

## GOLD.

A special meeting of shareholders in the Providence Valley Company will be held at half-past seven o'clock this evening, for the purpose of considering and deciding upon future operations, or the expediency of winding up the Company.

A meeting of owners of interests in the two 10-acre sections at North Mount Cameron taken up some time since by Mr Loane and party, was held at Mr Owen Meredith's office yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of considering the desirability of forming a registered company to further work the claims. Mr Alexander Webster occupied the chair. It was resolved to form a company, to be called "The Comet Gold Mining Company Registered," with a capital of £14,000, in 14,000 shares of £1 each, paid up to 10s per share. Messrs. Wm. Aikenhead, W. H. Abbott, Urban Gilham, Alfred Jones, J. M'Cracken, Alexander Webster, and W. O. Windsor were elected directors; Mr O. Meredith, manager; and Messrs. G. P. Hudson and Nelson Weetman, auditors. With some amendments the rules of the Royal Tasman Gold Mining Company were adopted. We are informed that work has been going on at this claim for some time past, two reefs having been discovered. On one of these a shaft 31ft in depth has been sunk, and the reef has been driven on 17ft east and 16ft west. These workings have disclosed a well-defined reef, varying from 18in to fully 3ft in thickness, and apparently widening as it goes down. The stone, which is very similar in appearance to the Royal Tasman, has been proved to be gold-bearing, and some samples brought to town last week by the prospectors have been tested in the presence of several gentlemen, and found to give excellent prospects. A small quantity crushed at Mr Meredith's office yielded some nice coarse colours, as well as a quantity of fine but heavy gold. The reef can be worked by a tunnel about 300ft in length, which will be commenced almost immediately, and which, whilst giving good backs in the reef already prospected, will also prove the second reef and further prospect the ground, on which it is said there are indications of other reefs. It is estimated that this tunnel can be driven at a very moderate outlay, the country being favourable.

No report or pay-sheet was received at the North Tasman Company's office this week. A director who has just returned from Gladstone explains that this is owing to the circumstance that the manager had not been able to get back from Gould's Country in time to write by the post, as the roads are in a terrible state, and the horse Mr M'Caveston had

was scarcely fit to perform the journey.

A call (the third) of 3d per share has been made in the Mount Wilson Company, payable at the office of Mr Alex. Corrie on Monday.

The prospectus appears in another column of the Deep Lead Company, Lefroy, formed to work alluvial deposits which it has long been believed underlie a basaltic formation, in which a shaft has already been sunk over 60ft. Fifty out of 100 promoters' shares are offered to the public at £10 each, the whole of the proceeds to be placed to the credit of the Company.

Notice is given that those shares in the North Royal Standard Company (Gladstone) on which the first call of 2d per share is not paid before 21st inst., will be liable to forfeiture.

## LEFROY.

*Caledonian.*—The mining manager writes under date the 10th inst. that the drive in No. 2 shaft is as last reported, and showing good gold. The mining manager also reports under date 13th inst.:—"During the past week the 80ft level west has been extended 7ft, making a total from cross-cut of 56ft. The lode is improving, being about 2½ft wide, and more defined than formerly. I expect in driving west to get the same run of stone that is in the drive in No. 2 shaft. The east drive is as last reported. In No. 2 shaft the drive has been extended 8ft, making a total from shaft of 15ft. The lode is about 18in wide, carrying good gold. It is still dipping west, hence my hopes of getting it at a lower level."

*Chance.*—The mining manager reports, under date June 13th, that fair progress has been made with the drives. The south drive is now in 27ft from the shaft, and has passed through nice looking ground, full of quartz leaders and mundie. No gold has been seen. The north drive is in 28ft from the shaft, and the ground is about the same as in the other.

*East New Chum.*—The mining manager, under date of June 13th, reports:—"I have extended the south drive 10ft for the week, making 89ft from the shaft. The ground is a little softer, and carries small quartz veins. I am hoping that in a short time I will have favourable news to report."

*East Golden Era.*—The mining manager reports under date the 13th inst.:—"The contractors are getting on well with the whim. I expect everything to be finished and in working order a week from date."

*South-West Chum.*—The mining manager, under date June 13th, reports that during the week there has been 14ft driven in the south cross-cut, making the total distance from the shaft 92ft, the ground passed through being similar to that last reported, namely, soft slate in-

that last reported, namely, soft slate intermixed with quartz leaders. By the advice of Mr Johnson, who has lately visited the mine, a cross-cut is to be driven north of the shaft.

**West New Chum.**—The mining manager reports, under date the 13th inst., as follows:—Since striking the reef in No. 3 level it has been extended 20ft. The reef in the east end is 5ft between the walls and gold-bearing, and in the west end 6ft between the walls, but broken. The winze nearest the cross-cut in No. 2 level is down 43ft. The width of the reef is 12 inches, and showing gold. The winze, 90ft from the boundary of the Chums and in No. 2 level, is down 23ft; with reef 2ft wide showing gold. No. 2 drive west is looking a little better, having about 10 inches of quartz in the face. There is also a little quartz coming in No. 1 drive. The stopes between Nos. 1 and 2 levels west of the cross-cut are still productive.

**New Chum.**—The mining manager reports under date the 13th inst.:—The mine is looking very well. I have driven the western level 12ft for the week, the reef being 5ft wide. The eastern level I have driven 11ft, reef 2ft 6in wide. The depth of western winze is 35ft, reef 4ft wide. I finished the eastern winze on Wednesday, and have started stopes from it.

**Queen's Birthday.**—The mining manager reports under date the 11th inst.:—Since my last report the eastern drive has been driven 16ft, making a total distance from cross-cut of 174ft. The country is rather confused; the walls are thrown apart to about 4ft wide, and between these walls is a slate formation running on the same course, and also a strong flaking about one foot wide, laying on the footwall, which shows every indication of a strong lode not far off.

**Great Extended West Chum.**—The mining manager reports, under date the 13th inst.:—We have sunk for the week 14ft, making a total distance of 182ft. The ground is much the same as last report.

**West Chum Extended.**—The mining manager reports, under date the 13th inst.:—I have driven for the week west 20ft, making a total distance of 92ft; the stone is 2ft wide, more defined, and a little more than it was.

**Windermere.**—The mining manager reports on 11th inst.:—For the past week I have extended the level a further distance of 8ft; the driving is still hard, and the reef is much the same, carrying good gold. In the shaft I have sunk 11ft, making a total depth of 31ft. I expect to be down and have it connected with the level in a fortnight from this. The stone

be down and have it connected with the level in a fortnight from this. The stone keeps much the same in richness. Mr Fulton has taken a sample of it up, so you will be able to judge of the quality.

**GLADSTONE (NORTH MOUNT CAMERON).**

**South Mint.**—The mining manager, under date 10th inst., reports that the shaft has been sunk 16ft during the fortnight. The country is very hard, with a little more water, but nothing of consequence. The Mint reef, carrying good gold, has been cut within 2½ chains of the South Mint Company's boundary, and is making fair into the South Mint.

**Deskford.**—The acting mining manager reports that he has opened out in the prospecting shaft, and is driving into the hill to ascertain if the reef is the Royal Tasman reef or not.

**North Extended Tasman.**—The mining manager reports under date June 10th:—The east and west cross-cuts have been driven 18ft and 27ft respectively for the fortnight, without any indication of a reef outside the shaft. The west cross-cut makes a great quantity of water. Operations have been suspended in the shaft at present. Since the North Tasman Co. have cut the Royal Tasman reef it affords a better idea where to prospect for the Tasman reef.

**Golden Age.**—The mining manager reports under date June 10th:—The shaft is now down 71ft from the surface. During the week I have met with several small spurs of quartz coming from the lode which has increased the water. I am also engaged cross-cutting upon the surface, with a view of discovering the No. 2 Royal Tasman lode, which has lately been struck in the North Tasman. Should it continue its present course it should run through our ground.

**Royal Tasman.**—The mining manager, under date 11th instant, reports as follows:—Since my last weekly report I have squared up the reef in the tunnel, and find it a strong body of stone. I am now cutting a chamber on the east side of the shaft, and in another week will be ready to send stone away to the battery. No. 2 shaft has been sunk 6ft, total 32ft. The country is getting much harder. A strong sandstone bar has crossed at the south end of this shaft (on the parallel reef), and cut the reef clean out at an angle of 45 deg.; but I think this reef will be found to be a block reef, and by driving south a little I shall find another block. I find in the tunnel that the reef (i.e., the main reef) north is fully 5ft in width, but on the south side of the tunnel we carried stone for 11ft in the length of the tunnel. The house over the machinery is progressing well. We have had some fine weather this week. I am putting a large culvert over the creek above the dam, to make as much room as possible for the water.

the dam, to make as much room as possible for tailings and settling dam.

*Royal Standard.*—The mining manager reports under date of 10th inst. :—During the week the level north has been extended a distance of 7ft, making a total of 25ft driven from the shaft. The south level has been driven 3ft, distance from the shaft 15ft. I have taken down about 3ft in width of stone, from which I have crushed a few prospects and obtained gold.

*Fly-by-Night.*—The mining manager reports under date June 10th :—I have to inform you we have driven the western cross-cut 15ft for the past week; the country gone through looks very favourable.

*Royal Mint.*—The mining manager reports under date June 10th :—The tunnel has been driven 26ft for the fortnight, making total distance from entrance 101ft. The country has been very hard, but there appears better ground in the face to-day. The winze is down 20ft from surface; lode 5ft wide, carrying good walls, and the prospects improving as we sink. The stone crushed from the bottom this morning, in which no gold could be seen, yielded when crushed very good prospects. Some cross-cutting has been done 150ft further south than where the cross reef comes in, and has cut the Mint reef about 2ft 6in from surface, and from 2ft to 2ft 6in wide. I have seen gold in several pieces of the stone, and from any of it first rate prospects can be obtained by crushing. This proves the reef by cuttings and trenches some 300ft. The tramway cutting has progressed very well for the past few days, and will be through next week. The contractors for bringing up the machinery have made a start, and four loads have been delivered this week.

#### BEACONSFIELD.

*Little Wonder.*—The mining manager reports, under date June 11th, that he has sunk 4ft feet for the week. The water is getting too heavy. There is no change in the country.

*Ilfracombe.*—The mining manager, writing under date June 13th, reports that he has sunk the shaft 6ft, and logged up. The ground is good for sinking.

*Prince Consort.*—The mining manager reports, under date June 11th :—The contractors have driven 10ft for the week, making a little over 170ft.

*Lefroy.*—The mining manager reports, under date the 11th inst. :—The shaft is now down 100ft; no change in ground or water.

*Britannia.*—The mining manager reports, on 13th inst., having struck a reef or body of stone at a depth of 36ft. The lode is 2ft 6in wide, and making a good deal of water.

#### GOLOONDA.

*Queensland.*—The mining manager,

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*Queensland.*—The mining manager, under date the 11th inst., writes as follows :—During the week we have levelled 13 chains of the company's tramway, which brings us within three chains of the quartz paddock.

*Mount Wilson.*—The mining manager, writing on 11th inst., says he has nothing fresh to report yet, but still finds

leaders coming in on the face, all carrying gold. The country is rather broken up, but showing every indication of a reef being close at hand.

#### MUSSEL ROE.

*Imperial.*—The mining manager reports under date June 10th :—We have got some very nice stone this week in No. 4 shaft. We can see gold plainly in the stone taken at a depth of 24ft. The weather has been so wet that we were compelled to go into the bush and cut rough timber to keep the sides of the shaft from falling in. The reef underlays so much that it worked right out of the end of the shaft into the country, but we still continued sinking the shaft for a depth of 8ft or 9ft, and then started to drive for the reef. We only drove 4ft when we cut one reef showing gold. The reef is not very large, but the stone is good. I will send you some of the stone.

*Grand Flaneur.*—The mining manager's report of 10th inst., is as follows :—“Since my last, the shaft has been securely timbered and sunk a further depth of 5ft, making a total depth of 26ft from the surface. The sinking for the last 5ft has required shooting, as the country has entirely changed, and now for the most part consists of gold-bearing quartz heavily charged with arsenical iron, sulphur, and other minerals, and is an essentially different stone to any previously found in the claim. During the week there have been a good many visitors at the claim, and in crushing stone for their inspection, I have obtained splendid prospects. One of the directors was here yesterday (9th inst.), and saw prospects washed with which he was highly pleased.”

*Blue Bell.*—Mr W. Creelman reports on 10th inst. :—I have all the foundations for the battery laid, the iron horses and stamper boxes in their places and bolted down, cam shaft and spur wheel in place, and also the end horse for counter shaft, and the two horses for the pump shaft partly made. I am now starting to put the engine in its place, and if the weather keeps favourable, will be able to progress speedily, but having been compelled to go into the bush to cut and dress timber for the battery has taken up a good deal of time. If I had all the material for the building on the ground I would start all hands in its erection, as we could work to



building on the ground I would start all hands in its erection, as we could work to greater advantage under cover in finishing the work. I may tell you I am using my best endeavours to forward the Company's interest in the erection of the battery. The mining manager reports on 10th inst.:—During the week we have sunk 12ft on the reef at the back of the blacksmith's shop, making a total depth of 22ft. We have several small leaders in the bottom from 3in to 6in thick, all dipping to the north. The dip in this shaft is about one in seven to the north, and the north lode has a dip of one in three to the south. We have taken out a few loads of quartz adjoining the shaft, where we are now up to a cross-course, which has cut off the lode going east, but I have no doubt a few feet to the south it will again be found going east in its proper course. Messrs. Campbell and M'Kenzie, two of the directors, were here yesterday, and authorised me to stop this work and commence a main shaft, which was at once done. I have a good whip-pole in, and will have it ready by the time it is wanted, and have also a good three-stalled stable completed.

#### BACK CREEK.

*Try Again.*—The mining manager reports on 11th instant:—I have to report that the south shaft has been sunk 11ft during the week, making a total depth from the surface of 55ft. The ground is slate, and is charged heavily with pyrites. The water is increasing. We are going to open out on Monday next.

*Holdfast.*—The mining manager on 11th instant reports:—I have sunk the shaft 14ft, making the total depth 66ft from surface. I am going to start opening out on Monday at 60ft, as I am not able to go any deeper with the windlass as the water has got rather heavy the last two or three days, and I like the present appearance of the country for driving in.