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A New Map, taken from Government Plans, recording Gold Mining Surveys in the Hauraki Mining District, has been Published by the Auckland Chamber of Mines.

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MINING NEWS.

SHAREMARKET.

BUSINESS has been practically at a standstill on the Exchange during the past week, because St. George's Day followed so closely upon the Easter holidays that there were only two days when the offices were open, and nearly half the brokers remained away until the following Monday. Under such circumstances it is almost needless to add that transactions were not numerous, and prices showed little alteration. Waihi Extended shares still have steady inquiry, owing to recent developments in the Waihi mine pointing to the lode going in that direction. Hauraki North shares have met with better demand, as the water is now pumped out of the mine, and driving resumed upon the reef, which produced the specimens just before the accident occurred to the engines. Talisman shares are offered at lower rates than those ruling a fortnight ago. Bunker's Hill shares sold as low as 2s 6d, and Victorias at 2s 5d. There are, however, steady buyers of the latter shares at this figure, so that an improvement in value may be looked for as soon as the weak holders have been cleared out. Great Barrier and Iona shares have well maintained their price, but transactions in these shares are not frequent. Now that the Easter vacation is over it is to be hoped that a steady improvement will set in on the Exchange, though the unsettled state of political affairs in Europe at the present juncture has undoubtedly some influence on the local market.

KAURI GOLD ESTATES COMPANY.

Since this English Company resolved to open up their large block of ground at Whangapoua, a systematic plan of procedure has been adopted to mine on an extensive scale. At Opitonui, which may be termed the centre of operations just now, large lodes of ore have been located carrying gold. At present no less than 150 men are employed by the Company in prospecting and carrying out the other works, and this number, it is considered, will be doubled in three months' time. The wage sheet alone now is £2,500 per month, which gives some idea as to the magnitude of the operations. A new township site has been decided upon to provide homes for the miners and workmen, and this is now being surveyed. The Company have expended a sum of £150 on the main road in order to provide for the carriage of machinery, while it is intended to connect and open up the different points of the property by a network of tramways. With a view to the immediate undertaking of sinking operations, winding and pumping machinery have been imported, and is now being discharged from scows at the Whangapoua Harbour. A head office and officers' quarters providing accommodation for visitors is also under construction.

KAPANGA.

The directors of this old English Company are evidently determined to thoroughly test the value of the lower levels at Coromandel. Already the shaft is down 1,000 feet, and the results have been most encouraging, as gold-bearing reefs were picked up, thus proving the value of the mine at that depth, the lowest yet reached at Coromandel by any company. The directors now propose to bore still further down in order to test the value of the deeper levels. A six-inch bore is to be used as long as possible, the drill being worked by compressed air. This is the largest bore yet worked in the colony. The developments will be watched with interest by all who have invested in Coromandel properties.

HIT OR MISS.

Messrs Bewicke, Moreing, and Co. have arranged for an extension of the option held by them for the flotation of this property. During the option that has just expired, this firm conducted considerable development works on the property, and these will be continued during the ensuing six months. The terms remain as before. The Hit or Miss mine is situated at Puriri, Thames, and adjoins the Dover Castle, which is also well spoken of.

SCANDINAVIAN.

The flotation of this Tararu property on the Home market is now practically assured. During this week Mr J. T. Julian, one of the directors of the Company, received a cable advising that the balance of purchase money (£1,000) had been paid in London to the Company's attorney, who expects to have the transaction completed and new shares issued this week.

IMPERIAL.

This mine is well situated at Karangahake alongside the Woodstock Company's mine, and recent reports are of a most encouraging nature. The reef in the south drive is a compact body of quartz, about 4 feet in thickness. At No. 4 level the reef shows a thickness of 2 feet,

and during the week colours of gold were seen. Samples from the reef in the south drive when assayed yielded at the rate of £7 6s and £6 18s 6d, respectively.

RIISING SUN.

This Owharua mine would seem to be one of the best speculations at the present time when prices are so low, owing to the depressed state of the mining market. The mine is being steadily developed, and all results so far point to this property ultimately proving one of the best in Ohinemuri. Four parallel reefs have already been cut in the cross drive near the surface, one being about three feet wide, another one foot, a third six inches, and a fourth about four inches. A drive lower down the hill has also cut these lodes, thus proving their existence downwards. From the large lode, some fine-looking gold-bearing stone has been obtained. The hanging wall lode (about one foot wide) has been sunk upon 37 feet, and appears of splendid quality, the stone being streaked with sulphides. This is one of the few small properties about Owharua working on a genuine gold-bearing lode.

MINING NOTES.

Waihi Consolidated.—Colonel A. Le Messurier, C.I.E., R.E., arrived from London this week. He is director of the Waihi Consolidated mines, and also of the Royal Standard gold mines.

Four-in-Hand (Waikoromiko).—The hanging wall of the leader was intersected during the week. Gold was visible in the stone.

Dover Castle (Thames).—Six quartz bodies have been discovered on this property varying from one to three feet in thickness, and all show prospects of gold.

Adelaide (Thames).—From the stopes north of the crosscut a fair supply of crushing dirt is coming to hand. The reef is from 12 to 18 inches in thickness.

Darwin (Thames).—When breaking down the reef in this mine strong blotches of gold were seen freely distributed through the ore.

Juno (Koaotunu).—When breaking down the leader in the stopes this week a few pounds of picked stone were obtained.

Grace Darling (Waitekauri).—In the Portea section there is a large body of stone, from which good dish prospects of loose gold are obtained.

Hauraki North (Coromandel).—The water has been pumped down to the flat sheet in No. 2 level, and driving commenced.

Hauraki South.—Good headway continues to be made with excavation on site of the proposed shaft.

Maritana (Owharua).—The drive is through the large reef, which proves to be 60 feet wide, and is intermixed with sandstone and other conglomerate. Gold is distributed through the sandstone as well as the quartz, and some of the prospects are very good.

Melsaacs (Thames).—In the Young Australia tunnel the reef, which has hitherto been split into two ribs, has formed into a solid body of ore, heavily charged with bright mineral, in which strong dabs of gold can be seen.

West Derby (Kennedy Bay).—In the main lower level the reef is about three feet in width, and gold is got by pounding. In the crosscut the leader is about four inches in width, and shows gold frequently.

Wheat Bassett.—The reef is one foot in width, and a fair prospect of gold can be got from the quartz.

Golden Caledonia.—A very good run of gold has been found while trenching on this property. Gold is obtained in almost every dish.

Norman Proprietary (Waitekauri).—The lode is well defined and larger than it was on the surface. The quartz coming to hand looks well, and it should prove to be a good payable lode.

Wynyardton (Coromandel).—Gold is still seen at each breaking down of the leader.

Irving.—On the north portion of this ground a gold-bearing reef one foot in width has been met with.

Occidental (Thames).—The crushing of eight loads of general ore from No. 1 leader was completed this week for the good yield of 170z 12dw of melted gold, the total value of which was £47 12s 6d. The block upon this leader is now exhausted.

City of Auckland (Tararu).—In clearing round the shaft site we discovered a small leader which prospects very well.

Waitekauri South.—In No. 2 reef, some of the quartz met with carries sulphides, and gives a very fair prospect of gold.

Temple Bar (Thames).—While breaking down No. 9 reef colours of gold were freely seen in the ore.

New Year (Tairua).—This property is peg and peg with the Broken Hills ground. Prospecting has been carried on right along the western side of the hill for a distance of about twelve chains, splendid prospects being the result. The gold is the nicest seen in the district, being very coarse. Quite recently a nice looking lode was discovered on the eastern side which carries a little gold.

MEETINGS OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The following meetings of shareholders were convened this week:—

Iona.—The half-yearly meeting of shareholders lapsed for want of a quorum. The statement of accounts showed receipts £601 14s 11d, and the expenditure left a credit balance of £171 17s 6d.

Barrier Estates Company.—The half-yearly meeting of shareholders lapsed for want of a quorum. The