summary, little can be stated at the present juncture on the situation, beyond its disastrous effect on the whole community.

*Mt. Lyell Blocks Mine.*—Mr. Robert Ferguson reports that 60 feet has been added to the depth of the main shaft; that now totals 250 feet below the level of the Consols adit, or 780 feet from the surface, with 23 men.

*Darwin Prospecting Syndicate:*—Mr. James Souter reports:—Thirty-eight feet of crosscutting, together with surface trenching, has been accomplished, with two men. The extension of the cross-cut easterly has produced most encouraging results, excellent grade ore having been met, while the face shows a strong body of stone, that is highly impregnated with copper pyrites.

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	£	Men employed.
Murray's Reward .....	530	4012	54
Central Balfour .....	47	423	10
Others (estimated) .....	...	...	50
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>4495</b>	<b>114</b>

## COAL.

The output this quarter was 16,056 tons, against 16,529 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Value at mine.	Men employed.
Cornwall Colliery .....	6250	£2813	65
Mt. Nicholas ,, .....	8819	3969	83
Jubilee ,, .....	...	...	...
Spreyton ,, .....	511	350	8
York Plains ,, .....	168	109	2
Illamatha ,, .....	108	54	3
Catamaran ,, .....	50	25	4
Mount Cygnet ,, .....	150	75	2
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>16,056</b>	<b>£7395</b>	<b>167</b>

## BISMUTH.

The output of bismuth during the quarter was as follows:—

	Tons.	£	Men.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine .....	3·46	1384	...
Lady Barron Mine .....	...	...	...
Totals .....	<u>3·46</u>	<u>1384</u>	...

## WOLFRAM.

The output of wolfram during the quarter was as follows:—

	Tons	£	Men.
Avoca Mines.....	9·40	1034	38
Shepherd and Murphy Mine.....	5·01	551	...
Lady Barron Mine .....	2·30	270	6
Totals .....	<u>15·71</u>	<u>1855</u>	<u>44</u>

## OSMIRIDIUM.

About 38 men are engaged mining for this mineral about 20 miles from Waratah. The mineral is found in the bed of the Savage River, and in the creeks and rivulets heading from the Serpentine Ranges. At present the miners have to confine their attention to the creeks and rivulets, as the river is in flood, and it will probably be near the end of the year before it can be worked to advantage.

The miners are scattered over a large area, leading from the head of the 19-mile Creek down to the Rio Tinto section, a distance of over 6 miles of very rough precipitous country. They appear to be well satisfied with the prospects, and are anxiously looking forward to the time when they can get to work in the river.

The quantity obtained during the quarter was 38 oz. 10 dwt. 20 grs., valued at £253.

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending 30th September, 1911:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern .....	557	...	557
North-Eastern .....	679	80	759
Eastern .....	564	39	603
North-Western .....	848	...	848
Western .....	3112	...	3112
Total .....	<u>5760</u>	<u>119</u>	<u>5879</u>

Value of mineral output per man:—£64 6s. 8½d.

Dividends paid by mining companies during the quarter ending  
30th September, 1911:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<b>From Copper Mines:—</b>						
Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co., Ltd.....			...			
<b>From Tin Mines:—</b>						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered .....	13,500	0	0			
Pioneer T.M. Co., Ltd.....	10,077	0	0			
Briseis Tin and General Mining Co., Limited	15,000	0	0			
New Ruby Flat T.M. Co., N.L. ....	609	0	0			
South Mt. Cameron T.M. Co., N.L.....	1800	0	0			
Dreadnought Prospecting Syndicate, N.L...	108	0	0			
Morton's Section.....	36	0	0			
				41,130	0	0
<b>From Silver Mines:—</b>						
Zeehan Montana Mine, Ltd.....	2000	0	0			
Hercules Gold and Silver Mining Co., N.L.	5996	0	0			
				7996	0	0
<b>From Coal Mines:—</b>						
Cornwall Coal Company .....			...	1359	0	0
<b>Total</b> .....			...	<b>£50,485</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>