

## MINING NEWS.

### GOLD.

A meeting of shareholders in the Blue Tier Tunnelling Company will be held at the Mechanics' Institute this evening at 7.30, for the formation of a company, election of officers, and other business.

The half-yearly meeting of the Enterprise Company will be held at the office of Mr T. H. Urquhart on 25th inst., to receive reports and balance-sheets, elect three directors, and transact any other necessary business.

The directors of the Tasmania Company have called an extraordinary meeting of shareholders for the 28th inst., to take into consideration a proposal to increase the capital of the Company from £15,000 to £150,000 by the issue of 27,000 additional shares of £5 each to the present shareholders *pro rata*, each shareholder to receive nine new shares for each one held, either fully paid up or paid up to £1 4s each, according as the case may be.

### GLADSTONE.

*Royal Tasman.*—The mining manager reports, under date 2nd inst., as follows:—Battery logs and the boxes are fixed. Tables and hopper are in an advanced state. Tramway 142ft. from battery to second or No. 2 tunnel finished this week. Framing for tailings, pumps, and foundations for same well advanced. No. 1 shaft partitioned for a pass, and hopper fixed. No. 2 shaft (parallel reef) sunk and timbered 5ft. (two men); total, 47ft. from surface. Country still hard. Reef will be in the shaft in another 5ft. I have instructed Mr Gilham to bring up the other battery (five head) from the Port at once. The piles for the box are also ready.

*North Tasman.*—Mr M'Caveston reports on 1st inst., as follows:—"I have extended the tunnel 12ft. for the week—total distance 430ft. The ground still keeps very wet, and is making a lot of water. From all the appearances I am of the opinion that we shall soon have a change, as I am driving near to the line of reef. I have also started No. 2 shaft, 7ft. by 3ft. in the clear. I intend to put in sawn timber, for it is difficult to get slabs of that length, and we will require this shaft for letting timber down, as that will be more convenient to us, besides carting it to the mouth of the tunnel. I am forwarding you a sample of the stone by the steamer Avon. It is not picked stone. It may not give quite the great prospects of picked stone, but you just have it as a general sample of the stone got out of the reef. I could have got better, but I had removed the windlass to the other shaft." [The stone referred to, consisting of about a dozen pieces varying in weight from ½lb. to 2lbs., was received

in weight from ½lb. to 2lbs., was received at the Company's office yesterday. It is nice-looking stone, showing gold, and one of the smallest pieces taken haphazard from the others and crushed at the office gave an excellent prospect of gold. The stone is also well charged with pyrites.]

*West Royal Tasman.*—The mining manager, Mr John Allan, under date 1st inst. reports:—I have driven in the eastern drive 11ft. during the week, making the total distance from the chamber 46ft. I have no change to report in the country, but have had to secure the drive from the face back, as I found that it would not stand without timber.

*North Extended Tasman.*—The mining manager reports on 1st inst.:—The shaft has been sunk 12ft. for the week, making a total depth of 47ft from surface. The sinking has been rather hard, but is now much softer, and is in blue slate.

*Progress.*—The acting mining manager reports on 1st instant, that he has sunk the shaft 6ft. for the week, and timbered up the shaft 20ft., and this has secured all the bad ground until he gets more timber. The trench where the man has been at work is 74 yards north of the present shaft, and is down 12ft. on the line of reef, and he has just come on the cap of the same reef that he is sinking on, which he believes is a continuation of the reef struck in the North Tasman. He intends to cross-cut it further north, and if he cuts it there again, he is of opinion the Progress will stand a good show.

*South Royal Standard.*—The mining manager, Mr Andrew Muir, under date 2nd inst., reports:—During the past week the shaft has been sunk a further depth of 8ft. through hard, jointy sandstone. I will finish sinking to-night, put in our opening set on Monday, and start cross-cutting for the reef at a depth of 58½ft., leaving 2ft. for a well. The shaft is making very little water. Its total depth is 60½ft.

*North Royal Standard.*—The mining manager, Mr W. Smith, under date 2nd inst., reports:—I have sunk the shaft 9ft. for the week, making its total depth 59ft. The water is very heavy, and the ground hard. We will open out to drive on Monday at a depth of 50ft.

*Royal Standard.*—The mining manager reports under date July 1st:—During the week the north level has been driven 6ft. in solid quartz, from which several prospects have been tried, and gold found in some of them. This level has now been driven 41ft. to the north of the shaft. The logs for the new shaft are on the ground, and the slabs are being split for timbering the same. In tracing the line of reef to ascertain the best position to sink a vertical shaft some stone was broken, in which gold could be seen.

broken, in which gold could be seen. This was 200ft. north of No. 1 shaft.

*Deskford.*—The acting mining manager reports on 2nd inst.:—We have driven 14ft. for the week, making a total distance of 45ft. from shaft. There is a good deal of water coming from the face, and it looks very favourable for soon striking the reef.

*Golden Age.*—The mining manager reports, under date July 1st:—I am down with the shaft 87ft. from the surface, and 94ft. from the brace. The timbering will be completed to-morrow, and I will then open the chamber preparatory to cutting into the reef. The stone cut on Wednesday, which I consider to be the No. 2 Royal Tasman reef, is gold-bearing, and there is also tin in a portion of it. I have no doubt it will prove all right when properly into the solid country.

*South Mint.*—The mining manager reports, under date 1st July:—The shaft is down 60ft. in hard country, and the water is increasing. I intend putting two more men on, so as to make better progress, as owing to the increase of water time is wasted in the bailing. By having the three shifts at work this will be remedied.

*Royal Mint.*—The mining manager reports, under date the 1st inst.:—The tunnel is in 140ft., having passed through a very hard bar of country during the week, but is now in splendid ground, in fact the best we have had in the tunnel. The winze is down 39ft. in a strong body of stone, reef 6ft. wide, and I can get good prospects by crushing, but owing to the dirty nature of the stone it is difficult to see gold without crushing. The contractors for the battery are making good headway with the erection of the machinery. Mr O'Connor, the contractor for carting, is expected to have the engine up from the Port in a day or two, and everything is going on satisfactorily.

*Fly-by-Night.*—The mining manager writes on the 2nd inst.:—I have driven the western cross-cut 7ft. for the week, making a total distance from shaft 39ft.

The country to the west is getting much harder. I have driven the eastern cross-cut 9ft., making the total distance from shaft 34ft. Country looking very promising.

#### MUSSEL ROE.

*Blue Bell.*—Mr Wm. R. Thomas, mining manager, reports:—"We have sunk 10ft. during the week, making total depth of shaft 34ft. from surface, of which 30ft. are securely timbered. The ground has got very tight, but we can get on yet without blasting. Water increased to about 200 gallons per hour. We have lowered the water in the old shaft about

lowered the water in the old shaft about 6ft. this week, and still gradually going down. Could do much better with three more good men.

*Grand Flaneur.*—The mining manager, under date 1st July, reports:—Since last report the shaft has been sunk 7ft., making a total depth of 52ft. Some quartz leaders were cut in the shaft, giving an increase of water, but this is slackening fast.

#### LEPROY.

*New Native Youth.*—The mining manager reports under date the 4th inst.:—The drive through the bar is now in 33ft. west of the fault in the lode; the track of the reef is still small, but the face shows an improvement, the country being softer, with a little more water in the drive north of fault, which is in 45ft. We struck water on Saturday night for the first time since starting it; I think we are close on a change in this direction. The stone we are crushing from at No. 2 level is not a block in the usual sense of the term, being the whole of that portion of the claim under No. 2 level to the east of the shaft, and extending to the City boundary. The lode is 12ft. wide, and looks pretty well.

*West Queen's Birthday.*—The mining manager, under date 2nd inst., reports:—Since my last report I have driven west 10ft.; the reef is greatly improving in size, but the walls are not thrown as yet to their proper course. I have found another spur in the back of the cross-cut, which forms the north wall. I am of opinion that in continuing our present drive it will junction and throw off in a large body of stone.

*Land o' Cakes.*—The mining manager, under date 2nd inst., reports:—The distance driven on the reef since cutting it in the shaft is 12ft. 6in., or 7ft. east and 5ft. 6in. west of the cut. I am still driving at both ends. The reef at the east is now about 3ft. 6in. in width, and in the west end it is about 1ft. 8in., and is making larger. I would recommend the driving to be carried on at present level about 20ft. each way.

*Windermere.*—The mining manager reports on 2nd inst.:—I have everything ready for the contractors to commence sinking, and would like to know if the directors intend to continue driving the level, or stopping while the shaft is being sunk to the required depth.

*New Chum.*—The mining manager reports under date the 4th inst.:—The mine is looking very well; the western level I have driven 16ft. for the week. Reef, 3ft. wide. The eastern level driven 11ft.; reef, 2ft. wide. The reef in the slopes averages about 3ft. in width. The shaft is down 50ft.

*East New Chum.*—The mining manager, under date 4th July, reports:—I have

**East New Chum.**—The mining manager, under date 4th July, reports:—I have driven the south drive a further distance of 9ft, making the total distance from the shaft 114ft. There is nothing of any importance to report. The country is about the same.

**South-West Chum.**—The mining manager reports on 4th inst.:—I have driven for the fortnight the north cross-cut 17ft., making a total of 25ft. from the shaft; the ground is very hard, but there are a great many leaders met with in driving. The south drive has been extended 12ft. for the fortnight, making the total distance from shaft 108ft. The water is oozing out freely from the face, and there is a soft blue slate in the end, but it has been stopped in accordance with instructions.

**East New Chum Extended.**—The mining manager, under date 2nd July, reports:—I have extended the cross-cut 10ft for the week, making the total distance driven from the shaft 77ft. The country still keeps favourable. I have also driven 7ft. west along the leader, making the total distance from the cross-cut 37ft. I have at present six inches of stone in the face, and can obtain gold by crushing.

**West New Chum.**—The mining manager reports on the 4th inst. as follows:—During the week there has been 10ft. driven west, making the total distance from the centre of the cross-cut 34ft. The width of the reef is 4ft. 6in. I saw very good quartz this week from this drive. On the head wall there is about 9in. of sandstone, the remainder of the reef being broken, mixed with sandstone and gold-bearing quartz. I have no doubt that this is the same run of quartz that passes through No. 2 level near the cross-cut; all the width, 4ft. 6in., is sent to the battery. The east drive has been extended 13ft., making the total distance from the centre of the cross-cut 46ft. The reef is 1ft. 6in. wide, but solid. The stope in the back of No. 3 level is 5ft. wide, with a little solid quartz on both foot and head walls, with the centre of the reef mixed with quartz and sandstone. The west drive in No. 2 level is in 173ft. from the cross-cut, making 6ft. driven for the week. The lode is much the same as last reported, but more water is coming. The winze nearest the Chum's boundary is dry again, and I intend starting to sink it again next week. In the meantime the men from this winze have been engaged working an under-hand stope near this winze on very fair quartz. The stopes between Nos. 1 and 2 levels are still productive. The drive west in No. 1 level has improved since my last report, a little quartz being met with. The bed of the pumping engine will be finished on Monday, and I will then be able to fix the engine. Both

engine will be finished on Monday, and I will then be able to fix the engine. Both pumping and winding engine are in good working order, also the stamping machinery.

**West Chum Extended.**—The mining manager writes on the 4th inst.:—I am in with the eastern drive 112ft., making 12ft. for the week; the reef is about the same as last report, with a little more water making out of the face. The walls have been very hard on both sides, but are getting a little softer now.

**Great Extended West Chum.**—The mining manager reports on the 4th inst.:—I have sunk 10ft. for the week, making a total of 230ft. I am in more settled country, but it has been hard this week, though no water to trouble us.

**United Chums.**—The mining manager reports, under date 4th July:—The contractors are down 76ft. with the main shaft. The whim is working well.

**East Golden Era.**—The mining manager reports, under date July 4th, that he has sunk 7ft. during the week, making the total depth 110ft.

**Planet.**—The mining manager, under date 2nd inst., reports:—The contractors have completed their contract to sink the shaft to a depth of 50ft., and I shall start to sink a few feet deeper next week for a well, so as to give me 50ft. of backs when I open out to start to drive.

**Caledonian.**—The mining manager reports under date July 4th:—During the past week the 80ft. level west

has been extended 7ft. 6in., making the total distance from the cross-cut 76ft. The lode is over 3ft. wide, wide, and from the nature of the stone at present in the face it looks very promising, the stone against the hanging wall bearing a close resemblance to the stone in No. 2. I am in hopes that we shall meet with the same run of stone soon. In No. 2, I have two men taking out stone, and I am glad to say that we have taken out good stone this week and deeper down than any we have yet had.

**Queen's Birthday.**—The mining manager writes on the 2nd inst.:—Since my last report I have driven the eastern drive 15ft., making a total of 225ft. The walls are greatly thrown open, with a mass of small spurs from 2in. to 4in. wide, and they all carry a little gold. I will start on Monday to make preparations to commence sinking to a further depth.

#### BACK CREEK.

**Try Again.**—The mining manager, under date 2nd inst., reports:—The drive in the south shaft has been extended 14ft. for the week, making a total of 35ft. There is no change in the ground: the



for the week, making a total of 35ft. There is no change in the ground; the water is increasing. In the north shaft we have slabbled and logged up the brace, and sunk 5ft. for the week, making a total depth from the brace of 31ft. The ground is slate and sandstone, full of small leaders. We shall have sunk deep enough by the middle of next week.

*Deep Lead.*—The mining manager reports on 2nd inst.:—The sinking during the week has been hard basalt rock, with soft seams in it, which renders it very difficult to work, but the rock is much softer in the well hole, and shows a good deal of pyrites, which is a sign of being near drift or wash. The water has increased from 200 to 600 gallons an hour, but the engine works well, and with a 30-gallon bucket keeps the water under with ease.

#### BRACONSFIELD.

*Rising Sun.*—The mining manager, under date 4th inst., reports:—The winze is down 9ft. The lode is widening and the copper making stronger. In making room for the winze I found some of the best specimens of copper, as much as 18in. in the footwall, which makes me think that the lode will widen rapidly as we go down.

*Florence Nightingale.*—The mining manager writes on the 4th instant:—I am making all the progress I can with the connections and the overhaul of machinery, and if I get the feed pump down to-morrow, I expect to have steam up again to-morrow night or Wednesday morning. The water stands at 80ft. from surface.

*Tasmania.*—The mining manager writes on the 4th instant:—I am doing some little repairs to the engine, cleaning out boiler and flues at the Golden Gate, and I hope to be well on the reef at the lower tunnel to-morrow. We are pushing ahead with the line for the new tramway.

*Lefroy.*—The mining manager writes on the 2nd instant:—The shaft is down 125ft. In consequence of the ground being of a swelling nature I am putting in frames and laths. The winding engine is got out of the battery house, and will be on the claim on Tuesday (this day).

#### SALISBURY (BLUE TIER.)

*Who Can Tell.*—The mining manager reports on 2nd inst.:—The contractors have sunk about 12ft. for the week, and have a little water, which comes from the surface, to contend with. The slate contains no water at present, but it bears a good appearance for stone, which will undoubtedly be cut in sinking the shaft.

#### DENISON.

*Royal Treasury.*—The mining manager, under date 2nd July, reports:—I am happy to inform you that things are pro-

gressing favourably. The contractors are down about 7ft., logged up, and covered in. I expect the sawyers will be able to keep them supplied with timber.

#### GOLCONDA.

*Queensland.*—The mining manager reports the continuation of construction of the tramway.