

good headway, and, although only eight or nine months have elapsed since they took over the claim, the dredge is almost ready to start operations. The want of a road has seriously retarded progress, and the company had to erect a tramway at considerable expense to run machinery, &c., to the claim.

Fairdown Gold-dredging Company (Limited).—This special claim of 89 acres is situated at Fairdown, and was purchased by the company about the end of last year. Contracts have been accepted for machinery to be delivered by the end of next June. Tenders are being invited for the construction of pontoons. A constant and ample supply of water from the Wareatea River has been secured. It is expected that this dredge will be working in seven months' time.

Wareatea Gold-dredging Company (Limited).—This company holds a special claim of about 97 acres, two miles beyond Fairdown. I understand the ground has been thoroughly and exhaustively prospected by boring and other means. Contracts have been let for the pontoons and machinery. The former are almost completed, and the latter is now being carted on to the claim. I anticipate that the dredge will be working in July or August next.

Wellington Gold-mining Company.—This company holds a special claim at the "old diggings." Early in the year ground-sluicing was commenced, after the expenditure of more than £3,000 in preliminary works. The results obtained at first were not altogether satisfactory, but I hear that more recent returns show a decided improvement. The water-supply has been found to be inadequate during dry spells, and steps are being taken to remedy this defect and to secure an adequate and continuous supply for sluicing purposes.

The two special claims known respectively as the Bendigo and Rochfort have been sold recently by the General Exploration Company to Mr. G. G. Munro, of Dunedin, who has since disposed of the Bendigo water-rights to Millikin and party, of Addison's, and the machinery to the Humphrey's Sluicing Company, of Hokitika.

The Rochfort Claim has been put in working-order again and sluicing recommenced. Fair gold is being obtained, with every prospect of a substantial improvement as the lead is opened out.

LIST of PROSPECTING LICENSES GRANTED at WESTPORT from the 1st April, 1900, to the 31st December, 1900.

Date of Grant.	To whom granted.	Area granted	Locality.	Date of Grant.	To whom granted.	Area granted	Locality.
1900.		Acr.		1900.		Acr.	
April 19	R. Johnson ..	20	Karamea.	June 6	John McGrath ..	100	Deadman's Creek.
May 2	James Bradley ..	90	Jones's Creek, Birchfield.	" 6	Robert T. Watson ..	40	Mokihinui.
" 2	H. R. Cooke and others	48	Addison's.	" 6	Thomas Scanlon ..	40	Oparara.
" 16	Thomas Lister ..	93½	Jones's Creek.	" 6	" ..	40	"
" 16	Alfred Kearns ..	20	Buller River.	" 20	Henry C. Greene ..	80	Karamea.
" 16	Alfred Meager ..	20	"	" 20	A. B. Lindop ..	100	Addison's.
" 16	Thomas Powick ..	60	Orawaiti River.	" 20	David T. Gibbard ..	80	Birchfield.
" 16	Harry Simpson ..	36	Karamea.	July 4	David T. Gibbard ..	80	Orawaiti.
" 16	" ..	80	"	" 4	" ..	60	"
" 16	Frederick Bonifacio ..	100	Sergeant's Hill.	" 4	Peter J. McKenna ..	80	North Beach.
" 16	Thomas Scanlon ..	90	Karamea.	" 4	Thomas Lister ..	80	Waimangaroa.
" 16	" ..	50	"	" 4	Peter J. McKenna ..	80	North Beach.
" 16	" ..	50	"	" 4	David T. Gibbard ..	100	Fairdown.
" 16	" ..	50	"	" 4	J. L. Blackmore and D. T. Gibbard	100	"
" 16	G. B. Ritchie ..	50	Buller River.	" 4	W. Mackenzie ..	100	Stony Creek.
" 16	" ..	25	"	" 19	D. T. Gibbard ..	100	Wareatea.
" 16	Walter Rogers ..	32	Addison's.	" 19	W. Mackenzie ..	100	Stony Creek.
June 6	R. T. Watson ..	50	Mokihinui.	Aug. 1	Robert T. Watson ..	40	Jones's Creek.
" 6	" ..	40	"	" 1	" ..	40	"
" 6	Alexander Stitt ..	100	Karamea.	" 1	David T. Gibbard ..	100	Addison's.
" 6	Robert Falla ..	80	Buller River.	" 1	" ..	100	Sergeant's Hill.
" 6	" ..	40	"	" 1	Alexander McKay ..	16	Cascade Creek.
" 6	" ..	42	Ngakawau.	" 1	Addison's Long Tunnel Gold-mining Company (Limited)	48	Addison's.
" 6	" ..	80	Buller River.	" 18	David T. Gibbard ..	100	Fairdown.
" 6	Thomas Scanlon ..	40	Karamea.	" 18	W. Mackenzie ..	97	Waimangaroa.
" 6	" ..	40	"	Sept. 5	Edward Hopkins ..	20	German Terrace.
" 6	" ..	80	"	" 5	David T. Gibbard ..	100	Fairdown.
" 6	" ..	80	"	" 19	Francis Beirne and David T. Gibbard	50	"
" 6	G. B. Ritchie ..	25	Buller River.	" 19	David T. Gibbard ..	100	"
" 6	George Taylor ..	20	Mokihinui.	" 19	Charles Woodward ..	35	"
" 6	Alfred Hansen ..	72	Addison's.	Oct. 3	Edward R. Issell ..	60	Karamea.
" 6	" ..	72	"	" 17	The Wellington Prospecting Syndicate (Limited)	100	Orawaiti.
" 6	Thomas Samuels ..	87	"	" 17	Ditto ..	100	"
" 6	Thomas Scanlon ..	40	Karamea.	" 17	C. A. Ulrich ..	100	Waimangaroa.
" 6	Arthur Simpson ..	80	"	" 17	" ..	100	"
" 6	D. T. Gibbard ..	18	"	" 17	David T. Gibbard ..	20	Fairdown.
" 6	" ..	18	"	Nov. 2	Denis Collins and James Collins	20	Bradshaw's Terrace.
" 6	J. M. Murray ..	100	"	" 2	Walter McIntyre ..	50	Karamea.
" 6	" ..	92	"	" 14	Alexander Stitt ..	80	"
" 6	Thomas Rogers ..	40	Addison's.	" 14	Walter McIntyre ..	50	Mokihinui.
" 6	Robert Watson ..	40	Mokihinui.	" 14	" ..	50	"
" 6	" ..	40	"	" 14	" ..	50	"
" 6	Graham Jackson ..	75	Karamea.	Dec. 12	Robert Johnson ..	40	Karamea.
" 6	David T. Gibbard ..	100	Fairdown.	" 12	Herbert R. Cooke ..	50	Giles Creek.
" 6	Walter Rogers ..	60	Blackwater.				
" 6	Christian L. Rasmussen	100	Little Wanganui.				
" 6	James Colvin ..	50	Coal Creek.				
" 6	" ..	50	"				