

GOLD.

In the report in our last issue from the mining manager of the Queen's Birthday Company, the alteration of a letter made a serious difference in the meaning. The mining manager wrote that he was "now in favourable country," but it was printed "not in favourable country."

The reef mentioned by us yesterday as having been cut on Pilbeam's claim, North Mount Cameron, is running parallel with the Royal Tasman reef. The claim is situated south of and adjoining the Royal Tasman, and is known as the Royal Mint.

A meeting of shareholders in Brewer and Whitfield's section, North Mount Cameron, will be held at Mr Andrew Reid's office, on Tuesday next.

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders in the Star of the South Company, Beaconsfield, will be held at Mr F. Cobham's office on 28th inst., to consider the desirableness of amalgamating with the Tasmania Extended Company.

The transfer journal and share register of the West New Chum Company will be closed from noon on Friday to the following Thursday.

The prospectus of the Blue Bell Company, whose claim is about two miles west of the Mussel Roe River and seven from North Mount Cameron, is published. Fifty out of one hundred promoters' shares are offered to the public, and Mr John M'Kenzie is the secretary *pro tem*.

NINE-MILE SPRINGS.

West New Chum.—The mining manager, writing under date February 7, states that the sinking of the main shaft was delayed for want of timber, and since it arrived 3ft had been sunk for the week, making a total of 26ft from the No. 2 chamber. No. 1 drive west has been extended 20ft for the week. The reef pinched a little, but is opening out again, and gold can be seen on breaking the quartz. The stopes look as well as when last reported. There have been 130 tons of quartz crushed for the week, and 435oz amalgam cleaned from the plates and ripples.

Golden Era.—The mining manager reported to Mr R. H. Price, manager, yesterday, by telegraph, that he had cut the reef, which was over 12in wide. It was rather broken up, and a little gold could be seen in it.

BLUE TIER.

Victoria.—The mining manager reports that the tunnel is in 37ft, and there is good ground still in the face.

BEACONSFIELD.

Olive Branch.—The mining manager writes under date Feb. 7th :—In the 90ft shaft we are cross-cutting to the Providence Company. The distance from our shaft to the boundary is about 88ft,

and we have driven with two shifts of men 17ft for the fortnight. The country at present is hard. In the shallow shaft in McDonald's section I have two men prospecting; and we have cut several small veins showing a little gold. The vein I mentioned as having had the prospects from pinched out to a thread. We have driven 20ft from the shaft during the fortnight. The country passed through has been very tough, not extra hard, but it required blasting. We have got a change of country to-day for the better as it is coming in to sandy belts similar to where the tributaries get their gold. McDonald has about 25 to 30

loads out, and Bennett about 10 loads; and they intend to crush as soon as they can get the battery. They are working from the surface down to 20ft deep.

NORTH MOUNT CAMERON.**(From our own Correspondent.)**

Mr Commissioner Shaw arrived here on Saturday, the 29th January, and on Monday, 31st, presided at the first Court of Goldfields ever held at Mount Cameron. There was a great crowd present, many of whom had come from Scottsdale, Moorina, Launceston, and in fact from all parts of the district. Mr J. R. Chaffey, the resident Magistrate, occupied a seat on the right of the Commissioner, and Mr Windsor, the district surveyor, on the left. Several of the cases brought before the Commissioner on Monday were withdrawn, and the others were adjourned to Launceston. On Tuesday morning the Commissioner was again occupied in hearing cases, and in the afternoon inspected the site of the new township recently surveyed by Mr Windsor. Mr Shaw expressed himself as highly pleased with the judgment exercised by Mr Windsor in the selection of site, and said that from what he had seen that day, he believed the new township would soon be found the centre of one of the most important mining districts in the colonies.

Mr Cunningham is pushing on with the new road in a most satisfactory manner, and is expending the money at his disposal to the best purpose for all concerned; he expects to finish in about a fortnight, and whatever the cause or reason may be, whether it is in consequence of their confidence in the future of Mount Cameron or the interest they feel in those connected with it, one thing is certain the Government have thrown themselves into this work with a spirit which is quite new to the usual order of things in Tasmania.

The want of a bi-weekly mail is much felt here, and even police protection.

Feb. 4.

(From another Correspondent.)

I have seen some very rich stone from the Royal Tasman last week. It seems to be getting richer as it goes down.

Good reports have been received of the reefs at the Mussel Roe. On Geach's section a fine reef some 7ft wide is being opened out, and contains fair gold; but within the last few days the stone has made richer, and the gold is plainly visible. I have several very nice specimens. I believe Mr Geach has a magnificent property, the reef being so wide and massive.

mens. I believe Mr Geach has a magnificent property, the reef being so wide and massive. Mr Creelman informs me that he has struck a good reef 2ft 6in wide in his section, side on to the Blue Bell, in which the gold is also visible. He is in great spirits.

The Royal Standard at Mount Cameron proper is improving. I have seen some very good prospects washed from the drill borings, which show that there is good gold in the reef, and that it runs all through the stone. Borings are considered the most satisfactory test.

Prospecting operations have been commenced last week on the North Tasman Extended (Ogilvie's lease) with very satisfactory results, as a gold-bearing reef about 3ft wide has been already struck. You will hear more of this claim next week.

Feb. 6.