1. The Kurunui Company. This Company formerly was only Barry's claim, but now comprises claims and shares in claims all over the gold field, with not less than three first-class crushing machines, all of which have been obtained by purchase. The amount expended in buying up machinery and shares cannot be less than £15,000 or £20,000 stg. This enterprising and wealthy company of speculators, therefore, is entitled to a prominent place in the Miner's Guide. The ground first taken up by the Kurunui Company is situated above Hunt's claim, and beneath the claim known as the Deep Lead, on the Kuranui Range, and was the second claim pegged out on the gold field. The mine is under the management of an experienced miner, who has worked the ground systematically, and it has borne a golden harvest. This was the first registered Company on the Thames Gold Field, and has been the most successful. Certainly it had some serious difficulties to contend with in its formation, which have been overcome, and it now ranks at the head of a long list of companies, which is daily increasing. As a proof of the exceeding richness of the claim, (Barry's) it may be stated that, when the Company took possession of the ground, a shaft was put down close to the boundary of Hunt's Claim, and two hundred ounces of gold were obtained. After sinking on this boundary with such great success, several shafts were put in on the opposite side, and from these eight hundred and one thousand ounces of gold were obtained. Several other leaders
were worked, and about two hundred tons of quartz was got out per month, yielding from eight to ten ounces of gold per ton. The first crushing machine was erected by Messrs. Fraser and Tinnie, at the foot of Hunt's Claim, and near the mouth of the creek, which was purchased by the Kurunui Company for about £1,500. Arrangements are now being made to erect another and more powerful battery, fitted with the newest improvements, on a site on the Company's ground. The splendid plant and machinery of the Aotea Copper Mining Company has been purchased for this purpose, and is now in course of erection on the ground. The engine is a condensing one of 25 horse power nominally, working up to 40 horse power. The battery will comprise 20 head of stampers to commence with, capable of being increased to forty at a future day. The battery will be supplied with a Chilian mill rollers, and all the processes for procuring an adequate return from the quartz. It was also intended to fix a patent buddle for dressing the tailings of the machine, together with a calcining oven, in order to abstract the sulphur and economise the yield by every modern improvement available for use on the gold-field.

The Kurunui Company purchased the Victoria battery on the Moanatairai Creek, for the sum of £2,500; this battery, one of the most extensive and complete upon the gold-field, was formerly the property of Messrs. Clark and Kersterman. In obtaining this magnificent battery the Company gained a firm footing upon the very centre of the gold field. They will now be able to judge from the various yields which are the best claims to buy up, and the proceeds alone from the public crushings of this and the Kuranui (Fraser and Tinne's) battery will yield handsome dividends. Hunt's claim has turned out more gold, and has given its shareholders
handsome fortunes; but it is more or less evident that equally large fortunes will be amassed by the shareholders in this enterprising Company. Hunt's is only a rich patch, the Kuranui is a multitude of more or less rich patches of ground.

2. The first Gold Mining Company Registered formed on the Thames Gold Field, was the Kurunui Gold Mining Company. The ground worked is the claim formerly known as Barry's, but they have obtained ground by purchase on various parts of the goldfield. Application for registration was made in December, 1867.*

3. The Karaka Gold Mining Company Registered was formed to work the prospecting claim (Monster) on the Karaka Creek. Application was made to register the Company in February, and published in Government Gazette of April, 1868. The nominal capital of the Company is £4,000 in 400 shares of £10 each. The amount already paid up is £1,720. Interim Manager, J. T. Garlick.

4. The Waiotahi Gold Mining Company, Registered. The ground worked by the Company is situated on the Waiotahi Creek, and formerly known as the Parnell and Townley's claims. The nominal capital of the Company is £4,000, in 400 shares of £10 each. The amount already paid up is £1,920. Application to register was made in April, and published in Gazette of July 7th, 1868. Interim Manager, J. H. Burnside.

5. The Tapu Gold Mining Company. The ground worked by the Company was formerly known as McIsaacs claim, Tapu Creek. The nominal capital is £10,800, in 108 shares, of £100 each.

* The Hauraki Gold Mining Company's ground is situated near the head of Karaka Creek. The Company was formed early in 1868; the ground worked is highly auriferous.
The amount already paid up is £7,200. Application to register was made in April, 1868. Interim Manager, Charles Tothill.

6. The Thames Crushing Company, Registered. The place of intended operations is the Moanatairi Creek, Thames Gold Field. The nominal capital of the Company is £5,000 in 1,000 shares of £5 each. The amount already paid up is £285. Application to register was made in March, 1868. Interim Manager, James Smart.

7. The Homeward Bound Gold Mining Company, Registered, is formed to effectually work the Homeward Bound Claim, Thames Gold Fields. The nominal capital is £2,525, in 84 shares of £30 each. The amount already paid up is £2,000. Application to register was made in June, 1868. Interim Manager, Richard Keals.

8. The Great Republic Gold Mining Company, Registered, is formed to work the Great Republic Claim, Waiotahi Creek, Thames Gold Field. The nominal capital is £6,400, in 84 shares of £100 each. The amount already paid up is £5,120. Application to register was made in June, 1868. Interim Manager, Thos. S. Weston.

9. The Moanatairi Gold Mining Company, Registered. The place of operations is the Thames Gold Fields. The nominal capital is £5,000 in 500 shares of £10 each. The amount already paid up is £2,400. Application to register was made in June, 1868. Interim Manager, James Stone.

10. The Hape Gold Mining Company, Registered. The place of operations is the Hape Creek, Thames Gold Fields. The nominal capital is £2,100 in 210 shares of £10 each. The amount already paid up is £1,400. Application to register was in June, made 1868. Interim Manager, S. H. Smith.
11. **The Prince Alfred Gold Mining Company, Registered**, is formed to work the ground formerly occupied by the Prince Alfred and Albion Claims, Karaka Creek. The nominal capital of the Company is £1,250 in 500 shares of £2 10s. each. The amount already paid up is £900. Application to register was made in June, 1868. Interim Manager, R. M. McTurk.

12. **The United Gold Mining Company, Registered.** The place of operations is at the Waiotahi, Thames Gold Field. The nominal capital of the Company is £1,620. The amount already paid up is £1,620. Date of application to register, June, 1868. Interim Manager, J. M. Lennox.

13. **The Hokitiki Gold Mining Company, Registered.** Nominal capital, £4000 in 400 shares of £10 each. Amount paid up, £3000. Interim Manager, G. Johnston. Date of registration, July, 1868.


15. **The Halcyon Gold Mining Company,** Karaka Creek. Nominal capital £5,000 in 1,000 shares of £5 each. Amount paid up £2,500. Application to register, July, 1868. Interim Manager, T. B. Gipps.

16. **The Royal Gold Mining Company** is formed to effectually work the British Ensign and Union Jack Claims, equal to twelve men's ground. Nominal capital £6,000. Manager, J. McKae.

17. **The Long Drive Gold Mining Company** is in course of formation, but the prospectus has not appeared in the public press or Government Gazette. There are several other companies in the course of formation, which have not published their prospectus. They will be noticed in a future edition.