

Kauri-gum to the value of £497,444 was exported, being £51,662 less than that of the previous year, but as a considerable quantity of this resin is ordinarily utilized on the Continent of Europe by the nations now at war the decline is not remarkable.

The value of other minerals exported was small.

MINERAL - PRODUCTION.

The following table shows the quantity and value of gold, silver, and other minerals, coal, and kauri-gum, exported during the years 1913 and 1914, also the quantity of native coal consumed in the Dominion during the same periods :—

Product.	Year ending			
	31st December, 1913.		31st December, 1914.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Gold	376,161 oz.	£ 1,459,499	227,954 oz.*	£ 895,367*
Silver	975,616 "	103,866	599,162 "	62,085*
Mixed minerals	2,927 tons	31,532	5,395 tons	29,224
New Zealand coal exported	211,749 "	205,010	302,908 "	282,163
New Zealand coal used in New Zealand	1,676,256 "	838,128	1,972,685 "	986,342
Kauri-gum	8,780 "	549,106	8,473 "	497,444
Coke	28 "	50	17 "	48
Total value for 1914			£ 2,752,730*†	
" 1913			3,187,191	

* The value of the bullion produced as stated in the official returns from the mines amounted to £1,502,649.

† The total value of minerals produced during 1914 amounted to £3,297,984.

AURIFEROUS-QUARTZ MINING.

The value of bullion obtained from our quartz-mines during 1914 amounted to £1,154,214, as a result of treating 501,339 statute tons of ore, in addition to which scheelite concentrates, value £21,825, was also obtained from such ore.

The dividends distributed by gold-quartz mining companies amounted to £288,265.

The above-recorded output shows an increase of £82,401 above that for 1913.

The following is a statement of the quantity of quartz treated, the value of bullion obtained, and the amount of dividends paid by the more important quartz-mining companies during 1914 :—

Name of Company.	Quantity of Quartz treated.	Value of Bullion.	Dividends paid.	
			1914.	Total to End of December, 1914.
Waihi Gold-mining Company (Limited)	Statute Tons. 163,754	£ 324,038	£ 99,181	£ 4,577,720
Waihi Grand Junction Gold-mining Company (Limited)	103,321	227,637	48,047	105,703
Talisman Consolidated (Limited)	52,210	263,516	116,437	935,478
New Big River Gold-mining Company (Limited)	6,273	30,185	9,606	91,200
Blackwater Mines (Limited)	50,426	93,848	12,500	112,496
Other quartz-mines	125,355	214,990	2,500	*
Totals	501,339	1,154,214	288,265	*

* Unknown.

During the past year the development of new ore-bodies at our quartz-mines generally has been unimportant.

At the Talisman Consolidated Company's property at Karangahake, the Woodstock and Talisman Mines have quite recently been connected by a lengthy cross-cut at level No. 14 of the last-named mine. Satisfactory development of ore in the Bonanza section between levels Nos. 14 and 15 has recently been effected.