

opening of the district to the 31st March last 640,933 tons of quartz have been crushed, from which 459,423oz. of gold have been obtained, representing a value of £1,794,175, out of which sum £562,593 was distributed in dividends. The total amount of alluvial gold raised for the same period is approximately estimated at 122,121oz., of the value of £450,740. The total gold-production of the district amounts to 581,544oz. of the value of £2,244,915.

The following table will show the calls made, dividends declared, &c., by the various companies in the district during the year:—

LIST of DIVIDENDS declared, CALLS made, &c., by various Companies.

Name of Company.	Calls made.			Dividends declared.		Quartz crushed.	Yield of Gold.	Value.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Tons.	Oz.	£	s.	d.
Wealth of Nations ...	...	...	...	812	10	0	3,379	954	3,816	0	0
Exchange ...	300	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sir Francis Drake... ..	600	0	0	...	...	...	1,550	530	2,073	17	10
Sir Charles Russell ...	600	0	0	...	...	...	470	294	1,168	12	1
Al ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	374	1,520	4	3
Sir Francis Drake Syndicate	...	...	...	...	...	...	350	35	140	0	0
Keep-It-Dark ... ..	1,083	6	8	...	...	...	936	334	1,336	0	0
Globe ... ..	900	0	0	...	...	...	4,445	1,372	5,556	12	0
No. 2 South Keep-It-Dark ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	12	48	0	0
Golden Point ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	155	43	172	6	7
Inglewood Extended ... ..	50	0	0	...	...	...	250	70	280	0	0
Cumberland ... ..	1,800	0	0	600	0	0	722	785	3,183	1	1
Dillon ... ..	500	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hercules... ..	300	0	0	1,200	0	0	2,610	1,215	4,831	18	6
Gallant ... ..	50	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Low-level Tunnel ... ..	70	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Golden Lead ... ..	1,800	0	0	...	...	...	341	114	459	2	10
Progress ... ..	...	...	...	4,200	0	0	7,150	3,620	14,663	0	1
Big River ... ..	...	...	...	4,200	0	0	1,760	2,560	10,271	10	10
Royal ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	108	53½	213	0	0
Private Co's and Tributers—											
Energy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	8½	33	0	0
Frampton and another ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	119	17	68	0	0
Golden Fleece ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,054	397	1,588	0	0
Victoria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	326	98	392	0	0
Golden Treasure ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	10½	42	0	0
Fiery Cross ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	688	325	1,300	0	0
Caledonian ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	20½	114	0	0
Boatman's Tailings ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*177	238	19	0
Alluvial gold ... ..	10,153	6	8	11,012	10	0	26,603	13,426½	53,509	5	1
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,550	17,742	0	0
Totals ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,976½	71,251	5	1

\* Yield from tailings treated by cyanide process.

I submit for your information the following account of the work done by the principal companies in the district during the past twelve months:—

#### DEVIL'S CREEK.

*Progress.*—At the time of last reporting the No. 5 main level was in course of being opened up, a chamber having been constructed at the bottom of the shaft, and a cross-cut to the line of reef commenced. The reef was intersected at a distance of 400ft. from the chamber, and has been driven on in this level a distance of 80ft., with stone showing in both east and west ends. Seven stopes have been opened above the main level, not all driven home, and a new make of stone of a very promising character has come in on the foot-wall of the leading eastern stope, having at present a northerly course. The size of the main reef varies considerably, being from 4ft. to 16ft. in width, but it is payable throughout, and a lengthened period of profitable work, with regular dividends, can be looked for from the present level. A chamber has been constructed, and a winze will be started at an early date for the purpose of opening up another (No. 6) level, the directors fully realising the importance of continuing without cessation progressive works, which in the past were somewhat neglected. The winding-power of the company's plant has been supplemented during the year by the erection of a Tangye steel boiler of twenty-five-horse power, and this addition will make the plant complete. The amount of stone crushed during the year was 7,150 tons, yielding 3,620oz. of gold, or an average of slightly over 10dw. to the ton, the value of the gold obtained being £14,663 0s. 1d. The total output of the mine amounts to 51,595 tons of quartz, which yielded 24,271oz. of gold, representing a value of £97,315, out of which the company have paid £17,400 in dividends.