

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

Mr Owen Meredith, manager of the Royal Tasman Company, recently took to Melbourne a parcel of pyrites and tailings, sent up from the claim by order of the directors, to have the same tested in Victoria. Yesterday Mr Webster, the Chairman of Directors, received the following telegram from Mr Meredith:—"Result of assay splendid. Pyrites yielded at rate of 394oz gold per ton. Tailings yielded 14oz gold per ton. First-class man engaged as battery manager." The mining manager reports that for the week ended Friday last he had crushed 103 tons stone, and obtained 285oz amalgam from the plates and ripples.

Mr Edward Hardy has been appointed manager of the Royal Standard Co.'s claim, Gladstone.

In another column appears the prospectus of the Sir John Franklin Co., formed to mine upon 18 acres of land held under lease from the Crown, and adjoining the property of the Australasian States Quarry Co. at Back Creek. This Company has been a considerable time in existence, and an immense amount of work has been done on the claim, the outlay being estimated at over £3000. Trial crushings at various times have proved very satisfactory, averaging 13dwts to the ton. The present proprietors cannot proceed further without reorganising the Company, and hence the very liberal terms stated in the prospectus. Twenty-eight promoters' shares out of 40 (each carrying 500 scrip) are offered to the public at £50 each on four months' terms, and out of the sum thus realised £1000 is to be placed to the Company's credit. Mr T. C. Just is the agent.

A meeting of shareholders in the Golden Tier Company will be held at the office of Mr R. Rawson, on Thursday next. All transfers must be lodged previously.

Mr E. Frith notifies that transfers from him in the Little Gem Company not lodged by 3rd November, will be forfeited.

The prospectus is issued of the Sir John Franklin Company, which it is proposed to form to continue operations on 18 acres at Back Creek, on which over £3000 have been already expended, and from the prospects obtained, it is believed a permanent reef is not far off. Rich gold-bearing leaders have been cut; a trial crushing of 32 tons stone yielded an average of 13dwts to the ton, and a great deal of work in sinking, driving, and tunnelling has been done, as will be gathered from the report of Mr W. F. Roberts. Twenty-eight out of forty scrip are offered to the public at £50 each, payable in instalments, and £1000 of the proceeds will be placed to the credit of

payable in instalments, and £1000 of the proceeds will be placed to the credit of the Company. Mr T. C. Just is the agent.

The wording of the notice regarding the West New Chum in last issue being rather vague, we may explain that the 80oz amalgam stated to have been obtained from the "two remaining boxes" was from the plates and ripples of ten head of the battery.

Notice is given that all shares in the Star of the West Company (Minnaw River) upon which the first call of 1s is not paid by 7th November will be liable to forfeiture.

Mr Wm. Logan, who was sent to report on the Panama goldfield, writes to Mr A. Corrie as follows:—"It is with pleasure I report upon the improved prospects of Panama. Since I last wrote the Long Tunnel Co. have come on the famous and long-sought-for Panama reef, having cut it at 40ft from the surface. It stands like a solid wall, and before cutting it through a considerable amount of dynamite will have to be used. Small pieces of stone that have been broken off show excellent property when crushed, so it is likely when the reef is cut into I will be able to report to you a find of good gold. There are three sections here that stand well, and on which the owners ought to do some prospecting, namely the Walhalla, Hokitika, and Shiels sections, on which there is a splendid body of stone cropping up on the top of the range, and from which good prospects can be obtained by crushing."

A meeting of persons interested in the formation of a company in connection with Thomas O'Beirne's lease, Lefroy, will be held at the office of Mr F. C. H. Dean at 8 o'clock this evening.

The general meeting of the shareholders in the Windermere Company will be held at the office of Mr A. Reid at 8 o'clock this evening. The manager's report and balance-sheet, election of directors, and other important business will be brought forward.

Mining managers and others report as under:—

BEACONSFIELD.

Blyth's Frechold.—Oct. 24—Since my last report I have driven 11ft, making a total distance from the turning drive of 45ft. The water is on the increase, and the men could not get down last night. I am continuing to bale, as the Florence Nightingale will start some time to-day. I may state that I have had some hard ground for a few feet, but it is changing for the better, and I think getting closer to stone.

Prince Consort.—Oct. 22—I have to inform you that I have got a substantial blacksmith's shop erected, and I have taken delivery of the mining plant re-

Blacksmith's shop erected, and I have taken delivery of the mining plant recently forwarded. I have got the shaft logged up on the No. 3 reef, and cut down to water and cleared out. I shall start sinking on the underlay on Monday, and fully anticipate being enabled to give a good account of this lode at a depth shortly.

SALISBURY.

Blue Tier Tunnelling.—Oct. 22—In the No. 1 tunnel I have driven and timbered 19ft for the week, making the length of the tunnel 77ft. In the No. 2 tunnel I have driven 26ft for the week, making the length of the tunnel 91ft. The leaders we meet in the No. 1 tunnel are getting larger, the last leader cut being between three and four inches wide.

Pactolus.—Oct. 22—I have passed through the hard sandstone and got into more favourable country of slates and sandstone, intermixed with small burnt quartz leaders. I am now 28ft past the old shaft, therefore I have been driving underneath the reef for some time, and should be almost far enough to catch the underlay, as the country appears to be coming in a more vertical direction. Should I not strike the reef in another 10ft I will put in a cross-cut to the south, as it is underlaying that way.

LEFROY.

United Chums.—Oct. 22—I will have the chamber completed about the middle of the week, and will start to drive east and west on the reef. I have delivered 22 tons of quartz to the battery, and the plates look very well.

Rob Roy.—Oct. 22—I have driven north six feet for the week. The ground still keeps hard sandstone, with occasional quartz leaders for the last few feet.

West New Chum.—Oct. 24—During the week good progress had been made in the mine in the several drives and stopes. Before the breakage of the crank shaft of engine, there were 131 tons quartz raised and crushed; after the breakage I connected the new engine to the plunger lift at once, which is nearly completed, and ex-

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Golden Era.—Oct. 24—The north cross-cut is driven 25ft, making a total from the shaft of 230ft. I have passed through several gold-bearing leaders, and there is every indication of a reef close at hand. The winze is down 21ft, and I have commenced stoping.

New Native Youth.—Oct. 24—The reef in the western face at the 320ft level continues about the same, and is still showing gold. A quantity of water is making out of the south wall. I shall break into it for a few feet. I think

making out of the south wall. I shall break into it for a few feet. I think there must be some stone behind this wall. The north drive is in 86ft, the stone continuing about the same. I expect to have from 20ft to 30ft to drive from the Excelsior shaft before cutting the reef.

New Chum.—Oct. 22—For the week I have driven the western level 12ft, and east 10ft. The whole of the faces are showing gold. I have extended the No. 3 cross-cut 6ft, and the prospecting drive 12ft.

Great Extended West Chum.—Oct. 22—I have driven west 7ft, leaving yet 247ft to drive to the United boundary. The lode is 7ft wide, and more water is making from the face. The hanging wall is getting softer, and the lode is still laying very flat.

Old Chum.—Oct. 22—I commenced operations on the 19th inst. The first step taken was to strip some bark to put over the shaft, so that I could work during wet or dry weather. I have cut down the south end of the shaft. The bottom of the shaft is at present in sandstone, and there are some small veins of quartz in it. I have carefully examined the shaft from top to bottom, and consider the last six or eight feet from the bottom has a better appearance for quartz than any other place further up. I would advise you to keep on sinking at present.

Windermere.—Oct. 22—During the week the driving has been very hard, and I have not made much headway. I have extended the level a farther distance of 6ft, making a total of 20ft 6in from the shaft. I fancy I am now getting into a strong head wall, as the formation very much resembles the ground in the upper level on the course of the reef. If the underlay from that level is no greater than that from the surface to the tunnel, I will have still 10ft to drive before intersecting the reef.

Dtn O'Connell.—Mr James Clarke, of the Windermere Co., who is at present supervising the mining operations of this Company, reports, under date the 22nd inst., as follows:—"I started sinking 30ft east of the old shaft, and am down 15ft in a soft sandstone country, and will go deep enough into the solid before opening out. I rather like the appearance of the sinking, as it is a country that a reef would be likely to go down in, and from what I can learn both from men who know the ground and the prospects, I think it a very fair show. I have obtained very nice prospects from the stone raised from the old shaft."

Brother Scots.—Oct. 22—I have driven south from the No. 4 shaft 13ft, and have had leaders of quartz all the distance. The appearance of the country I am now in is all that could be wished for to find a reef in. I expect in 5ft or 6ft more to

in is all that could be wished for to find a reef in. I expect in 5ft or 6ft more to cut the run of stone. I got the colour of gold in the upper portion of this shaft.

West Calder.—Oct. 22—On measuring the two reefs already discovered on our claim I find they are distant apart about 35ft. The north reef (on the line of the old Struggle reef), is underlying sharper than the south or old Industry reef, so I have decided to continue sinking the present shaft down 40ft, and then drive to intersect these reefs at a depth.

Queen's Birthday.—Oct. 24—I have driven the cross-cut north 15ft, making a total of 273ft from the shaft. The country is favourable, and from indications I hope soon to strike the reef.

West Queen's Birthday.—Oct. 22—Since my last report I have driven the cross-cut south 5ft, making a total of 85ft from the shaft, but owing to the air being bad I had to discontinue this cross-cut and sink a shaft for air, to enable me to work on the reef mentioned in my last report.

Caledonian.—Oct. 24—I have sunk the shaft 14ft, and timbered about 10ft, making a total from the No. 1 level of 23ft.

East Golden Era.—Oct. 24—I have extended the cross-cut 14ft, making the total length from the shaft 96ft. The country is the same as last reported. I have an idea that the reef or course of the reef is no great distance ahead.

Land o' Cakes.—Oct. 22—The work in the mine is proceeding satisfactorily. The ground continues hard sandstone. We shall be in 14ft to-night. I am also building a good blacksmith's shop.

Waverly.—Oct. 24—Since my last report I have erected a whip, but owing to the difficulty of getting horses I have not been able to do anything in the shaft. I have started a prospecting shaft for the Caledonian reef, and would recommend the other shaft to be let alone until the Land o' Cakes cut the lode.

BACK CREEK.

Try Again.—October 22—The south cross-cut has been extended 16ft for the week, making a total distance from the shaft of 95ft. We have cut several nice-looking leaders, some of them about six inches thick.

Holdfast.—Oct. 22—The shaft has been sunk 12ft for the week, making a total depth from the brace of 36ft. The ground is hard slate, with sandstone and quartz intermixed.

Just In Time.—Oct. 22—I have driven 15ft for the week south. In my last I mentioned I expected to have something encouraging to report in my next. I was then nearing the junction of the belt of sandstone country, where people acquainted with the finds of alluvial gold fancy it has been shed from. I have now

acquainted with the mass of alluvial gold fancy it has been shed from. I have now a good many small leaders in the face, although I cannot get any prospects, still I fancy I am not far from a stronger body of stone. I would suggest to the directors that if nothing is met with in another week, that they suspend work for a time, as nearly all the high ground will be prospected and as the low ground has a lot of surface water on it at present. After Christmas would be better. The All Nations are now prospecting the ground on the west, and the Try Again on the east.

East Try Again.—Oct. 24—I have driven the cross-cut 3ft, making a total distance of 11ft from the shaft. There are several small leaders in the face, varying from one inch upwards. On Saturday I crushed some stone from the hanging wall side of the reef and obtained gold. The size of the stone that carries the gold is 6in thick, and there are two kinds of it in the reef. I have sent a sample of the stone to town. I will open out on the north-east side of the cross-cut to-morrow.

GLADSTONE.

North Extended Tasmán.—Oct. 21—The tunnel has been extended 22ft, and the ground gone through is the same as last reported. I am daily expecting to cut the reef.

Royal Standard.—Oct. 22—The drive at the 100ft level, which is going with the course of the reef, which at this level is about 3ft in width and much broken

up, is making a quantity of water. The water is very heavy.

Fly-by-Night.—Oct. 22—I have driven the tunnel 14ft, making a total of 90ft from the entrance. The country is a little harder.

Royal Mint.—Oct. 21—I will start the battery on Monday morning early. I have sent 40 tons of quartz to the battery. The south drive has been driven 9ft, making a total of 102ft 3in. The winze has been sunk 12ft, making a total from the surface of 49ft 6in. The stopes over the tunnel shaft are blocked up with quartz. I have not yet had time to do any prospecting, but from appearances the gold has dipped north of the shaft.

West Royal Tasmán.—Oct. 21—The shaft has been put down 4ft during the week, through similar country to that reported in my last letter, with the exception of its having become more hard and settled, and giving an increasing flow of water equal to twelve hours' baling out of twenty-four. The total depth of the shaft to date is 110ft. In my next letter I will advise as to the depth at which I propose opening out, and the direction in

I will advise as to the depth at which I propose opening out, and the direction in which I will put in the cross-cut, etc.

Mount Cameron.—Oct. 21.—There has not been any change in the quartz since my last. The contractors have driven 10ft for the week.

Golden Age.—Oct. 21.—I have to report the cross-cut is now driven 29ft from the shaft. At 24ft I met a rubbly lode, which is from 18in to 2ft 6in in width, having well defined walls. The course of the lode where cut through is about S., 75deg. E. The prospects obtained do not show rich in gold, but there is a quantity of pyrites and other minerals. I am continuing the cross-cut to ascertain if there is another lode between this one and our boundary. I will drive along the course of the present one when satisfied on that point.

Midlothian.—Oct. 21.—I commenced operations on Saturday, 15th inst., trenching across the claim near the N.W. boundary. I have cut several quartz leaders, and will determine the position for the shaft after cutting another trench, which I hope to finish on Thursday next.

Progress.—Oct. 21.—I have sunk 6ft for the week and timbered it up. More water is making to-day as we go down. The country is very favourable for a reef to continue down. I met with a nice leader in the shaft to-day.

North Mint.—Oct. 21.—I have sunk the No. 1 shaft 8ft for the week, making a total distance of 29ft from the brace. The country is still hard, and making more water as I get down below the level of the creek. The country has a settled appearance, and does not seem to have been in any way disturbed, so that when I cut the lode I expect it to be a strong and well-defined body of stone. On the No. 2 formation I am yet testing the quality of the stone by drilling a series of holes across its course and washing the borings. I obtained small prospects of good quality gold in every hole, but have not cut the rich shoot as yet. If this formation would only go a few dwts to the ton it would pay splendidly, as there is almost an unlimited quantity of it.

No. 1 South Royal Standard.—Oct. 22.—I have extended the cross-cut 5ft for the week, making a total distance from the shaft of 24ft. The ground has been very hard, but I have now broken into a more slaty looking country.

MUSSEL ROE.

Grand Flaneur.—Oct. 22.—Since my last report I have driven 28ft, making in all 50ft from the shaft. I have met with a hard bar of elvin thickly studded with pyrites, and I hope soon to be through it. The water is still heavy.

Blue Bell.—Oct. 21.—We are the required depth, and all securely timbered.

Blue Bell.—Oct. 21.—We are the required depth, and all securely timbered. The men are engaged in flooring over the shaft at the 100ft level. The engine and pumps are working well. I shall have everything ready to commence opening on Monday, and I hope by this day week to be in far enough to commence erecting winding gear.

PANAMA.

Long Tunnel.—October 22.—I sunk on the stone cut off the shaft a few feet, and although it was running and underlaying similar to the reef, I was disappointed to find a lot of broken leaders, and after carefully examining and crushing a few pounds of stone I could find no gold. I am quite satisfied it is not a reef. I then started driving through it again, and will continue doing so next week.

GOLCONDA.

Exhibition.—October 22.—During the week I have extended the drive 9ft., or 19ft. for the fortnight, making a total distance from the tunnel mouth of 339ft. From estimates made of the underlay in the shaft, sunk 70ft on the reef, I imagine if it continues at the same angle I shall not have to drive more than 10ft to cut the reef in the present tunnel.

DENISON.

Royal Treasury.—Oct. 22.—The horses for the whip arrived on Thursday morning. The whip and windlass are both at work. The water is very strong, but I will have it out by to-morrow night.