2ft. When the leader was first found about 9cwt. of stone was sent to Coromandel for treatment, and yielded 89oz. of gold. Since then quartz has been taken out and stacked, and prospecting carried on. Several people have been prospecting in this range, but have so far failed to make any further discoveries. The country here is thickly timbered and very broken, and it is therefore difficult to carry on prospecting; but, now that it is known that auriferous quartz has been found, there is little doubt but that further discoveries of auriferous lodes will be made in this district.

Thames District.

The yield of gold from this district for the past year shows a slight decrease on the previous year's return. Although the mines on the whole look more promising, a great deal of dead-work has been done, and better appliances are being got, which will curtail the expenditure, or, at least, will be the means of the ore being brought to the crushing-plants at a cheaper rate. Two companies are erecting aerial tramways, and when once these are in use other companies will likely follow in their neighbours' footsteps. About two years ago great hopes were entertained with reference to the discovery of auriferous lodes at Mata Creek, but so far the golden anticipations have not been realised. The lodes are small and very patchy, and the value of work done in this portion of the district for the past year has not been recouped from the returns from the claims. There is still a small population at Tapu, but the yield of gold is very small. The reefs here are very patchy, and those patches containing rich auriferous stone are very small. There is, however, plenty of virgin ground on the Hauraki Peninsula that never has been prospected, and where possibly rich auriferous lodes are likely to be discovered. The whole of the peninsula is less or more auriferous, and the time will come when very low-grade material will be made to pay for working with improved appliances.

The following returns will show the quantity of mullock and quartz crushed from the principal claims in the Thames district, with the average number of men employed on wages, and also working the claims referred to on tribute:—

Name of Claim or Company.	Quantity of Mullock crushed, including Specimens.	Quantity of Quartz crushed.	Yield of Gold.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.	Number of Wages-men employed.	Number of Tributers employed.
	Tons.	Tons.	Oz.	Oz. dwt. gr.		
McMahon's, Tapu ...	...	395	51	0 2 13	20*	...
Centennial, Tapu	...	26	16	0 12 7		
Draffin's, Tapu	...	2	6	3 0 0		
Hawke's, Tapu	...	72	7	0 1 22⅔		
McCormack's, Tapu ...	...	10	3	0 6 0		
Manuel and Hendricks's, Tapu	...	19	3	0 3 3		
Sheridan's, Tapu	...	Specimens	36	...	3	...
Broken Hill, Tapu ...	...	24	5	0 4 4	3	...
Nevis, Tapu	...	12	6	0 10 0	2	...
Paroquet, Waiomo ...	...	226	38	0 3 6	2	...
Golden Gem, Waiomo ...	...	62	17	0 5 11	10	...
Nymph and Mermaid ...	...	2½	4	1 12 0	2	...
Hansen's, Kuranui No. 3 ...	15,755	...	1,014	0 1 6	17	...
" " ...	...	60	57	0 19 0	...	3
Comer's, Kuranui No. 2 ...	10,550	...	617	0 1 4	20	...
" " ...	...	873	934	1 1 9	...	35
Turtle's, Kuranui No. 1 ...	...	292	116	0 7 22	...	6
Moanataiari	3,065	495	615	0 3 10	56	...
"	...	1,238	2,346	1 17 21	...	59
Caliban	...	76	24	0 6 7	3	...
Orlando	225	...	115	0 10 5	...	6
"	...	35	99	2 11 10	3	...
Whau	...	120	105	0 17 12	4	...
"	...	210	196	0 18 16	...	8
Alburnia	...	210	418	1 19 19	18	...
"	...	100	60	0 12 0	...	6
Dixon's No. 1	...	120	121	1 0 4	5	...
" "	...	295	235	0 15 22	...	4
New Prince Imperial ...	...	64	55	0 17 4	5	...
" ...	...	450	905	2 0 5	...	10
Saxon	...	14,550	8,171	0 11 5	115	...
Caledonian	...	4,128	395	0 1 21	17	...
"	...	619	238	0 7 16	...	8
Waiotahi	...	2,431	3,218	1 6 11	40	...
New Manukau	...	209	287	1 7 11	6	...
"	...	132	144	1 1 19	...	2
Cambria	...	532	1,018	1 18 6	30	...
Trenton	...	75	41	0 10 22	27	...

* Estimated average number of men.