

GOLD.

The s.s. *Mangana*, which cleared out for Melbourne yesterday, took 151oz of gold shipped by the Bank of Australasia, and valued at £600.

Mr B. Shaw, Commissioner of Gold-fields, will to-day hold a sitting of his Court in Chambers. The case of *Moore v. Thrower*, having reference to a disputed 10-acre section near Lefroy, has been set down for hearing.

A meeting of shareholders in the Hopeful claim, Back Creek, will be held at the office of Messrs Hartnoll and Ferguson on Thursday evening, for the formation of a company, and transaction of any other necessary business.

A call, the first, of 2d per share has been made in the Ilfracombe Company, payable on 12th inst. Holders of transfers are requested to forward same for registration to the manager, Captain T. H. Urquhart.

The prospectus of the Oriflamme Co., Beaconsfield, appears in another column. This Company is to be formed to work a 20 acre section, forming part of Mr Wm. Dally's freehold land, on which three distinct reefs have been discovered and partially prospected. In two gold can be washed from the rubble, and in the third gold has been found in the stone as well as in the casing. From outside sources we have heard the indications on this section highly spoken of. Fifty out of 100 promoters' shares are offered to the public at £50, out of the proceeds of which £1000 will be placed to the credit of the Company, all shares to rank alike.

About two or three months ago the Alpine Company, Mangana, discontinued working consequent upon the want of success up to that time attending its efforts. A meeting of shareholders was called to consult as to the future working of the company, as at that time no greater amount of gold was being got than sufficed to pay the bare expenses attending the working of the mine. A few days previous to the work being discontinued, a new make of stone was discovered on the floor of the drive in the deepest level. The meeting decided to obtain the opinion of a competent person skilled in the working of mines, and having experience in the gold-bearing qualities of the various descriptions of quartz, as to whether it was probable that the new make of stone would recoup the company for working it. The opinion of a Mr Richards, a gentleman of great experience in such matters, was asked, and he expressed a decided desire to see the company continue at work, since he believed the quality of the new make of stone to be such as would repay it for its labour. On the strength of this expression of Mr Richards, the company decided to continue at

work, and under the supervision of Mr Irwin, of the City of Hobart Co., a new shaft was commenced about a week ago, it being decided to sink it 60ft on the lately discovered make of stone. The report of the first week's work was brought to Hobart on Saturday evening, and was to the effect that every blast put in exposed stone showing gold, and that the reef had widened to 3ft on the northern end.—*Mercury*.

BEACONSFIELD.

Little Wonder.—The mining manager reports under date April 30th having sunk a depth of 186ft. Within the last few feet he has cut several quartz leaders, dipping towards the reef. The country is very favourable looking for a reef. The water flows from the reef side.

Queen.—The manager reports under date of April 30th :—We are getting out richer wash, and hope to have a favourable crushing next time.

Olive Branch.—The mining manager reports on 30th inst. :—McDonald and party, tributors, have about 50 tons of stone in paddock, and will commence crushing on Monday with ten-head at Jansen's battery.

BLUE TIER.

Welcome.—The mining manager reports under date the 30th April :—The country is slightly changed. Bars of slate and a kind of sandstone have been passed through. We have driven for the week 30ft, making a total distance from the end of the approach 114ft.

LEFROY.

New Chum.—The mining manager reports under date the 2nd May :—The cross-cut is in 60ft. We have not yet cut the reef; it must have taken a sharp underlay south. The shaft from the No. 2 level is sunk to a depth of 23ft.

Great Extended West Chum.—The manager, under date May 2, reports that the shaft has been sunk 8ft for the week, making a total distance of 135ft.

Queen's Birthday.—The mining manager reports under date May 2 :—I have sent to the battery 58 tons of quartz, and by the end of next week there will be about 100 tons of stone on the surface.

Chance.—The mining manager reports under date May 2 :—I am glad to inform you that there has been good progress made with the shaft since starting. The distance sunk for the fortnight is 45ft. The ground is still favourable, and the water about the same.

South-West Chum.—The mining manager, under date 2nd May, reports :—Since my last report to you good headway has been made cutting the chamber, and some very nice-looking vertical leaders have been met with.

Widewater.—The mining manager

have been met with.

Windermere.—The mining manager, under date April 24, reports :—There is little change in the mine since writing last. The stone is much the same in size and quality, and the ground is still very hard. The water continues to make in the face. I fancy there will be a change soon, as the water seems to get stronger. The distance driven for the week is 6ft.

East Golden Era.—The mining manager reports on 30th ult :—In accordance with instructions I am making the necessary preparations for erecting a whip, and have received from Launceston all the necessary appliances, with the exception of the two castings from Salisbury's, which I expect on Tuesday. In the meantime I will put on two sets of men and work with the windlass.

West New Chum.—The acting-mining manager reports on 2nd inst :—During the week good progress has been made in No. 3 level ; the chamber is finished and cross-cut started ; the distance from shaft being 23ft, in tough country. There is no change to report in the stopes since my last. There have been 190 tons passed through the battery since last cleaning up, but no scraping of the plates has been made as yet. The boiler is landed and the mason has everything ready for placing it in position.

Caledonian.—The mining manager reports on 2nd inst :—Since my last report we have extended the cross-cut a further distance of 25ft, making a total of 35ft from the shaft. I have taken the proper bearing of the lode with a theodolite, and find it is four degrees more than was calculated at first, and the underlay is not quite as much, hence the further we have to drive. The ground is very much changed in the last foot or two, so that we may expect to cut the lode at any time. In the past week I have been preparing to sink the winze. I have opened it to the surface and timbered it, puddled it up around the tunnel where necessary, and cut drains to carry away the water, and have everything now ready for a fair start this morning. I shall now call this the No. 2 shaft.

East New Chum.—The mining manager reports under date May 2nd :—I have extended the east drive a further distance of 11ft, the total distance east being 88ft. The north drive is extended 7ft, the total distance from the shaft being 65ft. I have passed through several small leaders, and a deal of water is making in the face. I expect a favourable change before long, as there is every appearance of stone being near at hand.

East New Chum Extended 1.—The mining manager, under date April 30th, reports :—The shaft is now down the required depth, 208ft. I have started to open out at 200ft, and in a few days I expect to

depth, 208ft. I have started to open out at 200ft, and in a few days I expect to have the opening set in and the shaft securely timbered.

LYNDHURST.

Royal Sovereign.—The mining manager, who called at Mr Jno. Sinclair's office yesterday, reports very favourably of the prospects of this claim ; 3oz stone has been taken out of the shaft on Nodin's claim, which is sunk on the reef at the boundary of the northern section.

DENISON.

Royal Treasury.—The mining manager, under date April 30th, reports :—I commenced driving east on Friday, and found the stone improving in quality. Gold showing better in the faces of the stone. The stone also shows gold fairly in the solid. The lode is still strong and well defined.

BACK CREEK.

East Try Again.—Mr Peden reports, under date May 2, that a cross-cut has been put in north and south about 20ft long, down to the slate, and a small body of stone has been found running east and west. He tried one dish, and got a nice prospect of reef gold. He intended to sink on and see what it is. It had been reported to him that there was a large body of stone on the ground, and when pointed out to him he intended to sink upon it to prove it.

Holifast.—Mr Rowlands, writing on the 30th ult, reports that he had employed two men getting timber for the shaft, and he started to sink on Friday week. The shaft was down 16ft to date, its size being 7ft by 4ft. He commenced slabbing up on the day of writing, and had to puddle to keep back the surface water. There were several leaders in the bottom of the shaft, and a nice ragged piece of gold had been picked up, weighing a pennyweight.

NORTH MOUNT CAMERON.

South Mint.—Mr Payne reports, under date April 30 :—The drive towards the Lady Tasman is in 49ft from the shaft. I have not cut any quartz in this drive for the past week, though the country is favourable. The drive towards the Mount Cameron T.M. Co's. claim is in 25ft from the shaft, being 7ft driven for the week. I cut a strong leader to-day, 3ft thick in the roof of the drive and 14in in the bottom. I have crushed some of the stone, and got a little gold. This drive has been pretty hard for the last three or four days, but on the other side of the quartz vein the country looks more favourable. The mainsail acts well, the men having plenty of good air below now. Consequently the work will get on faster.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—The

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—The manager reports, under date April 30 :—Work at this claim consists in sinking a shaft between the two reefs. A depth of 16ft has been sunk, slabbed up, and the men are now engaged getting slabs to continue the same.

North Extended Tasman.—The mining manager (who has just been appointed) reports, under date April 29 :—I arrived on the claim on Thursday afternoon and went to see Mr John M'Causton, manager of the North Tasman. He kindly showed me the position of your claim. The section is securely pegged, and tin notices are on each peg. The claim is five acres, and I find there are two reefs cut on or near the cap of the range within your section. I intend to examine those reefs by sinking on them a few feet. But in the first place I will try to cut the Royal Standard reef against the north boundary line of your section. I have a strong belief that the Royal Standard reef will run through this claim.

Royal Standard.—The mining manager reports on 30th April :—During the week the cross-cut at 52ft from the surface has been extended 4ft 6in (making a total of 6ft) in hard solid quartz. We have seen gold several times, and can obtain fair prospects by crushing. The stone is laminated, and carries a considerable quantity of pyrites. From the extreme hardness of the reef it will take a longer time to drive through it than I anticipated. I have had a cutting opened at about 30ft north of the shaft, and at a depth of 5ft obtained very good prospects; in fact, the best I have seen since I took charge of the mine. The stone continues about the same width as at No. 1, or southern cutting, viz, 18ft. I have sent samples of stone by Mr D. Campbell and Mr Lamond by to-day's Avon.

Golden Age.—The mining manager reports under date April 29th :—"I have been exceedingly busy sinking the shaft, timbering, and opening out. I could not spare time to break into the reef, and send you a sample of stone by the last Avon, but all being well you may look for it by next boat. The shaft is now down 50ft from the surface. Yesterday I opened out in the south end of the shaft to make even for cross-cutting the reef. I will break into the stone on Tuesday, and will send you some of the solid reef at this level."

MUSSEL ROE.

Break o' Day.—Mr M'Kimmie, one of the shareholders, reports under date April 30th :—I was on the claim on Thursday last. The shaft was then down 8ft, and a leader had been cut about 18 inches in width, carrying very fair gold. He would bring a sample of stone to town per next boat.

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Imperial.—The mining manager, under date 30th April, reports :—The reef I cut last bears good gold as far as we have sunk. I can obtain very good prospects. I will forward next mail a plan showing all the shafts sunk, also the situation where I intend sinking a new permanent shaft.

Grand Flancur.—The mining manager reports on 29th April :—Since my last report two huts—one for a store and my own residence and one for men—have been erected, and will erect a blacksmith's shop as soon as I can obtain palings, as the temporary one in use will not be sufficient in wet weather. I experience great difficulty in getting goods forwarded from the Port, and also in getting anything carted on the ground, and have had to carry logs, etc., a mile on men's shoulders. I commenced to sink on Monday last, to follow the reef down on the underlay, but found the country a great deal harder than I expected, and as I found it would be both expensive and slow, abandoned it, and have commenced sinking a shaft 6ft by 3ft. The surface is very loose, and I have puddled the shaft, and expect to be able to sink 50ft without timber. I raised during the week about 14 tons stone, which prospects very well, from the cutting I put in.