

THAMES COUNTY.

MATA AND TAPU DISTRICTS.

In the Mata Creek district small quantities of nuggety gold are obtained at Gentle Annie Creek by sluicing, and at Tapu Creek the prospects from the Royal Mine in new ground are decidedly encouraging. The Sheridan Mine is now being worked by a company, which has purchased Pepper's battery and put it in a thorough state of repair.

WAIOMO DISTRICT.

The Monowai Amalgamated Company has erected a ten-stamp dry-crushing mill and a complete cyanide plant for the treatment of quartz from the Gem, and also from the large reef worked in the Monowai Mine. Several new licensed holdings have been taken up, and satisfactory prospects have been obtained from the reef discovered in the Broken Hill Mine.

TARARU CREEK.

With the exception of the Norfolk, City of Dunedin, and Day Dawn, very little mining work has been carried on during the past year.

KURANUI AND MOANATAIARI CREEK DISTRICTS.

The Hansen's, Comer's, Hazelbank, and Moanataiari Mines have been continuously worked. The Alburnia Company have effected substantial improvements in the workings of their mines. The battery and wire tramway from Dixon's Mine, have been purchased, and an engine-shaft sunk, whereby the quartz is hauled up from different levels and conveyed at a cheap rate to the battery, thus enabling the company to work low-grade quartz, which could not previously have been profitably dealt with. A considerable amount of prospecting has been done in other mines in this locality.

WAIOTAHİ DISTRICT.

The Cambria has been steadily worked, and a large amount of prospecting done in the Fame and Fortune Mine, and the Waiotahi Company's mine still continues profitable yields. Several claims are being worked near the Old Candlelight, and some rich parcels of quartz have been obtained.

GRAHAMSTOWN.

The Victoria Mine continues to employ a number of hands, and on the old beach a large quantity of tailings have been unearthed and treated, and quantities of gravel washed down by the Moanataiari and Waiotahi Creeks crushed, giving employment to several parties of men.

WAIOKARAKA.

The May Queen has been steadily worked. The Saxon portion is chiefly worked by tributers. The drive for Saxon No. 6 level has now been connected with the May Queen shaft a distance of 2,502ft., thoroughly draining a valuable block of country. The St. Hippo Mine yielded fair returns, but the company has given up the mine, and very little work has since been carried on.

KARAKA CREEK.

This district still maintains a steady yield of gold, chiefly from small veins near the junction with Flinty's.

UNA HILL AND TE PAPA.

The Pride of Karaka, Occidental, and North Star Mines are chiefly worked by tributers for moderate results. Large quantities of mullock have been crushed from the old Consol's ground.

OTUNUI.

Very little work has been done during the the year in this district.

PURIRI.

Worth and party have been prospecting in this district, and some rich quartz has been met with. They have purchased the Puriri battery, and intend to put it in working-order again. A considerable amount of prospecting has lately been done in this district.

TAIRUA.

Very little has been done in the way of prospecting during the year. McLiver's returns have not been great. No further work has been done at the place where Davy made the discovery last year, and the ground is not yet open for occupation, being covered by a lease of the surface to the Kauri Timber Company.

At Ohui, McGregor and party have done some prospecting-work, and a parcel of 2 tons of quartz crushed at the Thames yielded 24oz. 13dwt. of gold.

WHANGAMATA.

Attention has again been directed to this place, and some old ground has been reoccupied.

OHINEMURI COUNTY.

KARANGAHAKE DISTRICT.

The Crown Mine has again yielded satisfactory results. Rich quartz is obtained from workings below the level of the Waitawheta River, and provision has been made to sink a shaft and erect