

GOLD.

The Florence Nightingale Company (Beaconsfield) resumed pumping on Friday last, and the machinery is now working well.

The first general meeting of the Holdfast Co. will be held in the committee room, Mechanics' Institute, commencing at 7.30 p.m., this evening. The directors' report and balance sheet will be laid before the shareholders present, and besides other business, the election of three directors in the place of Messrs James Barclay, Alexander Evans, and William Gurr who retire, but are eligible for re-election, will take place.

The first half-yearly general meeting of the Gem Co. will take place at the office of Mr T. H. Urquhart, commencing at 4 p.m., to-day. The principal business will be the consideration of the report of the works, and the balance sheet of the accounts of the company.

The first half-yearly general meeting of the Ilfracombe Co. will be held at Mr T. H. Urquhart's office, at 7 p.m. to-day, when the mining managers' report, and the balance sheet, will be laid before the shareholders.

Mr Gormin, manager of the East Try Again Company, Back Creek, arrived in town on Friday afternoon with some samples of stone taken from the hanging side-wall of the reef. The largest piece (of three) said to be the worst, was handed to Mr Holmes, of Messrs Hatton and Laws's, by the manager on Saturday, and the result from 1½lbs of stone crushed and treated in the common way (without chemicals) gave an average of 9oz 6dwts 16grs to the ton. The reef was opened out on Thursday last, and the stone taken from the cap (5in wide), and when work ceased that day it had widened out to 2ft in the bottom of the drive. A meeting of directors was held on Friday afternoon, and after hearing Mr Gormin's report on the prospects of the claim, they expressed themselves highly pleased with

his management, and further instructed him to put on two shifts instead of one as at present, and extend the drive along the reef with all dispatch from where the specimens of stone were taken.

A few days since we published the result of the tests of pyrites and tailings from the Royal Tasman, made at the Ballarat School of Mines. We are informed that since then the return of the assays made at the new Pyrites Works, Yarraville, near Melbourne, have been received, and are confirmatory of the report from Ballarat as to the richness of

report from Ballarat as to the richness of the pyrites, tailings, etc.,. The directors are making every effort to ascertain the best and most profitable method of treating the stone and its products. The battery manager, who is highly recommended as a thoroughly skilled practical man, will arrive from Melbourne by the next steamer.

The directors of the Star of the West Gold Mining Company, Minnow River, are making arrangements for procuring an engine and battery, and in a short time the mine and crushing operations will be in full swing.

FURTHER CRUSHINGS AT BEACONSFIELD AND SALISBURY, 1839oz 3dwts GOLD, VALUE £6896 10s.

The gold from the recent month's crushing of quartz and alluvial from the Tasmania Company's mine was brought to town on Saturday evening, and lodged in the Commercial Bank. At the Tasmania Company's battery 1480 tons of quartz were crushed, yielding 1630oz 13dwts re-torted gold, and giving an average yield of a fraction over 1oz 2dwts per ton. The alluvial crushed at King and Eastman's battery produced 140oz 8dwts, making the total amount of gold from the Tasmania Company's claim 1771 ounces, value £6640 17s 8d.

The full 50-head battery of the Tasmania Company started crushing again on Friday evening.

The crushing of 270 tons at the Victoria Company's battery, Salisbury, yielded 68oz 2dwts of gold, value £255 7s 6d, giving an average of only a fraction over 5dwts 1gr to the ton. The ten-head battery started crushing again on Friday evening on the alluvial that has been stacked on the claim for some time.

GLADSTONE.

Deakford.—Oct. 26—I have driven for the week 12ft, making a total distance of 119ft. Close to our northern boundary I have commenced to cross-out to the east, to strike the Royal Tasman reef. I am in a nice slate country very favourable for the reef, and letting out more water. The country is mixed up with quartz and the general impression is the reef is further in the hill than we have driven for it. The slate country we are driving in is very similar to the slate in the Royal Tasman bottom tunnel.

Grand Standard.—Oct. 26—I am still sinking through the reef, which is very hard. The water also is still very heavy. The stone has a cleaner appearance, there not being so much sandstone mixed with it. I have sunk for the fortnight 8ft, making a total from the surface of 113ft.

BEACONSFIELD.

Lefroy.—Oct. 29—The shaft is baled out, and sinking will be resumed on Monday morning. The machinery is

Monday morning. The machinery is working well, and good progress is expected to be made with the sinking. It is intended to take the shaft down at least to 400ft before opening out. The present depth is 125ft.

LEFROY.

New Chum.—Oct. 29—I have crushed 167 tons stone for the week, and obtained 520ozs amalgam from the plates and ripples,