

Gunion's, Nevis (R. Gunion).—(30/4/1901): This area lies on the left bank of the Nevis River, and coal is showing in the tail-races on the terrace of the old alluvial workings. Nevis is said to have been supplied with coal from this area in the early days.

Ritchie's, Nevis (J. Ritchie).—(1/5/1901): Opencast. Only a small quantity of coal for private use being got out.

Renshaw's Pit, Nevis (G. Renshaw).—(1/5/1901): Opencast. Only a small quantity being taken out for private use.

Gibbston Coal Company's (late Gibbston Saddle) Pit, Gibbston (J. Hodson, permit).—(1/8/1901): Three men working in open face above return air-drive. Stripping light, 3 ft. to 4 ft. The main dip is being pushed on by one man and a boy. The coal is proving soft and friable, and requires good timbering. The floor is a soft fireclay, and promises to be troublesome. Throughout the old workings there are accumulations of dross. These show no signs of heating, and will shortly be cleared out. Owing to the inaccessibility of the mine to wagon traffic, a tramway a mile and a half long is being constructed from the foot of the mountain-range to the mine. (25/12/1901): A new level drive has been driven 40 ft. to cut off the dip. Air at date was dull in the mine, but when top level is driven 20 ft. to main air-course, and bottom level connected with dip workings, circulation will be good. All work in the mine, with exception of the new level, was stopped at this date. Two men at work. Operations in connection with construction of tramway temporarily suspended. A new 6 ft. seam has been found in the outcrop.

Scott's, Gibbston (A. Scott).—(1/8/1901): No work has been done by the owner as yet. The area includes Cowan's old mine-workings.

Doolan's Creek, Gibbston (M. B. Edwards, permit).—(1/8/1901): This area has been taken up by a syndicate, who intend to proceed with the formation of a road when the frost disappears. (25/11/1901): The road from Doolan's Creek to the top of the saddle is being pushed on. Eight men are employed.

Cooper's Pit, Cromwell.—(25/7/1901): Not working.

SOUTHLAND.

Pukerau Coal-mine, Pukerau (C. O'Hagan, permit).—(8/1/1901): Bords are driven 15 ft. wide by 10 ft. to 11 ft. high. The seam is 16 ft. in thickness, and, roof being strong, all places are standing well. A rise shaft is being put up for ventilating and pumping purposes. Plan behind. (29/8/1901): Three men employed. The coal is strong in the pillars, but a good thickness of roof requires to be left, as the overlying material is very free. The air-shaft is completed. Air good.

Waikoikoi Coal-pit, Pukerau (Scott and Ferguson).—(8/1/1901): Opencast pit being opened up.

Nelson's (late Dudley's) Pit, Pukerau (J. H. Nelson).—(8/1/1901): Opencast. Stripping 12 ft. of clay and gravel. A good area stripped in advance of working-face. The coal is the same seam as worked by O'Hagan.

Whiterigg Mine, East Gore (J. Hope, permit).—(3/9/1901): Two men at work in the mine. Air good. Mine in very fair order.

Hefferman's Pit, East Gore (J. Boyd).—(3/9/1901): Formerly opencast. Starting a dip to mine the coal.

Sarginson's, Gore (A. Reinke).—(3/9/1901): Opencast. One man taking up about 6 ft. of coal.

Green's Pit, Gore (J. J. Smythe).—(3/9/1901): P. Healey is prospecting a small seam at East Gore. (4/9/1901): The general order of this pit is good. Four men getting coal. Air good.

Knapdale Mine, Knapdale (R. Irvine).—(31/8/1901): Not working at present.

Harvey's Pit, Chatton (J. Harvey).—(15/2/1901): The pit is now leased to James McDougall. A large flake of coal and casing on one side of the pit is loose and ready to fall. I instructed McDougall and Harvey to take the flake down, as, in the event of its falling while horses or men in the pit, serious injury might be caused. The pit is nearly finished, being up to the road-line going south, and the owner considers that it will not pay to put down pumping plant to enable coal to be worked under water-level. (31/8/1901): Not working.

Perkins's, Chatton (A. Perkins).—(31/8/1901): Not working; stripping too heavy on this area.

Pacey's, Chatton (R. Pacey).—(31/8/1901): Opencast. Face 12 ft. coal, with 4 ft. stripping. The seam has been proved to be 30 ft. thick in one part of the face. Two men at work at present. The coal underfoot will be taken up in the dry season.

Otama Pit, Otama (T. Graham).—(12/11/1901): Opencast. Private pit. Quality, lignite (good). Thickness, 3 ft.; 12 ft. stripping.

Cross's Pit, Otama.—(12/11/1901): Private pit. 4 ft. seam of lignite; 15 ft. stripping.

Hunter's, Otama (T. Hunter).—(12/11/1901): Opencast. 10 ft. seam of lignite, with 25 ft. stripping, which is heavy. Two men.

Johnston's Pit, Waikaka Valley (W. Johnston).—(22/1/1901): Opencast. 6 ft. stripping removed with plough and scoop. Coal 11 ft. thick. Pit being safely worked. (3/9/1901): Pit not worked during winter months.

Thorndale Mine, Waikaka Valley (E. C. Orchard and Sons).—(22/1/1901): New opencast pit. Fairly large area stripped in advance.

Reed's Pit, Waikaka Valley (Robert Reed).—(22/1/1901): Opencast. Stripping, which is heavy, is not kept so well in advance as it should be. (3/9/1901): Three men employed. Several dredges draw their coal-supply from this pit.

McGill's Pit, Wendon Valley (J. McGill).—(23/1/1901): Opencast. Stripping kept well in advance of coal-face. (30/8/1901): Pit closed during winter months, but is being reopened in view of summer trade.