

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

Our Beaconsfield correspondent states that pending the floating of the Excelsior Company to work Kelly and M'Aulich's lease (which is in course of formation), work has been suspended here. During the last week the claim has been visited by several persons from Launceston and elsewhere, and on prospects being washed out to them they were highly satisfied with the results. Shares are in request here, and several purchases of promoter's have been made on satisfactory terms.

A cleaning up from a crushing of the New Chum Company took place yesterday at the New Native Youth Company's battery, Lefroy, and a telegram received last evening stated that 780 tons stone had been put through, and 2829oz amalgam obtained (1992oz from plates and ripples, and 837oz from boxes), which yielded 1100oz retorted gold, value £4400, giving an average of a fraction over 1oz 8dwt 4gr per ton.

A cleaning up from a crushing of the West New Chum Company (Lefroy) also took place yesterday at the Company's battery with a highly satisfactory result. A telegram received last evening stated that 784 tons stone were crushed, and 2494oz amalgam obtained (1174oz from ripples and plates, and 1320oz from boxes). The result of the retorting will not be known till this morning, but it will probably yield over 1000oz gold.

A dividend, the first, of 1s per share has been declared in the Royal Tasman Company (Gladstone), payable on the 22nd inst. The amount of this dividend is £1000, and the tax payable on it £37 10s. At the meeting of the directors held yesterday afternoon it was decided to increase the battery power by the addition of another five head of stampers fitted with percussion tables. It will be seen by advertisement that a mining manager is required for this Company.

A call, the fourth, of 6d per share has been made in the Royal Treasury Co., payable on 21st inst.

A call, the third, of 1s per share has been made in the All Nations Company, payable on 22nd inst.

The half-yearly meeting of the Marquis of Lorne Company will be held at the office of Mr T. G. Williams, Beaconsfield, on 30th inst.

Mining managers report as under :—

BEACONSFIELD.

Little Gem.—Nov. 12—The contractors have sunk 8ft for the week, and timbered, making total depth of shaft 65ft. The country is rather hard, and requires blasting. A few quartz leaders have been cut. The shaft is now well timbered and centred.

Kara Kara.—Nov. 15—Have opened

centred.

Kara Kara.—Nov. 15—Have opened out as directed, and have driven 15ft in good country.

Oliver Branch.—Nov. 14—I have called for tenders for driving the first 200ft, returnable on Friday.

SALISBURY.

Victoria.—Nov. 11—I have to report that cross-cut from the bottom tunnel has been extended 10ft since last report; there is no change. I have also put in a drive north from the east drive in the level from winze; this will be about 75ft from where we had the rich patches of gold; there are a good many quartz leaders and pyrites in it.

Gem.—Nov. 14—I have driven 5ft for the week. The country driven through is the same as last reported, and there is a little water showing in the face.

Blue Tier Tunnelling.—Nov. 14—Have driven No. 1 tunnel 14ft since last report, making the total length 126ft. No. 2 tunnel has been driven 18ft, making this tunnel 158ft long. The driving in No. 1 tunnel, which has all along been very hard, has got much softer. The contractors began work to-day in both tunnels.

LEFROY.

West Calder.—Nov. 12—I have sunk the shaft 78ft, the last 14ft through slate and sandstone. I am now driving south, as the reef underlies more than I calculated at first. I find it underlies 10 inches in 3ft on the 34ft level, and only 6 inches on the surface, so that I should strike it very soon driving south. I anticipate I shall have to drive about 40ft to strike the Industry reef. A little more water comes in, but not much. The country is soft and favourable for driving.

Dan O'Connell.—Nov. 12—During the past week I have cut the reef in the second shaft, which is 50ft east from the old shaft. There is about 4 inches of solid stone, and I shall drive on to it to see if it improves in size. The stone looks well for gold. The best thing to do will be to cross-cut across the ground north and south, where I obtained colours in some of the stone at the old shaft.

Brother Scots.—Nov. 14—I started near the south boundary on Tuesday last, and have sunk 13ft and driven 14ft since. There is a quantity of surface quartz at this particular spot, and gold bearing stone has been found amongst it, so I hope soon to come across the lode. The formation is good for driving, and I hope to make good headway.

Windermere.—Nov. 12—During the week I have extended the level a further distance of 5ft 6 inches, making a total distance of 45 feet 6 inches from the shaft. In my last report I stated that I hoped to cut the reef about the end of the week, but as it is almost perpendicular the first 50ft from the surface, and likely

week, but as it is almost perpendicular the first 50ft from the surface, and likely to continue so, and from the solid nature of the country it will take me somewhat longer than I anticipated ; besides the country did not change so soon as I expected. I have now a change in the face which leads me to believe that I shall have the pleasant duty of informing you that I have cut the reef before my next weekly report reaches you, as there is slate coming in the face, also flat leaders and a little water during the last two shifts.

South West Chum.—Nov. 12—Since my last I have driven the cross-cut 16ft north, total distance from shaft 21ft, the ground has become a little harder, and more settled as we get into the hill. I have cut several leaders, all dipping north, or towards the leaders cut in the south drive.