

GOLD.

By the s.s. Mangana, which left for Melbourne on Sunday, the Bank of Australasia forwarded 143ozs. 9dwts. gold, valued at £560, and the Bank of V.D. Land 379ozs., valued at £1403.

A meeting of shareholders in Cobham's lease, Blue Tier (which adjoins the Welcome Co., but is nearer the top the hill), was held at the Mechanics' Institute last evening, Mr E. H. Panton occupying the chair. It was decided to form a company to be called the Lady Lefroy, with a capital of £12,000 in twelve thousand £1 shares. The rules and regulations of the Blyth's Freehold Co. were, with the necessary alterations, adopted as the rules of the Lady Lefroy Co. Messrs J. T. Glenwright, G. Orpwood, W. C. Dawson, Alex. Evans, T. K. Simpson, F. Panton, and F. De Little were elected directors; Messrs G. P. Hudson and N. Weetman were appointed auditors, and Mr F. Cobham manager. The first meeting of directors will be held next Monday week.

A meeting of the Latrobe Prospecting Company was held, says the *Devon Herald*, on Wednesday evening last. From the report of the directors it appeared that the capital called up on the formation of the company (£100) had been nearly all expended in prospecting, without any positive result, further than the discovery of some small specimens of gold and other minerals. A section of land had been pegged out and secured to the association, but not thoroughly tested. After some discussion it was resolved to discontinue the service of the prospectors *pro tem.*, without winding up the society, and the directors were empowered to expend a small balance of funds in hand in testing the claim pegged out, should opportunity arise.

The Band of Hope Company, whose property is situated at North Mount Cameron, was most successfully floated yesterday, the whole of the promoters' shares being allotted in an hour or two, and many persons being disappointed.

Several rich discoveries of quartz reefs are reported at North Mount Cameron, from one to two miles from the Royal Tasman claim in a northerly direction, and some excellent specimens of stone have been brought to town, but we are unable to give any reliable particulars at present about the discoveries.

A new boiler—similar to several others that have recently arrived—was brought from Melbourne by the Flinders on Saturday for the West New Chum Co., Lefroy. It will be towed to George Town by the river steamer Empress of India to-day, and will be carted from there to the Company's claim.

Applicants for shares in the Grand Standard Company (late East Royal

Standard Company (late East Royal Standard) are requested to complete their arrangements for registration on or before to-morrow, or their names must necessarily be excluded.

Application is made to register the Britannia Company, and also the No. 1 West Tasmania Company.

BEACONSFIELD.

Florence Nightingale.—The amount of amalgam from the plates and ripples last week was 183oz from 70 tons.

LEFROY.

East New Chum Extended.—The mining manager reports under date 11th inst.:—I have sunk shaft 10ft for the week, making a total distance from surface of 188ft. Sinking and water about the same as last report. I have about 12ft of timber to put in the shaft to complete what is now sunk, then I shall commence to widen the shaft for the opening set.

East New Chum.—The mining manager reports on 11th inst.:—During the week I have driven east to a further distance of 10ft, making total distance from cross-cut 51ft. There is about one foot of stone in the face; have extended north drive 6ft, making total distance from shaft 43ft; ground about the same as last report.

Prince of Wales.—The mining manager reports on 11th inst.:—We shall finish taking out the quartz east of Davis's old workings to-day, then commence to cross-cut. The prospecting shaft has been sunk 87ft east of the main shaft on the course of the same reef, and is down 25ft.

Queen's Birthday.—The mining manager reports under date 9th April:—Raised 25 tons stone for the week, and have now 70 tons in paddock; the lode is greatly improved since last report. I have now two separate lines of reef 5ft apart running due east and west. The south lode is 2ft wide, and shows gold freely, and also good prospects with the dish. The north lode shows gold with two well defined walls. This speaks well for the future of this mine. I shall push on the stopes for the purpose of getting out a large crushing. I shall see to the carting and of crushing the stone at once.

New Chum.—The mining manager reports under date 11th inst.:—Driven No. 2 cross-cut 8ft for week; total distance from shaft 30ft. The stopes continue about the same. Have driven No. 1 level 6ft, also started sinking main shaft last Wednesday.

West Chum Extended.—The mining manager reports under date the 11th inst.:—I have driven the cross-cut 15ft for the week, making a total distance from the shaft 24ft. The ground is a deal better than it has been and the water is increasing. The manager received

water is increasing. The manager received a telegram during the day from the mining manager, that he had struck the reef, showing gold in the stone.

Eastern Prince.—The mining manager reports under date the 11th instant:—We commenced work on Tuesday, but owing to the delay in getting timber for the shaft, logs for logging up, and all the gear ready for sinking the shaft, we could only do two days' sinking last week. Up to last Saturday we were down 13ft; this week if the mill keeps us supplied with timber I hope to average 3ft per day. The country we are now in is soft and flakey, so we have to timber every 3ft or 4ft. Just as we were leaving work on Saturday we were coming into black slate.

East Golden Era.—The mining manager reports on 10th inst.:—The shaft is down 52ft, and timbered. There are numerous east and west leaders cut in the last 20ft, all underlaying to the north, and I have no hesitation in saying that there is a large body of stone north of and close to the present shaft.

West New Chum.—The mining manager reports on 11th inst.:—During the week the shaft men have fixed in the framework, and are now making a start to cut the chamber. The stopes are looking the same as last reported.

Caledonian.—The mining manager reports on 10th inst.:—Since my last report of 4th inst., I have sunk the shaft 17ft, making a total depth of 71ft. During the week we have gone through several quartz leaders, and as good a looking country as can be seen in the district. We have had to keep the timber close to the bottom of the shaft during the last two days, the ground being much easier around the quartz leaders.

Windermere.—The mining manager reports on 9th inst.:—I have had no change in the driving during the week, the country being still hard in the east drive, with about five inches of stone carrying gold. I have started a cross-cut in the west drive. I think from the appearance of the ground there is every show of its turning out payable.

GOLCONDA.

Exhibition.—Mr J. Westwood reports under date 9th inst., as follows:—I have now been working a fortnight with six men, and have driven 200 feet. The country through which I have passed consists of soft granite intermixed with hard boulders. At 96 feet I cut the top reef of the Black Snake and Crown Prince claims, and in the Crown Prince claim 20 inches wide and carrying payable gold.

Mount Wilson.—The mining manager reports on 9th inst.:—I have driven 8ft for the week, making a total distance driven of 80ft. The country passed

driven of 80ft. The country passed through for the last week was the hardest I have yet met with, but I have every reason to believe it is only a bar, and that I will soon be through it.

BACK CREEK.

Deep Lead.—The mining manager reports on 9th inst.:—The engine arrived safely on the claim at noon yesterday. The sinking this week has been through clay, pug, and a little drift. I have had a man cross-cutting for the reef, and will start others on Monday. The sinking on the line of reef will be deep, as the first shaft was 70ft. The blacksmith's shop and the cottage are nearly finished.

MUSSEL ROE.

Imperial (Creelman's).—Mr William Creelman, writing on 6th inst., says:—"I have sent you a bag of stone by one of the men who is working for me, James Power; I think you will be satisfied with quantity this time. I believe the stone is of good quality. I did not pick the stone. It is sent to you just as taken from the mine. This ought to be a fair trial. I have cut some more strong leaders in prospecting the surface, but I cannot say much about them until we get a little deeper. We have suspended sinking in the shaft where we have taken the stone from that I have sent you. Water too strong for our present appliances." The stone referred to, weighing two cwt or more, was taken from No. 2 reef where the last rich stone was obtained. It has widened from 18 inches to about 3ft 6in. The stone is on view at Mr Andrew Reid's office, Brisbane-street. Gold can be seen in nearly every piece, and some of the large stones are fairly studded with coarse gold.

NORTH MOUNT CAMERON.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—The mining manager reports on 8th instant:—I am pleased to inform you that yesterday I cut the Royal Standard reef at a depth of 9ft from the surface, and obtained from it payable prospects. The stone is 4ft in thickness, making stronger under foot. I strongly recommend sinking a shaft.

Deakford.—The mining manager reports on 8th instant:—I forward you a rough sketch showing the line of reef with that opened in the Royal Tasman claim, by which you will note B tunnel has been driven 86 feet; at 46 feet from the entrance a channel of reef has been driven on 35ft, and a winze sunk which is in a parallel line with the

Tasman reef, which has an underlay west at an angle of 45 degrees. This of course would make into the large body of stone marked "A" at about 70ft. The present shaft on your claim cut the stone in the

shaft on your claim cut the stone in the north end, showing that it is trending south from the tunnel. After observing the present indications as shown, I cannot come to any other conclusion than that this stone is the continuation of the Royal Tasman reef, and the cause of its being thrown out of its course is easily accounted for by the break in the range at the boundary (marked C). I have timbered up and sunk the shaft 3ft further, making a total depth of 43ft from surface. In the bottom the quartz came off a floor of mullock and had the appearance of cutting out, but has since been coming in again, and has one good wall. I will continue sinking until I meet with the easterly formation, before the junction of which I do not expect to find any properly defined reef.

Royal Standard.—Mr Joseph Parker, mining manager, reports under date 9th inst. as follows:—"During the week the shaft has been sunk 7ft, making for the fortnight 22ft sinking and timbering. The ground is hard sandstone, intermixed with quartz, and making a considerable quantity of water. The total depth from surface is now 49ft. It is my intention to continue sinking another week, then to open out at 50ft if the water does not become too heavy, and cross-cut to the foot wall."

South Mint.—The acting mining manager reports on 8th inst.:—"The drive is in some 23ft from shaft; two or three flat leaders have been cut, and at present in the bottom of the face there is a leader of brown quartz some eight inches thick."

(From our own Correspondent.)

Another discovery of a gold-bearing reef has been made within two miles from the Royal Tasman, in a north-easterly direction, and about a mile the other side of the river. I paid a visit to the claim, and found Mr Pope, the prospector, courteous, and willing to supply any information. The reef I found to be about 4ft thick, of a class of stone somewhat resembling the New Chum, altogether different to the Tasman and Standard, and showing very coarse gold—as one man remarked, "can feel it with a stick." A shaft had been sunk alongside the reef, which underlays west, and runs N.N.E. and S.S.W., to a depth of 17ft. This I descended, and found good coarse gold showing in the solid in the bottom of shaft. The reef had only been broken into there some 2ft, so cannot say how wide it is at that point. It is a very nice soft country, situated on a hill—very favourable for dry working. I understand the discoverer of this reef has disposed of a portion of his interest for £500, and I presume it will be placed in the market shortly. From the rich appearance of the stone, it is probable that this reef will turn out one of the best things in the district. The country was pegged out in all directions.

Royal Tasman.—Machinery being safely landed at Port; large boiler in splendid order, weighing some seven tons, drawn by twenty bullocks, arrived on claim yesterday (Thursday). It is to be hoped they will get it all up before the rain sets in, as the road will cut up fearfully in the winter—it wants metalling.

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Royal Standard.—Shaft sunk alongside reef to depth of 50ft, and timbered; sinking few feet further for well; will commence to cut the reef at this depth. In No. 1 South they have got 22ft of stone, and as this trench is right on the boundary, it proves the Royal Standard as well. Some very rich stone was struck in this trench the other day, and all the stone is gold-bearing and payable.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—Trenching operations have been commenced on No. 1 North Standard; the cap of the reef was struck yesterday, and the stone on being crushed gave a fair prospect of gold. I will be able to speak more fully of this claim next week. Its position and prospects are thought very highly of here, and enquiry is being quietly made for promoters, as any day they may take a jump.

Royal Mint.—Large stacks of firewood are being cut and preparations for battery carried on on this claim.

West Tasman.—Still prospecting for Royal Mint; expect to strike the reef daily.

A good deal of jumping is going on just now. All the Mount Cameron Co.'s ground is being pegged out by lease applicants for quartz. You would do a service to miners and others by devoting a leader to exact statement of the law in reference to quartz reefs found on tin blocks.

The township keeps growing, and there is no mistake about the faith of the people here in the resources of this district.

Mr Cunningham is here with the view of getting tenders for erection of bridge across the Ringarooma to facilitate communication between Mount Cameron and the Mussel Roe goldfields. I am informed that he has chosen a site and called for tenders, but it is considered that the money offered by Government will not be sufficient, and unless they give us a little more the matter will fall through, and we shall get no bridge this winter. This will be a great pity. There is now considerable traffic across the river, and this recent discovery of a new rich reef a mile the other side will make more, and the river will be shortly impassable. The inhabitants of the district have subscribed £50, and the Government add £100, and I am told it will require nothing under £200 to construct the bridge required. Won't the Government extend their charity to this figure?

April 8.

(From another Correspondent.)

Royal Tasman.—The work of preparing for the erection of machinery is all that is going on at present. The boiler is on the ground, and it is to be hoped the steam generated therein will pound out gold enough to realise the hopes generated in the bosoms of the shareholders, which I should think it will.

Royal Standard.—The shaft is down 49ft from the surface; ground hard, with a good deal of water.

South Royal Standard.—Good surface show, big body of stone, with gold visible in it.

Royal Centre.—Preparing to sink on a reef lately uncovered from the rubble, in connection with which nice gold has been obtained.

North Tasman.—Still driving to cut the reef. The Royal Tasman reef not having been found in the surface crosscut, it must be deeper, and the tunnel is the only test of that.

Tenders for erection of a bridge across the Ringarooma were sent in yesterday, and no doubt the work will be commenced by the end of next week.

The township allotments not having been sold at very unsatisfactory rates (for surely sixty pounds an acre is enough money for waste land), those who have built ought to be

6 many persons as there is enough money for
7 waste land), those who have built ought to be
8 allowed to buy at the upset price.
9 Tin Leases—What do Government propose to
10 do with applications received and fees paid,
11 give no title? That's not fair.
12 General prospects looking well. Several
13 new finds in the shape of gold-bearing reefs re-
14 ported.