

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

Holder of interests in Kerrison's lease, Blue Tier, are requested to meet at the Exchange Hotel, Beaconsfield, on Wednesday evening. Transfers are to be sent in to Mr H. White.

The adjourned meeting of shareholders in the Kohinor Co. will be held at the office of Mr R. H. Price at 3 p.m. to-day.

The half-yearly meeting of the Enterprise Co. will be held at the office of Mr T. H. Urquhart at 7.30 this evening.

The second half-yearly meeting of the Nine-Mile Springs Prospecting Association will be held at Lefroy this evening.

Reports from mining managers will be found below.

LEFROY.

New Chum.—23rd inst. I have crushed 106 tons quartz for the week, for a return of 580oz. amalgam from plates and ripples.

West New Chum.—23rd inst. I have crushed 297 tons stone for the week ending to-day, and scraped 253oz. amalgam from the plates and ripples.

Golden Era.—23rd inst. The mine was looking better, and new stone is making east, showing gold.

SALISBURY (BLUE TIER).

Pactolus.—23rd inst. Cleaned up to-day from a crushing of 8½ tons stone at Ellis's battery, which yielded 4oz. 19dwt. retorted gold, giving an average of 11dwt. 18gr. to the ton.

GLADSTONE.

Royal Mint.—20th inst. The works at the mine are going on as usual; Hicks is making good headway with the erection of the machinery, O'Connor has not yet started again with the boiler. I have had a man cross-cutting on our claim towards the boundary of the Mount Cameron claim, and have cut the cap of a reef 4ft. in width. I cannot yet say much about the stone, only that there is gold in it, and the stone is similar in nature to the Mint. Where it was cut is not more than 20ft. or 25ft. from the South Mint boundary side line—that is the line between the Royal and South Mint.

Deskford.—20th inst. I am glad to inform you a great change has taken place in the drive since yesterday, a nice quartz leader and pyrites, about six inches wide, having come in the face of the drive, with every appearance of more quartz coming in the face. The slate is much softer and making more water. I have driven 13ft. for the week, the longest distance driven in one week since the drive was started, making a total distance of 60ft.

(From our own Correspondent.)

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There is a little excitement just now through the Golden Age having cut the supposed line of the No. 2 Royal Tasman reef. I had a look at the find, and have seen some very likely-looking stone from it. By the courtesy of the manager, Mr Clarke, I crushed some of it, and obtained a good payable prospect. I cannot form an idea of what the lode is like, as it seems to be "knocked about" on the surface. They are engaged now in sinking a shaft, which they intend to cross-cut with when they get well down into solid country. They will then form some notion of what the discovery is worth. So far as they have gone it looks very promising. This ought to raise the value of South Standard shares, as the line goes through a portion of that claim.

I went through the North Tasman workings the other day, and was highly pleased to see the thoroughly workmanlike manner in which operations are being carried on. I think that company are fortunate in securing the services of Mr M'Caveston, their mining manager. He evidently understands his business, and it is satisfactory to shareholders to know that even if no gold is got that everything is done in a proper manner. A great deal of the success of a quartz claim depends on the management of it, and a very slight mistake involves several hundreds of expenses.

The Royal Mint, I hear, have struck some very good stone, and I believe the prospects of this company are very good, as there are several parallel and cross lodes in their ground. They are getting on well with their battery and will soon be able to start crushing.

The Royal Tasman Company are getting on well with their battery, and I think it will take fully a month before they make a start. They are labouring under a disadvantage in not being able to secure the ground below their battery, as they have to pump their tailings back to a dam, which is at a far higher elevation than their discharge from their tables.

In tin mining affairs there is nothing particular to chronicle. There is at present with us a representative of a Melbourne company of capitalists testing a tin section, called the Eureka, with a view to purchase it; in the event of their purchasing they would go into sluicing operations on a large scale; they would cut in a large supply of water at an elevation high enough to give pressure for hydraulicing. This system of working tin will be the system of the future in Tasmania; the majority of the rich patches of tin has been gutted out, and a more extensive and economical style of work will have to be carried on to work the poor ground. This part of the island is well adapted for carrying on sluicing operations on a large scale, as there is plenty of fall, and water can be brought on to almost any portion of the tin ground at not a very great cost. The experiment that has been tried on the Moa Tin Mining Company of pumping water for sluicing purposes is not a success; they have not got power enough to raise sufficient water for sluicing, and if more power is used it will entail extra cost, and it is questionable if an engine large enough to force a sufficient supply of water would not cost to run it nearly as much profit as would be likely to come out of the ground.

The township of Gladstone is improving daily, new buildings are being erected, and no less than three large stores are being put up. Messrs Gilham and M'Kimmie are erecting a large and handsome building to be used as a store, also bakery, etc. They certainly believe in the permanency of the district, and are going in for extensive improvements. Mr Dickenson, of Launceston, is also erecting large premises to

in for extensive improvements. Mr Dickenson, of Launceston, is also erecting large premises to be used as a store and dwelling-house. The township is beginning to assume a permanent appearance, and we can hear the merry clang of the anvil going all day and part of the night, too. A blacksmith has opened business, and is evidently kept very busy.

We have got police protection here now, and the police quarters are in course of erection. I suppose whenever they are finished that we will have a magistrate's court held here. It is a great inconvenience to have to go to the Bridge, a distance of 17½ miles, whenever any legal business has to be transacted, and as the district enlarges, there is bound to be more legal business done.

I see that notices are posted convening a public meeting, to be held at Gilham's hotel on Thursday evening, the 21st inst., for the purpose of amending the electoral franchise so as to give the mining population a voice in the government of the country, and other matters in connection with roads, bridges, &c. This certainly is a step in the right direction, and unless the mining population agitates, and that in a very marked degree, they will never obtain the civil rights that all other communities enjoy in British colonies, with the exception of Tasmania.

Another matter that we require in this district, and the want of which is the source of great inconvenience to the public here and in Launceston, is the extension of the telegraph line from Gould's Country to this township. It is a mystery to everyone that this extension has not been made already, as the present termination ends nowhere—and there is no centre of population there. The consequence is that it does not pay. If it were extended to here it would be a remunerative station, besides being the means of sometimes saving thousands of pounds sterling. It is absolutely necessary for a quartz mining district, where the headquarters of the management reside at a distance

from the scene of carrying on operations, to have speedy means of communication with each other, as the value of a quartz claim can be more than quadrupled in a few hours. It would not be a very expensive line to construct and not much over 20 miles in length; but it is a horrible road to ride and the distance is 31 miles, so that no messages are sent from here except in cases of dire necessity.

July 19.