

GOLD.

A meeting of those interested in Brewer and Whitfield's section will be held at the office of Mr A. Reid at 4 p.m. to-day.

A meeting of shareholders in the Royal Standard Company takes place at Mr Corrie's office at 3 p.m. to-day.

At the Mechanics' Institute a meeting of shareholders in Blyth's Freehold Extended will be held this evening at half-past seven o'clock.

We are informed that a meeting held recently of those interested in Cogdell and Webb's lease, Nine-Mile Springs, it was resolved to form a Company to be called the Planet Co. for the purpose of working the ground. The capital is to be £10,000 in 10,000 shares of £1 each, issued as paid up to 10s. Mr T. D. Webb was appointed legal manager, and Messrs J. W. Brown, G. T. Easter, T. H. Webb, Wm. Turner, W. Sidebottom, David Petrie, and Alfred White, directors. The first three named are to retire in January, 1882, and the remainder in July, 1882. Messrs G. P. Hudson and N. Westman were appointed auditors. It was decided that no call be made exceeding sixpence per share per month. The rules of the Blyth's Freehold Co. were adopted subject to the necessary alterations, and the legal manager was instructed to register the Company at once.

A meeting of those interested in Lamond's lease, North Mount Cameron, was held at the Mechanics' Institute yesterday, Mr McKenzie in the chair. After deciding to form a Company with £10,000 capital, the meeting was adjourned until after the meeting of the Royal Standard Company.

Some stone from the Royal Mint claim, North Mount Cameron, is on view at Mr R. H. Price's office. Gold is plainly to be seen in it, and appears to be well diffused through the solid stone. One parcel of 5lbs weight was crushed, and gave a return of 10 grains of gold.

Messrs Peden and Williams, the prospectors of the Caledonian Company's claim, Nine-Mile Springs, arrived in town yesterday with a number of specimens. They report that the principal reef on this property is two or three feet thick, with a straight regular hanging wall underlying south, with a dip of one in six. It has been proved for a distance of between forty and fifty feet to carry good gold all through. The specimens brought to town yesterday were all picked from a single bucket of stuff taken from the bottom of the winze, which is now at a depth of 18ft. from the level of the east tunnel. They will be on view to-day at the office of Messrs J. and A. Corrie. In connection with this claim it may be mentioned that its value is increased by the fact that another lode which has been proved to

another lode which has been proved to contain good gold is making into it from the adjacent western claim, and which it is expected will be cut when the tunnel put in by the prospectors has been driven a further distance of forty feet or thereabouts.

We inadvertently stated in our last issue that a meeting of the Sir John Franklin Co. would be held yesterday for the purpose of considering the advisableness of winding up the Company. The meeting was originally announced for yesterday, but a subsequent advertisement stated that it would be held next Monday at 3 o'clock.

THE WEST NEW CHUM CRUSHING.

CAKE OF GOLD 1202ozs. 4dwts.,
VALUED AT £4820.

In our yesterday's issue we stated that the cake of gold from the West New Chum crushing, which was brought to town on Saturday by Messrs Coulter, Dee, and Pennington, had been lodged at the Commercial Bank, and that the Bank weight would be known during the day. We are now in a position to state that the weight at the bank was 1202ozs 4dwts, or 10ozs 4dwts more than the weight ascertained at Nine-Mile Springs. The quantity of stone put through the battery was 776 tons, and 1792ozs of amalgam was taken from the plates and ripples, and 1533ozs from the boxes. The average yield of the crushing per ton was 1oz 11dwts, and the cake of gold is valued at £4820. The directors yesterday decided to declare a dividend of 5s per share, and pass £1200 to the reserve fund. The total amount payable in dividends is £2500, and the dividend tax on this is £93 15s. The battery started crushing again yesterday.

NINE-MILE SPRINGS.

East New Chum—The mining manager under date of yesterday, reports that during the past week he has driven 7ft., making the total distance south of the shaft 34ft. The ground is about the same as last reported. He intended to put on two extra men this week to open out and drive north of the shaft.

East New Chum Extended.—The contractors for the shaft are now down 85ft., and they expect to finish their contract of 100ft. this week.

Prince of Wales.—The mining manager reports under date February 14, that he has driven east 18ft. and west 15ft. for the week. He expects to drive 15ft. or 20ft. further west before he catches the shoot of gold-bearing stone worked in the 50ft. level.

West New Chum.—The mining manager, writing yesterday, reports that during the week the main shaft has been sunk a further depth of 7ft, making a total depth from No. 2 level of 33ft.

sunk a further depth of 7ft, making a total depth from No. 2 level of 33ft. The west drive in No. 1 level has been extended 22ft for the week, making a total of 195ft from the cross-cut. The reef is fully 2ft wide, but broken. The stopes east of the cross-cut are still turning out good quartz, and the stopes in the back of No. 1 level are still productive. All the machinery was in good working order.

Great Extended West Chum.—The mining manager reports on 12th inst. that the cross-cut had been driven 17ft for the week, making a total distance from the shaft of 31ft.

BEACONSFIELD.

Cobham's Lease.—The mining manager, under date of yesterday, reports that he has sunk the shaft a further depth of 12ft. during the past fortnight, making 28ft. from the surface. He had cut several quartz veins in the last 5ft. of sinking. He had bad ground for working during the last few feet, but was in more favourable country when writing. He expected to sink another 7ft. before opening out for the reef, if the ground keeps the same.

Florence Nightingale.—The mining manager reports, under date February 14th, that he lowered and connected the pole to the main rods on Saturday, and that morning commenced to connect at the surface. He hoped to be finished and commence pumping with the plunger about noon to-day.

BLUE TIER.

Blue Tier.—The mining manager reports, under date February 14th, that the winze in the cross-cut had been sunk a further depth of 16ft for the week, making a total of 36ft. In consequence of the air being so very bad he had to discontinue sinking. He put the men on to

removed the dummies. He had carted 104 tons of stone to the battery paddocks, and expects to commence crushing on Thursday, as the paddock is full.

NORTH MOUNT CAMERON.

Deskford.—The mining manager, writing under date the 11th inst., reports that the shaft has been logged up and the windlass put on. Sinking has been carried to a further depth of 8ft., making a total depth of 14ft. from the surface. The northern end of the shaft is in very hard country, but as sinking progressed he expected to get away from it. He did not expect to cut the reef for another 3ft., but from the indications he thought he was on the hanging wall of it. He had finished the chamber, and sunk the winze 7ft. 6in. There was nothing new to report in connection with it. He had obtained a little gold from the formation, but it was still laying very flat. A change for the better may be expected when it gets into its true course.

Royal Tasman.—Mr J. R. Chaffey, who arrived in town yesterday, reports that the shaft is now down 45ft., the reef maintaining its width—5ft. 6in.—and also its richness, and there is more mineral showing in the stone.

North Tasman.—Mr M'Aveston reports on 12th inst. that he has completed the tramway, and has the truck at work in the tunnel. He has driven 10ft. for the week, making the total length of the tunnel 141ft. The ground is keeping favourable for working, and he is still cutting quartz leaders, but there is more water than previously met with. Mr M'Aveston mentioned in a foot-note to his letter that Messrs Ward and party have cut a good reef to the west of the Royal Tasman.

Royal Tasman Extended.—Work has commenced on this claim by trenching, two men having been engaged for the last week, and they have cut a body of stone about 2ft wide, showing gold by dish prospects, the formation being rather rubbly. They have commenced lower down the hill to endeavour to cut the reef there. If successful, a tunnel can be easily put in along the course of the reef, and prove it every foot of the drive. It is supposed that the Royal Mint reef will run into this claim as it is followed north.

Royal Standard.—Mr D. Lamond arrived here by the s.s. Avon on Saturday night from Mount Cameron, and reports that the reef being sunk upon (near the centre of lease) has increased in thickness from 7ft. 6in. to over 11ft. It is proposed to continue sinking this shaft to a considerable depth, and take the whole width of reef out as they sink; this will make therefore rather slow sinking, but he considers it will be the most effectual plan for testing the whole body of the reef. The reef shows good in the solid after every shot is fired, and splendid pros-

continue the tunnel north on the course of the reef. The stone was about 4ft wide, with prospects of fine gold.

GOLCONDA.

Queensland.—The mining manager reports, under date of Saturday, that since his previous report the north level had been extended 7ft. The width of the lode is 3ft 6in, and is apparently making wider as the north drive proceeds. The reef prospects very well. He has had two shifts employed, with four men each, stopping north and south. The width of the reef varies in the stopes from 1ft to 3ft, with gold showing freely. A great deal of trouble had been experienced with foul air lately, but a connection had been made with the surface, which had removed the difficulty. He had carted 104 tons of stone to the battery paddocks.

The reef shows good in the south after every shot is fired, and splendid prospects of loose gold can be obtained in washing the drillings, in fact he says the reef is improving every foot the shaft is sunk. Mr Lamond returns immediately after the meeting of shareholders, which takes place to-day at Mr Corrie's office. He further states that the Royal Tasman and Royal Mint reefs look first-class, and were raising rich stone when he left the Mount on Saturday morning.

(From a Correspondent.)

Coming in from the Mussel Roe to-day I made on to the Blue Bell, where I found Mr Surveyor Windsor in the act of pitching his camp, prior to his surveying the claims taken up in that locality. He informed me that on picking up the old surveys he found that the claims here had originally been surveyed for a north and south reef; this goes to prove that the reef here had not been previously cut, for what reefs have of late been cut, whether gold-bearing or otherwise, are all east and west, or nearly so. On taking a look over the claim I picked up some very good stone showing gold, some little distance to the north of the shaft, out of which the trial crushing was taken, and I am rather inclined to think that another reef crosses here that has not as yet been uncovered. Speaking of the trial crushing from this claim, there are many about here who were disappointed with the result, and who were and are still under the impression that with more careful treatment the yield would be nearly double. I also noticed an outcrop of very good looking stone, some two chains or so towards their western boundary. This ought to make the No. 1 west look up, but as the surface of this claim is still unbroken, it is impossible to say what it will be, but from the bearings of some of the reefs on the Blue Bell, one would be almost inclined to think that they would form into one main body-stone on this claim. Immediately to the north and adjoining the Blue Bell, Mr Creelman has for some time been cross-cutting, and he has succeeded in cutting a well defined reef about two feet six inches, carrying very good gold, and I saw several very good specimens thrown out of the cutting. I took away a piece of stone, about three ounces, which I afterwards crushed and obtained a good strong grain of gold. About half a mile further to the north I came to Geach's claim; there is any amount of stone on this claim, and I was shown out of the heap several pieces showing gold freely. If it crushes any like what the appearance of the stone would warrant, they ought to have a valuable piece of property. Returning from here I arrived at Shanty's, which puts me in mind of what I should imagine a green spot in the desert would be to the traveller. Shanty was at home, and kindly welcomed me to partake of what was on the table, which consisted of a large dish of boiled cabbage, mutton, and damper, and I can assure you I did credit to it, for there is nothing like a good tramp through that country with a swag on your back to give you an appetite. Leaving here about 4 p.m., I arrived at Mount Cameron about half-past six.