

## MINING INTELLIGENCE.

Mr T. C. Just will hold a scrip sale at his mart at noon to-day.

### GOLD.

We are informed that Mr Anderson, the mining manager of the Royal Tasman Company, leaves for Melbourne by the s.s. Mangana this morning, to make arrangements for the machinery required on the claim.

Very encouraging news has been received from the Exhibition Company's reef, Golconda. The underlay shaft is down nearly 50ft, and the appearance of the reef continues to improve as depth is attained. The stone shows gold freely, and altogether the mine looks more promising than ever.

We are informed by Mr R. H. Price that he is in receipt of a letter from Mr W. G. Pilbeam, at North Mount Cameron, in which he states that a reef has been cut in two places on the claim taken up by him, disclosing a large body of quartz in which gold can be seen freely, well diffused through the stone. Fuller particulars are promised by next post, and samples of the stone will be forwarded to town per next Avon. Mr Pilbeam states the gold is richer in colour than any he has seen in stone on Mount Cameron.

The prospectus of a new company to be called the Land o' Cakes is published. The company is being formed to work a 10 acre lease east of and adjoining Peden's section, Nine-Mile Springs, and is on the Caledonian line of reef. It is proposed to form the company with 30 promoter's shares, of which 20 are offered to the public at £10 each.

The manager of the Queen's Birthday Company notifies that unless the 4th and 5th calls be paid on or before February 26th, the shares upon which they remain unpaid will be liable to forfeiture.

A meeting of shareholders of the Caledonian Company is called for Thursday next, at Mr A. Corrie's office.

Application is made to register the Little Gem Company, Beaconsfield.

The Northdown correspondent of the *Devon Herald* writes:—Your own, accompanied by three others, one of whom was an experienced miner, went out on Saturday last to have a look at the country about the Franklin Rivulet (between Port Sorell and Dry's New Country); but the rain coming on prevented exploration to any extent. We heard of other parties above us, one from Torquay, another from Deloraine, and the Latrobe Prospecting Co.'s party. The country certainly has all the appearance of being auriferous, and if the prospectors only persevere I firmly believe that valuable deposits of metalliferous ore will ultimately be found; so satisfied were

will ultimately be found; so satisfied were our party with the indications, that they have decided to have a week's trial shortly.

The capital of the Golden Mount Co., which was formed on Saturday evening for the purpose of carrying on mining operations at Blue Tier, is £12,000, no portion of which is regarded as paid up; a proposition to the effect that shares be issued as paid up to 10s being lost.

The manager of the Prince of Wales Co., Nine-Mile Springs, received a telegram yesterday from the mining manager, stating that the reef had been struck and was 2ft wide, well defined, and presenting a promising appearance. Several other communications were also received upon the subject by shareholders. The news is regarded as being very satisfactory.

We understand that the private company at present prospecting the ground in the immediate vicinity of the old Blue Bell reef, Mussel Roe, and who recently had a satisfactory trial crushing at Beaconsfield, are now negotiating for the purchase of a first-class battery for use upon the claim.

### BEACONSFIELD.

*Florence Nightingale.*—The mining manager writes on 7th inst:—The water was low enough on Saturday to enable us to get the pole to the surface, and the carpenter has been working at the log I intend stocking the pole with. It will occupy several days to fit it ready for use, there being a good bit of work about it to fit it up properly, but when done I think it will be strong enough to resist the jar in future. After again connecting the pole, I will leave the 15in draw lift in the shaft for a time.

### NINE-MILE SPRINGS.

*West New Chum.*—The mining manager reports, under date Feb. 7, that the main shaft is down 26ft from the No. 2 chamber, 3ft having been sunk for the week. Great difficulty had been experienced in obtaining timber, but the despatch of some from town had overcome it, and no further delay was anticipated from this cause. The No. 1 drive west had been extended 20ft for the week. The reef had pinched a little, but it had since opened out. Gold could be seen on breaking the quartz. The stopes looked as well as when last reported upon.

*Golden Era.*—The mining manager reports on 5th inst. that the cross-cut is in 21ft, the ground getting softer, and making a good deal of water. He expects to cut the reef this week.

*Queen's Birthday.*—The mining manager reports on 5th inst:—I have driven the cross-cut 19ft for the week, making a total distance from shaft of 39ft. I am not in very favourable country—black slate. I have also started to drive on the gold-bearing leaders I passed through

slate. I have also started to drive on the gold-bearing leaders I passed through in the cross-cut.

**New Chum.**—The mining manager reports on 5th inst.:—The reef in the western level is 15in wide, carrying good gold. I have driven for the week 12ft. The stopes continue to look much the same, except that the quartz is much more solid. I have sunk the shaft this week 7ft 6in, and put in a frame. The country in the shaft is much harder than it has been.

**East New Chum.**—The mining manager reports, under date of yesterday, that the drive is now 27ft from the shaft. The ground is still rather light, but more water is making in the face.

**East New Chum Extended.**—The mining manager reports that the contractors are now down 80ft with the shaft.

**Caledonian.**—The mining manager reports that the winze has been sunk 6ft. The reef looks very promising; the stone is making larger, and shows gold and pyrites freely. Sinking is being proceeded with on the reef.

**South West Chum.**—Mr T. L. Kitto, mining manager of the West Chum Co., who has recently arranged to supervise the sinking of a main shaft on the South West Chum Co.'s claim, reports on 3rd

inst.:—The contractors are making good headway, the shaft being now sunk to 55ft from the surface. The country passed through is a very nice soft slate.

#### NORTH MOUNT CAMERON.

A correspondent writing on Saturday says:—"The prospects of the Royal Tasman reef are looking better than ever; the new shaft is down some 40 feet with the reef six feet wide and showing splendid gold. The manager of the Deskford is sinking beside the first reef he cut on the claim, and preparing to sink in the tunnel, and beside the formation cut there in about 65 feet from the entrance.

There is not much news to report respecting the Royal Standard; the open cutting has been sunk to a depth of about 15 feet, and the reef continues the same as before, showing a little gold. At the North Tasman Mr M'Caveston is continuing the drive and is getting on well with it. Several other claims are being prospected by trenching and sinking, in one of which capital prospects are being obtained, but the prospectors do not wish it made public. I mention it to show that there are other good gold-bearing reefs here besides those already known.

**Royal Tasman.**—Mr J. R. Chaffey, in the absence of the mining manager, reports as follows under date February 4:—"I have to inform you that the north shaft is now down to a depth of 40ft. The reef is over 5ft in width—

40ft. The reef is over 5ft in width—solid quartz—and the stone is richer in gold than any before obtained on the Company's ground."

**North Tasman.**—Mr M'Caveston, mining manager, in his weekly report dated 4th inst. reports:—"I have nothing of importance to note since my last, except that I came across a very hard bar in the tunnel 5ft in width; it was intermixed with quartz. I have got through it, and am now in fine working ground. I have extended the tunnel this week a further distance of 16ft, making the total length 131ft. When I get the truck at work, I believe I shall be able to average 20ft per week. The Royal Tasman is still improving as they go down, and the reef is keeping its regular course towards the north, which looks well for the North Tasman."

**Deskford.**—The mining manager reports on 4th inst. as follows:—"I am cutting a chamber for sinking underlay shaft, and expect to have the chamber finished on Monday, Feb. 7, and then will be ready to start sinking. I have sunk and timbered the shaft at the lower tunnel 6ft, and will have two shifts at work at it next week."

**Royal Standard.**—Mr Lamond reports under date February 5, that sinking has been continued to a depth of 14ft. The reef is 10ft wide, and the last shot put in showed good gold in the solid stone all over the bottom of the shaft. Work was still being carried on in the shaft.

#### GOLCONDA.

**Queensland.**—The mining manager, under date the 5th inst., reports that the north level had been driven 7ft for the week, with one day shifts. The width of the reef was 2ft. The No. 1 rise was up 11ft, and No. 2 rise 10ft, the average width of reef in both being 2ft 6in. In the south level the No. 1 rise was up 12ft, the width of the reef being about 8in. In consequence of bad air he had to connect No. 1 rise with the surface by sinking. The distance sunk had been 19ft, and connection was expected to be made last night. Only part of the men had been employed in actual mining operations, as he had to enlarge the paddock at the battery and clear the approaches, besides construct portion of a water race and erect new fluming. He hoped to be able to start both shifts yesterday. Carting stone to the battery commenced on the day of writing. The battery manager and one man had been employed overhauling the battery and preparing to start crushing.

**Mount Wilson.**—The prospectors report that trenching for the reef has been carried on last week, and they expected to cut the reef early, when tunnelling would be at once started.

**Exhibition.**—The contractors report

would be at once started.

**Exhibition.** — The contractors report having sunk the shaft 45ft up to 5th inst. The reef is 1ft thick, solid stone, showing better gold than on the surface. At a depth of 40ft a sandstone foot-wall came in, and the reef jumbled up a good deal, but it has since settled, and prospects are better than ever, gold being plainly visible in the stone. The stone raised is being paddocked. At a directors' meeting held yesterday, it was decided to further sink the present shaft another 30ft, and then drive upon the reef 30ft to 40ft each way from that level.