

**MINING NEWS.**

**SHAREMARKET.**

**LITTLE** has occurred on the Stock Exchange during the past week worthy of special note. The higher priced mining shares maintained their value, but few transactions took place. The demand for Waitekauri shares continues steady at 4/8, but there are no sellers within 1/4 of that figure. Woodstocks also have steady buyers at 90/, and Thames stocks show no alteration. Buyers came in this week for Kapai Vermont shares at low prices that did not tempt holders. Coromandel stocks generally have been neglected, which is all the more to be wondered at as the mines that are crushing are yielding satisfactorily, while picked stone is reported frequently from many of the smaller companies. Amongst lower priced stocks the most attention has been paid to shares in Upper Thames companies, principally in the Waibi district. Waibi Consols, Souths, Extendeds, and Ohinemuris all had steady buyers, the former doubling in price during the week. Great Barrier stocks have had little attention since last report. Professor Black, of Dunedin, who is at present in Auckland in connection with his new permanganate process, is now treating a ton of ore from the Great Barrier mine. Should the result prove the ore suitable to this process it will be an important thing for Great Barrier properties. The Irene mine at Kuaotunu had 160 tons of ore treated this week, the yield being £87. Leaders showing gold freely have been cut in the Queen of the North and Golden Lead mines at Coromandel, and encouraging reports were received from the Karaka block. At the Kapanga mine rich hauls of specimens continue to be obtained by the tributers. Andrews and Gunn this week obtained £830 from 41 tons of ore, including picked stone. Since then they secured another 50lb of specimens and ore valued at about £800, making about £3,000 for four months' work in the abandoned upper levels of this old mine. The Hauraki return, though not as good as usual this month, still amounted to £1,155. The return from the Woodstock mine was satisfactory in that, although a less quantity of ore was treated, it was of higher average grade. The next crushing of this company will be by the wet process. The return from the May Queen company gave an average this time of £6 per ton, which will pay well. The gold returns for the week total £4,070 19/.

**WOODSTOCK.**

Only 270 tons were treated at the Woodstock Gold Mining Company's battery for the last crushing under the dry crushing process, the result being the handsome return of £1,095. The average value is at the rate of over £4 per ton. During the three weeks up to January 29th, 716 tons were treated for bullion valued at £1,532.

**MAY QUEEN-HAURAKI.**

£250 FROM 41 TONS.

The supplementary return from the May Queen-Hauraki mine was 91oz of melted gold from 41 loads of quartz, the value of the gold won being approximately £250. This, with the amount won from the previous crushing (£862 from 301 tons), brings the amount obtained from 341 tons to £1,112.

**KAPANGA TRIBUTERS.**

**ANOTHER SPLENDID RETURN.**

Andrews and Gunn, the Kapanga tributers, have got another splendid return. They have cleaned up a crushing of four tons of general ore and 25lb picked stone for a return of 279oz. 15dwts melted gold, valued approximately at £830, making £2,300 obtained by them since they started shortly before Christmas. They are still at work on a splendid reef.

**HAURAKI G.M. COMPANY.**

During the past month the Hauraki Gold Mining Company at Coromandel crushed and treated 180 tons of general quartz and 143lb picked stone for a result of 345oz 18dwts melted bullion, of the approximate value of £1,155. Last month there were treated 200 tons of quartz and 180lb of picked stone for 412oz 9dwts retorted gold of the approximate value of £1,237. In January 130 tons and 194lb picked stone yielded 445oz gold, valued at £1,335.

**MAHARA ROYAL.**

The monthly cleaning-up and retorting for the Mahara Royal Company (Tapu) is announced. 220 tons of ore won from the Royal reef in the stopes above the present low level were crushed and treated, with the result that 172oz 17dwts of melted gold were obtained, of a total value of £532 19s, the price obtained per oz being £3 1s 8d. This is an increase of 5oz 7dwts of gold, and £23 2s 9d in value, upon the previous month's return.

**IONA.**

An offer made for an option of floatation over this Great Barrier property has been declined by the directors.

**GRACE DARLING.**

The syndicate holding the option over this Waitekauri property has obtained an extension of the time for one month, and paid £100 yesterday for the concession. This mine is opened up for a distance of 2,000 feet on the reef in three levels, and no further test crushings will be made, as the reef has already been proved payable.

**KAPANGA TRIBUTERS.**

Tributers in the Coromandel mine are still securing good returns for their labours. Martin Bros. obtained £100 worth of bullion from one ton of general dirt and 28lb of picked stone. Andrews and Gunn are now having the general dirt crushed.

**IMPERIAL.**

The ordinary meeting of shareholders in this Company was held yesterday afternoon at Mr H. Gilliland's office, when Mr W. Gorrie presided. The balance-sheet showed the receipts to have been £1,127 7s. The expenditure was £924 8s 1d, leaving a credit balance of £202 18s 11d. The report and balance-sheet were adopted. Messrs W. Gorrie and H. L. Smith were re-elected directors, and Mr D. B. McDonald auditor.

**GOLDEN CROSS MINE.**

At the Waitekauri Company's Golden Cross mine, the crosscut from No. 1 shaft has been driven a sufficient distance to prove to the satisfaction of the manager that the reef recently cut is the main reef, and operations are now suspended in the crosscut. The manager is busily engaged pushing on drives north and south on the line of reef, and very good progress is being made. The lode is being opened up at the rate of 40 feet per week on two ends, the northern end being more easily driven. The ore from the whole width of the drive at the northern end is of good payable quality, and is being sent to the battery, and the greater part of that coming from the full width of the drive at the southern end is also being despatched to the mill. The lode at the point of intersection by the crosscut is 13 feet wide, and its width at the northern face of the drive will shortly be determined by the crosscut. This discovery of payable ore at this bottom level is of great importance, as evidenced by the fact that at a corresponding position in No. 1 level above the ore was low grade only, and could not be used for milling. It is highly important to have obtained payable ore at a point immediately below where ore of low grade was obtained, and augurs exceedingly well for future developments when the lode is exploited at points immediately under where runs of payable ore were got in No. 1 level. Not only is the lode of payable quality, but it is also very amenable to pick, as shown by the fact that it is being opened up at the rate of 50ft per week.

**WAIHI COMPANY.**

**TWENTIETH DIVIDEND PAID.**

This leading company paid its twentieth dividend of 2s. per share during the week.

**GREAT BARRIER.**

A parcel of quartz from this mine will be treated by means of the permanganate process, under the supervision of Professor Black.

**GOLDEN LEAD.**

A cross-cut leader has been cut in main level face, showing strong colours of gold in the stone.

**MATAWAI.**

The manager writes that the amount of quartz taken out from the mine since December 22nd last to March 1st totals about 60 tons of good crushing ore. A splendid prospect can be got from the reef.

**GOLD RETURNS FOR WEEK.**

Companies	Tons.	Picked stone.	£	s.	d.
Hauraki	180	145	1,155	0	0
Woodstock	270	1,095	0	0	0
May Queen	41	250	0	0	0
Kapanga	4	125b	120	0	0
Kapanga Trib.	4	830	0	0	0
Mahara Royal	320	532	19	0	0
Irene	100	85	0	0	0
Total for week			24,070	19	0

**NOTES.**

The Anglo-Continental Gold Syndicate has purchased the property of the Golden-Treasure Company for £1,200. The ground has been worked for the past 30 years, and splendid stone has been taken out of it. As the locality is a good one it is hoped that the outlay of capital will result in a handsome return.

Pura Consolidated.—The leading stope is now a total distance south of rise of 212 feet, leaving 85 feet to reach the face. The nice body of stone 18 inches.

Grace Darling.—The rise has been carried up a distance of 15ft. Another rise has been started, and will be carried up about 20ft. The reef in the latter is about 4ft in thickness, and gives nice dish prospects.

Mr R. H. Harrison, manager of the New Golconda, lanked nine pounds of picked stone this morning. He intends crushing at the Hauraki North battery and will start carting ore immediately.

Queen of the North.—A new leader two inches wide has been cut, showing gold freely.

The amalgamation of the Four-in-Hand and Custrass properties at Waikoromiko, near Coromandel, has been agreed upon. It has also been decided to acquire by purchase the adjoining claims known as the Tainui and Tainui Extended. This will give an area of about 200 acres.

Hauraki Associated.—The directors have made three calls in this mine, thus calling up the whole of the capital.

**TO DARKEN GREY HAIR.**

Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer, quickest, safest, best; restores the natural colour. Lockyer's, the real English Hair Restorer. Large Bottles, 1s 6d, every-where.—(Adv't.)

**Earthquake-proof.**—In all countries where earthquakes are of common occurrence the art of constructing buildings in such a way as to resist the effect of the shock has been studied, and, as always happens, experience has proved the best teacher. An extraordinary opportunity to compare the strength of buildings thus made with others built after the ordinary European fashion was furnished by the terrible earthquake in Japan last October. Professor John Milne, one of the foremost authorities on the subject of earthquakes, has studied the effects of this great shock, which destroyed over 40,000 houses, and reports that "in many places so-called 'foreign' buildings of brick and stone, undoubtedly put up in the flimsiest manner, lie as heaps of ruin between Japanese buildings yet standing." Some of the Japanese castles and temples escaped, though situated within the district where the shock was most destructive. Professor Milne attributes this in the case of the castles to their pyramidal form and to the moats that surround them, and in the case of the temples to the multiplicity of joints between the roof and the supporting columns, the effect of which was to produce a 'basket-like yielding' when the temples were shaken by the earthquake, thus preventing the breaking of the walls. In some of the Western States where tornadoes occur a similar problem is presented, but so far no method of constructing a house that will enable it to resist the tornado's fury has been invented, and the only alternative has been to dig underground chambers near the houses, into which families can flee for safety. Probably a Japanese would consider one of these tornadoes as a thing far more to be dreaded than the earthquake of his native country.

**HEALTH AND STRENGTH REGAINED.**

**Could Eat and Sleep Like a Child.**

Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, formerly of Johannesburg, now residents of East London, Cape Colony, send their portraits and testify to the merits of Ayer's Sarsaparilla.



EAST LONDON, CAPE COLONY, So. Africa, July 11, 1896.

"Shortly after leaving Johannesburg, where we had resided several years, I contracted a fever, which left me in a very weak state. I was a long time without any improvement, and none of the various remedies I tried, under the doctor's direction, did me any good. My husband finally persuaded me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which cured several acquaintances of ours who had suffered from impoverished blood and general debility. I therefore began to take the Sarsaparilla, and its good influence was soon apparent. Within less than a month I was as well as ever, and could eat and sleep like a child. Gratefully yours,

LILY FORBES."

Mr. Henry Forbes writes in confirmation of his wife's testimony, and adds that he had suffered from dyspepsia and loss of appetite, and that he was cured by

**Ayer's Sarsaparilla.**

Beware of worthless substitutes. See that the name—Ayer's Sarsaparilla—is on the wrapper, and blown in the glass of each bottle.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., U. S. A.