

GOLD.

We understand that Mr J. H. Marshall, mining manager of the United Chum Extended Co., Lefroy, arrived on the ground on Saturday, and obtained good prospects. A working shaft will be commenced forthwith.

The New Chum Co., Lefroy, have imported by the Mangana a large engine for pumping purposes. This will enable them to use the other engine for winding purposes only, and push ahead with the sinking of the main shaft to a further depth.

A call (the 15th) of 2d per share has been made in the Nine-Miles Springs Prospecting Association, payable at Lefroy on 18th inst.

The 200 shares in the All Nations Co. held by J. J. O'Shannessy, and seized under a writ of *fieri facias*, were sold by the Deputy Sheriff (G. Smith, Esq.) at the Court House at noon yesterday. The whole number was purchased by Mr T. H. Urquhart, on behalf of the All Nations Co., at 1s.

Mining managers and others report as under :—

GLADSTONE.

Golden Age.—Nov. 5.—The distance driven in the cross-cut is 45ft from the shaft. To-day we cut through a quartz lode varying from 6 to 10in in thickness; it is of good appearance, showing a quantity of pyrites, and I hope it will prove to be gold-bearing, but I have not yet tried sufficient of it to judge its gold-bearing qualities.

Middlethian.—Nov. 5.—I commenced on the 31st ult. sinking a shaft, and the depth is now 14ft. The country is favourable for quartz. The shaft is timbered up, and I hope to finish the top work to-morrow.

Deskford.—Nov. 5.—I have been below, and the air, which was some time ago rendered impure through the sultry weather that prevailed, is now all right. The country is very good and very much mixed with quartz.

North Extended Tasman.—Nov. 5.—The driving has been a little harder during the last week, and the country passed through is sandstone. The tunnel has been extended a further distance of 15ft for the week.

Royal Standard.—Nov. 5.—The reef is broken up at the 100ft level, though it has a promising appearance and is heavily charged with mineral. By driving along the lode it might improve, but owing to the influx of water I thought it advisable to open out at 60ft from the surface and test it at that level. I have put in the opening set and driven 6ft, and will cut the reef in a few feet more. We are getting out stone on the surface, and have seen gold several times in it. A very good prospect was obtained by the mining

manager, weighing 2lbs; it can be seen at the office of the Company.

West Royal Tasman.—Nov. 4.—As intimated in my last letter I forward an estimate of the work on the claim, the total of which including driving 50ft in an easterly direction. I put down at £132 18s 1d. On Thursday afternoon, the 3rd inst, we were driven out of the shaft by foul air, and I had to suspend operations in the shaft for a shift and a half whilst getting windsail made. I intend next week to construct a small furnace out of the material around me which will thoroughly ventilate the drives should my winds become becalmed. The main working shaft has been put down to a further depth of 6ft through clean blacky metamorphic rock, entirely free from any intrusive indications, thus showing that the last 20ft of mixed country which we have previously passed through is the capping of what I hope to find as a strong body of quartz in the projected eastern cross-cut, as the 20ft above referred to is composed of quartz bunches, schistous slate and true quartz leaders carrying much copper and arsenical pyrites with a little gold. As the shaft is now down the required depth for opening out, I purpose next week sinking a bailing and fixing well and chamber frames sets preparatory to excavating the chamber plat and starting the cross-cut. The total depth of the shaft to date is 120ft.

Royal Mint.—Nov. 4.—The reef in the stopes shows very fair prospects of gold, and is 5ft wide. On driving into the hanging wall I met with cross reefs continually, and expect some of them will prove good. The good shoot of gold got in the tunnel shaft has dipped north, and will be met with again in extending the tunnel. The whole of the stopes and drive is full of stone, and the supply of water having failed the battery is stopped. They are now erecting a dam at the creek and will have to pump the water from it.

Fly-by-Night.—Nov. 4.—I have driven the tunnel 16ft for the week, making a total length of 120ft. The country passed through looks very promising, and little water is making from the face.

Royal Tasman.—Nov. 5.—I have this day given the newly-appointed battery manager, Mr Rowe, full charge of the battery. I would recommend that the tailings be put through the battery again, in order to pass them over the percussion tables, say truck for truck of sand and quartz. The percussion tables will be ready for work by next Wednesday. We have had to take up the blanket tables in order to put in the percussion tables, consequently all is collected on sand heap. I have made such alterations with the

consequently all is collected on sand heap. I have made such alterations with the boiler and engine as will effect a material saving in firewood, and give twice as much steam as formerly. My progress report for the week is as follows:—I have started the No. 2 tunnel again, for I find the reef a few feet ahead of me, and with two men have driven 7ft for the week; total, 144ft. I have sunk the winze to connect same a further depth of 7ft, total 32ft. The reef is solid with good walls, and is 2ft 3in in width. Stopes, nothing fresh to report. No stone from No. 2 reef has been crushed this week. The reef at 63ft depth is to the north 5ft 6in in the face, and has been widening this week, showing a good deal of galena and a little gold. The north level is in 17ft, and the south 22ft where it is 20in in width and making larger. It has got round here to its own course. The amalgam from the wells and plates yesterday amounted to 159oz, and from skimmings during the week 80oz 15dwts, making the total for the week 248oz 15dwts. Total quantity of stone crushed during week 102 tons. I have collected about 8oz of amalgam from off the old

blankets, not previously reported. This makes a total of amalgam to date of 1835oz. It may reasonably be expected to retort much better than the first lot.

Progress.—Nov. 4—Have finished sinking the well, and started to open out today. Will make all haste now to cut the reef again.

North Mint.—Nov. 5—During the week have sunk the shaft 6ft, and timbered it. The country continues of the same description as reported in my last. Am now engaged in opening out, as I intend to have a look at the lode at the level I am now on. On the No. 2 line I still continue to obtain some first-class surface stone. The lode must be higher up the spur, as the debris seems to a certain extent to have been waterworn, and must have come from higher up the spur. I shall continue prospecting in this direction until I cut the lode that has thrown the rich specimens that I had in the alluvial deposits.

North Tasman.—Nov. 4—Have continued the east drive in No. 1 shaft 10ft for the week with two men; total 42ft, but have not cut any stone. I do not intend to continue it any further as the reef in the shaft on the No. 2 Royal Tasman is still keeping its full size, about 6ft in width. I have examined it two or three times, and I find it will be further to the west than the stone that I have sunk the winze on, as the stone in the winze has cut out. Being of the opinion that the reef is to the west of us as yet I

that the reef is to the west of us as yet I have opened out from the bottom of the winze which is 22ft in depth, or from the surface 62ft. I intend to drive to the west for some distance. I have risen on the reef in the tunnel 10ft, and find the stone keeps much the same. I hope soon to meet with some golden stone.

MUSSEL ROE.

Grand Flancur.—Nov. 5—I have driven 25ft for the fortnight, and am now in sandstone country, intermixed with quartz. The water is a little lighter. The total distance driven is 75ft from the shaft.

Imperial.—Nov. 4—Since my last report I have sunk 7ft, making a total depth of 24ft, and timbered. I could do better if I had another shift of men. The country is more settled, and getting better for working in.

Blue Bell.—Nov. 4—We are getting on well with the erection of the winding gear, etc., and we were pumping yesterday. I hope to have everything ready and to commence driving on Monday morning, when I trust to make good progress.

LEFROY.

United Chums.—Nov. 5—I have driven east 17ft and west 16ft along the reef, which is still carrying gold in both drives. The work at the dam is being pushed on with all possible speed. I have delivered 80 tons of quartz to the battery, and the plates are looking very well.

Land o' Cakes.—Nov. 5—In the mine we have cut 4ft of reef, underlaying to the south, with a well-defined footwall, carrying plenty of mineral, but I could not raise the colour of gold. From the shaft to the footwall is 34ft. I am extending the cross cut north in the hope of meeting something better, and if not successful after driving a few more shifts I shall open out on the stone we have got, and drive west towards the old shaft. The appearance of the stone is good in every respect, except the want of gold.

West Calder.—Nov. 3—I have struck water at a depth of 60ft, but there is not much at present. We have been carrying leaders down with us the whole distance, and they go almost straight down.

Windermere.—Nov. 5—I have extended the level 5ft 6in during the week, making a total distance of 40ft from the shaft. The country has somewhat changed, as there are breast beads coming in the face, and I think I am not far from the reef, which I hope to reach by the end of next week.

South-West Chum.—Nov. 5—I have sunk the shaft a further distance of 15ft, making a total of 27ft from the surface, and have driven 5ft north. As I have met a little water I thought it ad-

you have driven out north. As I have met a little water I thought it advisable to open out. The country gone through is much mixed up with quartz leaders.

Pride of the Springs.—Nov. 5—I have cut the reef in two places, and can obtain gold in both.

Brother Scots.—Nov. 4—Since my last report I have been driving from the bottom of the shaft (after sinking it 15ft deeper) 32ft, and cut the run of stone I had at 15ft. I can still get gold in it, but as it is underlaying very much, I am of the opinion that it is only a spur from a larger body of stone further south, and I am now sinking another shaft to prove if such is the case.

Dan O'Connell.—Nov. 5—Since the 19th October I have sunk a shaft 25ft, and have put in a cross-cut 25ft north, and another 10ft south; at about 6ft from the shaft south I cut a small leader, from which I can obtain gold by hand crushing. I shall drive along it for 20ft or 30ft and see if it improves in width, and if it does I will continue the shaft down to a greater depth and cut it again, or sink another shaft to a greater depth than the present one.

Waterley.—Nov. 7—I have sunk the prospecting shaft during the past week 10ft, making a total of 32ft. We are down in a beautiful blue slate country. I intend to sink about 3ft further, and then cross-cut north and south.

Caledonian.—Nov. 7—During the week the shaft has been sunk 12ft, making a total of 48ft from the No. 1 level. The ground passed through is still very good.

West Queen's Birthday.—Nov. 5—Since my last report I opened out and drove on the reef 5ft, but finding it to be only a blow of stone and carrying no gold I discontinued this work, and started the men to cross-cut the country to try and find something more permanent to work on.

West New Chum.—Nov. 5—Since my last report the drive in No. 3 level has been extended to the western boundary of the New Chum mine, and the reef is fully 1ft 6in wide and in good quartz. The stopes in the back of No. 3 level east are looking very well; the No. 3 stope, reef is 4ft wide; the stopes west of the cross-cut in No. 3 are also looking very well. The No. 3 west drive is looking better than last reported, all the machinery being in good working order. I would request that the United Chum relinquish the use of the 5-head battery to-morrow, as we require it for ourselves, the pass being jammed up with quartz.

East Golden Era.—Nov. 5—Since my last report I have extended the cross-cut 14ft, making the total distance from the shaft 122ft. In the whole of this distance I have not driven through anything to

warrant a belief that I have gone through the reef.

Hustler's Prospecting Party.—Nov. 5—I have hauled out the shaft, and have driven 13ft. There is no change to report.

Golden Era.—Nov. 5—The north cross-cut is driven 25ft for the week, or a total from the shaft of 271ft. We are still in quartz leaders, and the face of the drive is making water still. Stopping. About 12 tons stone in paddock.

Great Extended West Chum.—Nov. 5—The country has improved very much, and the last day or two some very good

stone is coming in on the hanging wall. I have driven 58ft west from the cross-cut.

New Chum.—Nov. 5—The western level has been extended 12ft, and the eastern one 10ft; the reef 2ft wide. All the faces and stopes are looking very well and showing fair gold. The No. 3 cross-cut is driven 6ft for the week, making a total of 59ft. I crushed last week 125 tons of stone, which gave a return of 280oz of amalgam from the plates and ripples.

New Native Youth.—Nov. 5—The stone on the north wall is not quite so thick, but on the south wall it is a little thicker. Water is making freely from the face. I have driven from Excelsior shaft 10ft.

Consolidated Chum.—Nov. 6—I abandoned the old shaft, and chose a site for a new one 2½ chains further north. We have reason to be glad at finding out the position in time—assuming it to be the correct one—as 2½ chains driving at a depth of 300ft would mean a lot of money. I have sunk the new shaft 6ft and timbered it, and am now all ready for logging, which I expect to complete to-morrow. I have only had three men at any time as yet. Good men are not easy to be got. I shall put on a second shift, at least directly I get the windlass rigged.

Queen's Birthday.—Nov. 5—The cross-cut is in 279ft from the shaft, and the directors have suspended operations for the erection of machinery.

BACK CREEK.

Just in Time.—Nov. 5—There has been little change in the country since the last time I wrote. I am now started to sink No. 4 shaft, and am down 8ft. This is in the sandstone country I mentioned in my last. I have a mass of leaders in the north end of the shaft, which appears likely stone wherein to find gold. I took the measurement of the different works yesterday, and I find I have driven 262ft and sunk three shafts, 17ft, 23ft, and 16ft, 146ft of trenching has also been done. I have got now in a line with the All Nations reef, and I fancy by the appearance of the sinking that I am not far from

nations reef, and I fancy by the appearance of the sinking that I am not far from a body of stone.

All Nations.—Nov. 4—Since my last report I have driven the main drive westward 15ft, and by following a leader bearing north-west from the drive we cut the reef we were looking for, which is in a very nice formation between sandstone and slate, being east and west, and pitching very much to the former point. It is about a foot thick when cut, and underlaying north in a very promising country for carrying payable quartz. I tried some of the stuff from the reef, but obtained no gold in it, but from the appearance of the quartz we may expect to meet with gold at any time. The reef carries a large quantity of pyrites, and I hope that I shall have the pleasure of reporting having reached the gold during the incoming week.

Try Again.—Nov. 5—The south-west shaft has been sunk from the surface 16ft, and slabbled up. Also logged the brace. The total depth from the brace is 22ft. I picked up a nice quartz specimen yesterday not far from this shaft.

East Try Again.—Nov. 5—The drive has been extended 4ft on the line of reef. The reef is looking very well at present, and there is some stone showing very good gold on the claim.

Holdfast.—Nov. 5—In the west shaft, the north cross-cut has been extended 10ft for the week, making the total distance from the shaft 16ft. The ground is very hard, and consists of sandstone with belts of ironstone running through it.

BEACONSFIELD.

Ilfracombe.—Nov. 7—I have driven the tunnel 6ft 6in for the week, making the total distance 54ft. The country passed through is hard cabbage-tree stone, interspersed with quartz leaders.

Kara Kara.—Nov. 7—During the past week I have sunk the shaft 2ft 6in, the total distance from the surface being 24ft 10in, the last few feet being a very fine drift, and the water increasing every shift until it was making at the rate of 200 gallons per hour. Finding I could not sink with the present appliances, I thought it advisable to stop sinking and start another shaft, which I have done. I have sunk this shaft to a distance of 16ft. The only way I can account for the water being so heavy is that we are near the reef, and should water appear again in the new shaft, I should advise the opening out and cutting for the reef.

Blyth's Freehold.—Nov. 7—I am glad to report that we have got all the water out and the men below last night. It will take three shifts to pull the debris that we have stacked in the drive, and it must come up before I can work the face, as it stops the powder from coming out of the drive. I have also a few lengths of

as it stops the powder from coming out of the drive. I have also a few lengths of rails to put down, and then shall be in good working order.

The Leviathan.—Nov. 5—The tunnel has been extended a further distance of 17ft for the week, making a total of 437ft from the opening. We have passed through a very large bar of sandstone, about 7ft in thickness, but better country is now making in the face again and more leaders showing.

Prince Consort.—Nov. 5—During the week I have sunk 5ft, making a total distance of 22ft from the surface. There are in my belief indications of a change of country, but I shall know more when I get a few feet further. I have take the cross-drive in the west side of the tunnel about 4ft.

Kohinoor.—Nov. 7—The shaft is cut down and timbered 49ft.

Florence Nightingale.—Nov. 7—The water is down to the No. 2 plat. I will commence the draw lift this morning, and expect to have the men below to-morrow (this day).

Lefroy.—Nov. 7—The contractors have sunk 11ft for the week, making a total of 136ft.

SALISBURY.

Royal Exchange.—Nov. 7—I have driven for the week 23ft, making a total distance of 160ft from the mouth of the tunnel. The country is softer, and composed chiefly of sandstone with slate bars running through it, and carrying a good deal of broken quartz leaders. I expect to see a change in the lay of the country very soon now as I am getting close up to the shaft.

DENISON.

Royal Treasury.—Nov. 5—The drive is extended a further distance of 12ft 6in, making since we started a distance of 32ft 6in. At the beginning of the week the reef was 4ft wide, but now it is getting smaller, and the stone of better quality. About 30 tons of stone is in the paddock ready for the battery. The water is still strong.

Exhibition.—Nov. 5—I struck the reef on Friday morning, and have not had sufficient time to clear away, so that I cannot speak with any degree of certainty at present. I am now in the reef about 2ft, and have not yet reached the hanging wall. From the stone I crushed I got a fair prospect of fine gold.