

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

The Blue Bell directors, at a meeting yesterday, decided to purchase pumping gear.

In accordance with a resolution passed at the extraordinary meeting of shareholders in the New Native Youth Company, the preference shares not applied for *pro rata* by shareholders, are open for application by other shareholders up to Saturday next, after which date those not applied for will be offered to the public for a few days.

The second half-yearly meeting of the Victoria Company will be held at the office of Mr R. H. Price this evening.

A meeting of shareholders in Kerrison's lease, Blue Tier, will be held at the Exchange Hotel, Beaconsfield, on Saturday evening, for the purpose of forming a company, etc.

Notice is given that all shares in the Mount Wilson Company, on which the first call of one penny and the second call of twopence, are not paid by the 1st August, will be liable to forfeiture.

Mining managers report as follows :—

LEFROY.

Chance.—July 23—During the fortnight good progress has been made in the north cross-cut, it having been extended 20ft., making the total distance from the shaft 113ft. I hope to strike the reef before long. The south drive has extended 29ft. west for the fortnight, making the total distance from the cross-cut 43ft. The stone in this drive is still very much broken up, and the walls are running very regularly. I cannot obtain any gold in the stone. I think if it got more defined it would show gold, as it has every appearance of being gold-bearing stone.

East New Chum Extended.—July 23—I have extended the cross-cut 10ft. for the week, making a total distance driven from the shaft of 110ft. The water has increased considerably from the face, but there is no change in character of country. The drive along the leader east is driven 7ft., making 20ft. from cross-cut ; no improvement in size of stone.

East New Chum.—July 25—I have completed the chamber for winze, and commenced sinking. I hope soon to have good news.

United Chums.—July 23—The contractors are down 117ft. with the main shaft, and the sinking still continues good.

New Chum.—July 25—The mine is looking very well, and gold is to be seen in every face. I have extended the western level 13ft. for the week : reef

in every face. I have extended the western level 13ft. for the week ; reef 2ft. 6in. wide. I have driven the eastern level for the week 16ft. ; reef 2ft. wide. The depth of shaft from plat is 58ft. The masons are getting on well with the building in of the boiler.

West New Chum.—July 25—During the week the works in the mine have been pushed forward with all possible speed. In No. 3 level the west drive is in 52ft. from centre of cross-cut ; reef 2ft. wide, defined, and looking very well. The east drive is in 67ft. from cross-cut ; the reef is broken. The drive west is in 301ft. from cross-cut ; reef 2ft. 6in. wide between walls. The cistern is all fixed and ready to receive plunger lift. The pumping engine is nearly completed, and all the machinery is now in first-class working order.

Chum Consols.—July 23—I am down 27ft. with the present shaft. I have made but little progress this week on account of meeting with so much rock, and having to blast it all.

Great Extended West Chum.—July 25—I have got the opening set in, and the total depth of the shaft to the sole piece is 251ft. I will finish the well this week.

West Chum Extended.—July 25—I have driven the eastern drive 12ft. for the week, making a total distance of 125ft. from cross-cut. There is no change to report, and the stone in the stopes continues about the same.

South-West Chum.—July 23—The northern drive has been extended 20ft. for the week, making a total distance of 74ft. There has been a change within the last 10ft. of driving, the ground being much softer, and mixed with quartz leaders.

New Native Youth.—July 25—I have sunk the Excelsior shaft 10ft. for the week ; rather hard sinking and more water making in the shaft. In the drive west the ground is getting softer. The stone in the eastern stopes is still from 6ft. to 8ft. wide, carrying gold.

Golden Era.—July 25—On Saturday at 4 p.m. I broke into another vein of stone running parallel with the lode we have been driving on. It forms another wall, with 18in. of mullock between the two runs of stone, and both are carrying payable gold. That struck on Saturday is better than the one we have been working. I send you by Gamble some of the stone ; it is out of the only prospect I have tried from it. I have driven since last report 26ft., making 40ft. driven on payable stone.

East Golden Era.—July 23—During the past week I have sunk and timbered the shaft 12ft., making a total depth from the surface of 150ft. The ground is composed entirely of sandstone, which necessitates blasting. There are indica-

necessitates blasting. There are indications of a change into the slate country again, and in that case I hope to make better headway. The water is light, being about 200 gallons per hour.

Caledonian.—July 25—Since last report the 80ft. level west has been extended 5ft.; the lode is just the same as last reported. I stated in last report that I had cut a stream of water while driving the cross-cut. The water came in from the east side, and I came into a strong hanging wall and opened out, and have driven 9ft. We have quartz in the back of the level, but the ground is unsettled yet, being close to the slide. On driving a little further I shall get into more settled country. I think I have the lode on the east side, but I cannot say much about it till I get into more settled country. We have a lot of water, and troublesome ground. West side as last reported.

Windermere.—July 23—During the week the contractors have sunk the shaft a further depth of 17ft., making 45ft. since the commencement, 41ft. being timbered up. The sinking is much the same, viz., sandstone and slate, with a few quartz leaders. There is a little water making from the leaders, but nothing to retard sinking, and I think that in about four weeks' time they should well nigh complete the contract for the 110ft. of sinking.

Queen's Birthday.—July 23—Since last report I have sunk the shaft 4ft., and timbered up 17ft., making a total of 24ft.; water very heavy. I have driven the cross-cut in the eastern shaft a further distance of 13ft., making a total from shaft of 115ft. During the past week I have cut two well-defined reefs about 4in. to 6in. in thickness, carrying a little gold.

West Queen's Birthday.—July 23—Since my last report I have driven on the cross-course 8 feet, but have not cut any stone as yet, and also sunk a shaft further west 13 feet. I will commence and cross-cut the country on Monday next to pick up the track of the lode. The country in this part of the mine is more defined, and

can push along with the drive till I cut the reef. I hope I shall be able to report something good before long. I passed through several nice leaders while sinking.

Try Again.—July 23—The north drive in the south shaft has been extended 6ft. for the week, the total distance from the shaft being 32ft. I have cut several leaders heavily charged with pyrites. I think it advisable to continue this drive a few feet further, as the disturbed state of the ground is to my mind a good indication that we are not far from the reef. In the south shaft I have commenced to open out on the reef, and have driven west 4ft. and east 6ft.; the reef is improving going east. It is getting more solid and more defined, not so much mullock amongst it. I have not found any gold in it as yet, but there is no telling what a day may bring to light.

East Try Again.—July 23—I started to drive across the reef on Monday. The water is heavy, and I am making but slow progress.

Just in Time.—July 23—The distance driven for the week is 19ft., making 37ft. for the fortnight south from No. 1 shaft. According to the bearings and line of the All Nations reef, I will have between 50 and 60ft. further to drive before I expect to get it. The driving is good, and there is no water. I will start another shaft on Monday, as it is getting too far to bring back the dirt.

BEACONSFIELD.

West Tasmania.—July 20—I have driven the tunnel 35ft. for the week, making a total of 276ft.; country continuing about the same.

Florence Nightingale.—July 25—I am preparing for sinking the main shaft to a further depth. During the week I have extended the east level 7ft.; there is not any appearance of stone making. The stopes will be finished and all the stone therefrom in hoppers about Wednesday; there will be about 40 tons to go to battery, and there is about 15 tons in the pan at battery.

Ifracombe.—July 25—The sinking is much better, 9ft. having been sunk for the week, making 41ft. 6in. from the surface. The shaft is passing through small leaders.

Rising Sun.—July 23—The depth of the winze is 25ft., and the sinking is still very hard. I found it necessary to spend a good deal of time this week in timbering the winze. The width of the lode still keeps increasing, and is now 5ft.

Blyth's Freehold.—July 23—I opened out on Thursday at 185ft. from the surface, and have driven about 5ft. to date. The driving is in bars of slate and sandstone, and veins of brown sand 3in. to 4in. thick.

Prince Consort.—July 25—The contractors have started to drive the main

I hope in a few days to report something more favourable.

BACK CREEK.

Holdfast.—July 23—Since writing last I have sunk the south shaft 27ft., making the total distance 37ft. from the brace, and timbered up. The sinking has been nice soft country, being of black slate. There is a good deal of water making. I am going to start to open out on Monday, as I think it will be advisable, so that I can push along with the drive till I cut the reef. I hope I shall be able to report

LAUNCESTON CONSOLE.—July 23—The contractors have started to drive the main tunnel a further 50ft., which will make 250ft., at about which point the new reef is expected to junction with the two reefs now being driven on. On the new reef, which was discovered on the S. E. side of the claim, the new shaft has been sunk 10ft. for the week and logged up. The stone is improving in quality, the reef being about 2ft. 6in. wide. [Some of this stone can be seen at the office of the manager, Mr A. Reid, Brisbane-street.]

GLADSTONE.

Royal Mint.—July 22—Our Gladstone correspondent reports that the Royal Mint have cut another parallel lode from 2ft. to 4ft. thick, carrying payable gold. Its course runs 1½ chains from the Mount Cameron G.M. Company's lease, and runs through the South Mint. They have cut the same lode in the South Mint to-day (the 20th), carrying gold, and it looks well. The mining manager reports on same date:—The tunnel has been extended 29ft. 6in. for the fortnight, making a distance of 182ft., and in much better ground than last week. If the country continues as at present we will be close to the reef in another fortnight. In the winze we have not been able to sink this week, as the men have been timbering it down and putting in skids, and it will take a day or two to finish. It will then be within 2ft. to 3ft. of the tunnel.

South Mint.—July 22—The shaft has been sunk 15ft. for the fortnight, country still hard and making more water as we sink. The total depth is 79ft. 6in. I think by sinking another 6ft. for a well, we can open out and drive for the reef at 80ft., for there is quite sufficient water for windlass work. We have also made 75ft. of ladders and fixed them in the shaft. We have been trenching the upper portion of the claim, and got the cap of the reef which the Royal Mint have found; it is good-looking stone and gold-bearing. When we get the shaft opened out I will prospect further.

Royal Standard.—July 22—During the week prospecting at the 50ft level has been continued with two men. I have opened out more across the reef and commenced a cross-cut east, the present distance from hanging wall being 8ft. I have tried several prospects, from some of which I obtained gold. The No. 2 shaft has been sunk 15ft and timbered 20ft, total depth from surface 38ft. The ground is getting lighter, and making considerably more water. I have three shifts employed here.

No. 1 South Royal Standard.—July 23—During the fortnight the cross-cut has been extended, and the reef-cut at 17ft. from the shaft. I have driven into the reef 4ft., making the total length of the

reef 4ft., making the total length of the cross-cut 21ft. The reef is hard and solid.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—July 23—I am in with the drive 29ft., and expect to cut the reef at every foot.

Grand Standard.—July 23—The drive has been extended 10ft. for the fortnight, making the total length 16ft. It is just coming into the reef. The driving is very hard, which makes progress slow. I will send more news in a few days.

Mount Cameron.—July 23—I have let the contract for sinking the shaft 100ft., and work has been commenced.

Golden Age.—July 22—Since I last reported progress we have driven the cross-cut on No. 1 reef the distance of 9ft. from the chamber, and yesterday met the stone making its original course. I have penetrated it two feet; the stone is gold-bearing. On No. 2 reef the shaft is now down 14ft. from the surface, securely timbered, logged up 6ft. from surface, and the brace completed; to-morrow I hope to get the covering finished. The sinking is through sandstone, intersected with quartz veins underlaying to the N.E., and these veins are all more or less gold-bearing.

Progress.—July 22—I have sunk the shaft 6ft. for the week with two men, making a total depth of 75ft., and have also timbered up. Will sink to the 80ft. level before opening out.

Lady Tasman.—July 22—I have sunk the shaft 3ft., making a total depth of 45ft., and have driven 12ft. west. I intend to drive 30ft. more before I start to drive to the east.

North Tasman.—July 22—I have extended the tunnel 13ft. for the week,

making a total distance of 473ft. Ground is much the same; still in soft slate, and a quantity of water still coming out of the face. I have sunk the No. 2 shaft 8ft. for the week with two men and have timbered up.

West Tasman.—July 22—I have sunk the new shaft 52ft from the surface, and have cut a large amount of trenching. I have got no stone or indications in any of the trenches. I am trenching now on the line of the last discovery in the Royal Mint, and hope to cut stone there.

North Extended Tasman.—July 23—The shaft has been sunk to a depth of 63ft 6in. Whilst sinking the last 10ft a very nice leader was cut underlaying to the west, and corresponding nearly to the course of the Royal Tasman line. This leader was increasing in width as the shaft was sunk, with an increase of water. I opened out at 60ft, and have driven west 18ft and timbered, the driving being fair to work and the water of no consequence. I am

and the water of no consequence. I am working the mine very economically, and the whole of the timber required I have been able to procure on the claim.

Deskford.—July 22—A great change has taken place in the drive of late, at times a nice soft slate being passed through, constantly being crossed with quartz leaders. The reef may be thrown a good way to the east in consequence of the very hard bar passed through, or I may strike it any moment. As far as I can see the indications are good for striking the reef.

Fly-by-Night.—July 23—I have driven 11 feet for the week, making a total distance from shaft of 64 feet. The country passed through continues about the same for the last 38 feet.

MUSSEL ROE.

Imperial.—July 22—I have been leveling the race and expect soon to get it out. I expect to let contract for repairing dam to-morrow, and will probably be getting in in three weeks.

GOLCONDA.

Queenstam.—July 23—I shall get the bulk of the men under ground on Thursday, and will start the battery next week.

TIN.

Mr J. S. Goodall publishes a statement in another column which is of interest to the shareholders in the Edina Company.

The p.s. Avon, which arrived from the N. E. Coast ports yesterday morning, brought 589½ bags of tin ore as follows.

—Eureka 54, Empress 11, GCGX 6, GCGT 8, M'Phail and Weymouth 4, Scotia 15, Mary 23, Martha 2, Simpson 21, Frome 20, Weld 149, Native Youth 34, Kruakha Brothers' Home 158, BB Co. 30, PDT 6, BA 20½, Lion 8, and WK 20.

Mount Bischoff.—The mining manager, under date the 20th inst., reports:—During the past fortnight the main adit has been extended 11ft., and the ground is slightly better for driving. The height of the rise from the floor of the brown face drive to the working level of the face is a little over 30ft.; the ground throughout is payable, but I did not meet with so much solid ore as I expected, but this was probably owing to my having started the rise rather too far from the supposed line of lode. I have let another 100ft. of driving in the brown face drive at 10s per foot. The cross-cut to the Slaughter-yard gully face has been extended 23ft., and is still in the same kind of slate. The rise on the micaceous vein from the boundary drive at the brown face has been extended 48ft. during the fortnight, and is now near the surface; the whole of the slate taken out of this rise, strange to say, is well worth crushing, and it is quite probable that a large quantity of similar stone will be found in this part of the mine, which will pay to work. I

similar stone will be found in this part of the mine, which will pay to work. I think it would be advisable to drive on this vein to the middle of the face, as the whole of the dirt from the footwall is stanniferous, and would pay to crush. All the machinery is working satisfactorily, and fair progress is being made with the new shed at the Waratah. The earthwork for the new dressing shed at the foot of the "tailings gully" is completed, and the men who were employed at this work have been sent to Falls Creek to construct the embankment, which will prevent the water overflowing from that creek into the Waratah River. This embankment will have to be 2ft. 6in. in height, but as there is an abundance of timber and material available, it will soon be finished.