

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

Tenders are invited for sinking a shaft 110ft. at the Land o' Cakes claim, Lefroy.

A list of shares in the Deskford Co. is published which have been forfeited, and will be sold by auction on Saturday unless the fourth call of 6d is previously paid.

A call of 2s per share has been made in the Pactolus Co., payable on Monday next. This Company is registered under the No Liability Act (44 Vic. No. 18), and the manager directs special attention to a portion of the fourth section of the act, which runs as follows:—"Any share upon which a call shall at the expiration of 14 days after the day appointed for its payment be unpaid shall thereupon be absolutely forfeited, without any resolution of the directors or other proceeding."

The meeting of shareholders in Kerrison's section (Blue Tier) called for the formation of the Company, has been adjourned to next Saturday evening, at the Exchange Hotel, Beaconsfield.

The prospectus appears elsewhere of the Brother Scots Company, which it is proposed to form to work a ten-acre section south-west of and adjoining the Land o' Cakes Co.'s claim at Lefroy. Twenty-five out of 50 promoters' shares, each to carry 200 scrip, are offered to the public at £10 each, the proceeds, less expenses, to go to the credit of the Company.

Mr R. H. Price was advised by telegram last evening that a cleaning up from a crushing of 420 tons stone from the New Chum Co., which took place at the New Native Youth Co.'s battery, Lefroy, yesterday, had yielded the handsome return of 1048oz. amalgam from boxes, and 2395oz. from plates and ripples, making a total of 3443oz. amalgam, which had not been retorted when the telegram was despatched, but the gold will be brought to town to-day and the result known.

A cleaning up from a crushing of the New Native Youth Company was also commenced yesterday, but up to the time of the Telegraph Office closing last evening the manager, Mr R. H. Price, had received no intimation of the result.

We were shown yesterday a nice little button of retorted gold obtained by Mr David Dally from a small quantity of stone crushed by him from the Royal Mint claim. The stone crushed did not show gold to the naked eye. Mr Dally states for the quantity crushed the result is almost equal to any that he has treated from this district.

The newly-appointed mining manager of the Exhibition Company, Golconda, writing to Mr A. Reid under date of

of the Exhibition Company, Golconda, writing to Mr A. Reid under date of Saturday, reports his arrival on the claim, and says he would start work and take charge of everything connected with the claim yesterday.

Mining managers report as under:—
LEFROY.

Chance.—August 1.—The cross-cut north has been extended 13ft., its total length being now 126ft. More water is making, and the reef cannot be far off. The western drive is in 12ft., its total length being 55ft. The stone is still very much broken up, and water is making out of the hanging wall. I expect to cut stone every day in the north cross-cut.

New Chum.—July 30.—The mine continues to look well. The following work has been done for the week. The western level has been extended 16ft., and the reef is 2ft 6in wide. The eastern level has been extended 13ft., and the reef is 2ft wide. The shaft is down from the plat 61ft.

West New Chum.—August 1.—In the No. 3 level the western drive is in 70ft. from the cross-cut, making 18ft. driven for the week. The reef is 3ft. wide, carrying gold. The eastern drive is in 77ft. from the cross-cut, making 10ft. driven for the week. The reef is broken, and the ground hard. The reef in the stopes between Nos. 2 and 3 levels is 2ft. wide, carrying gold. In No. 2 level the west drive is in 182ft. from the cross-cut, making 6ft. driven for the week. The reef is small, and the ground hard. I have started a winze in this drive west of the cross-cut to communicate with No. 3. In No. 1 level the west drive is in 308ft. from the cross-cut. The reef is broken.

I am putting up a rise in the back of this level to prove the ground west of any stopes already worked. The pumping machinery is being pushed on with, and will soon be in working order.

Land o' Cakes.—July 30.—I have started two men to clear site for main shaft, and although the timber is very heavy, will have it ready by the time the contract is let and a road in for the timber from the mill. Respecting a site for battery and engine, all the ground required is held within the Company's two sections, and is well adapted for the same, both as regards water supply and storage. I crushed some stone from the east face, and although the reef is broken at the end, the prospect is quite as good as at the other end. The total distance driven is 39ft. 6in.

New Monkland.—July 30.—Since I started the men to work I have finished the hut, and partly timbered up the shaft. There has been a delay in getting timber carted, and I shall have to take

timber carted, and I shall have to take my own team to cart the remaining timber required. I expect to open out about the middle of next week.

East Golden Era.—August 1—I have sunk and timbered the shaft 12ft. for the week, making the present depth 162ft. The country has changed to slate, and the sinking is much better. The water is light—about 200 gallons per hour. By permission of the mining manager of the Golden Era Company, I visited their workings, and took bearings of the reef, as a guide to my future operations. The reef in the Golden Era has been driven on 60ft., the present bearing being E.N.E. from the shaft, and by continuing the same bearings on the surface I find the reef will go under the outer edge of the East Golden Era whim ring. This will give about 50ft. to drive before cross-cutting the reef, which I consider a great advantage, as through the shaft being some distance from the reef I will be less likely to be troubled with a heavy influx of water.

West Queen's Birthday.—July 30—Since my last report I have driven a cross cut south 32ft., and passed through several well-defined spurs, but the last 5ft. have shown a great change for the better, and there is every indication of the reef being not far away.

New Native Youth.—August 1—The western drive is in 60ft. through the bar. There is a small "dig" coming in on the footwall, which will make it easier to work. The Excelsior shaft has been sunk 11ft. for the week. It is now down 63ft. from the plat. The eastern stopes continue about the same. The upper workings are looking rather better.

Windermere.—July 30—The contractors have sunk a further depth of 12ft., making since commencement 57ft. In the beginning of last week they had a change of country, a nice blue slate. Since then it has again changed to sandstone, and a little water is making.

West Chum Extended.—August 1—There is nothing fresh to report regarding the level. I have struck a fresh make of stone in No. 4 stope a foot wide, carrying gold. The water is increasing from this stone.

Great Extended West Chum.—August 1—I have completed sinking the well, and will start at cutting out the chamber this week.

South-West Chum.—July 30—The north drive has been extended 42ft for the fortnight, making a total distance of 96ft. north from the shaft. The south drive, now in 108ft., will be continued immediately.

Queen's Birthday.—July 30—I have driven the cross cut 15ft. since last report, making a total of 128ft. from the shaft. I have passed through a well-

port, making a total of 128ft. from the shaft. I have passed through a well-defined spur. For the last 10ft. have had a strong bar of country, and hope soon to have a change for the better.

BACK CREEK.

Holdfast.—July 30—I have opened out and commenced cross-cutting to the north, and have driven 29ft. from the shaft in good driving ground, sandstone and slate mixed. I have cut a leader today, but cannot find any gold in it.

Try Again.—July 30—The south shaft has been stopped for the present. The influx of water is very great, and all the operations are confined to the north shaft. The north cross-cut has been driven since last report 7ft., making the total distance from the shaft 30ft. The eastern drive on the reef has been extended 10ft. for the week, the total distance being 16ft. from the cross-cut. The width of the reef in the face is 18in., and there is no gold showing in it as yet. The western drive has been extended 3ft., the total distance from cross-cut being 7ft. The stone is improving in size. I have commenced a cross-cut to the south from the shaft, and it is now in 6ft.

East Try Again.—July 30—I have driven 6ft. for the week across the reef. There is no sign of the footwall as yet. The stone is improving as I drive ahead.

All Nations.—July 30—The contractor is getting on well with the whim, but some detention has been caused through the loss of a man. I will be ready to sink in about a fortnight. Stables are in course of erection.

Just in Time.—July 30—During the week I have been sinking No. 2 shaft, and am down 19ft. I will commence driving on Monday. The sinking has been rather hard, although good headway has been made. The formation is much the same, viz., slate and sandstone.

BRACONSFIELD.

Blyth's Freehold.—July 30.—I have driven 20ft. since I opened out. The ground for the first 14ft. was very hard, but we are in a nice slaty country at present, with small veins of mundic, which are running east and west and underlaying south. I hope to be able to give a better account soon.

Ilfracombe.—August 1.—The shaft has been sunk about 8ft. for the week, making 49ft. 6in., slabbed up to 12ft. The sinking is about the same.

Lefroy.—August 1.—The contractors for the shaft have about 20ft. more to sink to complete it. They have put the frames in and timbered 63ft.; it will be a first-class and durable shaft.

Florence Nightingale.—Aug. 1.—I expect to be ready for sinking the early part of next week. The stopes are finished. I have still a few tons to clean down and

next week. The stops are finished. I have still a few tons to clean down and raise to the surface, and will have something over 60 tons to crush.

GLADSTONE.

Royal Tasman.—July 30—The boiler is built in with bricks, engine and boiler all connected, battery and hoppers finished, tailings and water-pumps advanced, but waiting for balance of pipes (these will be forwarded by next trip of the Avon). The tailings shutes are ready to go up. No. 2 tunnel driven 10ft. for No. 1 reef. Shaft on No. 2 reef sunk and timbered 5ft. for the week (two men), total from surface 63ft; reef just on edge of shaft. Shall cross-cut through it next week, and then start a tunnel. The pay-sheet will be much less next time, as some of the surface men and carpenters will be done to-night.

North Tasman.—July 29—I have extended the tunnel 13ft. for the week, total distance 486ft. I am most happy to inform the directors that after long perseverance I have come on a large body of quartz, which in my opinion is the reef. I have driven 3ft., and am not yet through

it. It is much broken up, but I am of the opinion that the main border of the reef will be on the footwall; and it corresponds with the line of reef cut in No. 1 shaft, and is underlaying to the west, and in the same formation as No. 1 shaft. I have crushed some of the stone, but I have not obtained any prospect yet, but I do not expect it to bear gold, as it is much broken up, until I get the reef more solid. When I drive through it I do not intend to keep going ahead, as I intend to put three shifts on in No. 2 shaft, and get it down as soon as possible, as the smoke is affecting the men at present. The depth of No. 2 shaft is 42ft. from brace; the sinking is very favourable. I hope to send full particulars by next mail.

Lady Tasman.—July 29—I have extended the drive to the west 15ft. for the week, making a total of 27ft. from the shaft. I start to drive to the east to-day. I expect to drive about 50ft. or 60ft. to the line of the Mint reef, and if the country still keeps the same, we shall do it in a month. I have every reason to believe that we shall get the Mint reef.

North Extended Tasman.—July 29—Since last report the west cross-cut has been extended 12ft. for the week, making the total distance 30ft. The ground is making better, being slaty, with several leaders.

West Tasman.—July 30—In looking over the claim I find that there are two shafts sunk on it; one, called the old shaft, is down 51ft. from the brace, and driven

down 51ft. from the brace, and driven east and west 116ft., including chamber, without having cut anything of importance. The shaft has been sunk of too small a size, and if it becomes necessary to sink it to a greater depth it will have to be cut down. The new shaft, which has been sunk 31ft., is in my opinion too far away from the gold got on the Mint claim. There are three chains of trenching cut from east to west, about the centre of the claim, which I consider a legitimate piece of work. To-day a good strong leader was bared. It is underlaying to the west, and likely-looking stone. I will open out on this a little, and see if it is worth while sinking on. On the line of the new discovery of the Mint there has been another trench cut about a chain in length, but no sign of anything as yet. I will continue prospecting on this line, as the lode seems to be a strong one, and in all probability it will carry into the West Tasman claim. I will continue prospecting until I satisfy myself that the Royal Mint lode does not crop out on the surface, and I will be able in a few days to see what position in the Company's claim will be the most advantageous to sink for the lode.

Royal Mint.—July 29—The tunnel has been extended 21ft for the week, making a total distance of 203ft. I have withdrawn the men from the tunnel for a few days to put down a permanent way, so as to utilise the dirt coming from the remaining portion of tunnel, some 18ft, to ballast the tramway. The winze has been timbered down and sunk 2ft, making the total depth 55ft. The reef is continuing the same. The contractor for the erection of the battery is progressing rapidly with his work, having got the boxes bolted down, cam shaft and shanks in position, hopper, etc., finished, and he is at present laying down the tables. Connor expects to have the boiler on the claim in a few days. He has got his bogie finished, and will load up on Monday (yesterday).

Royal Standard.—July 29—The cross-cut from the 50ft level (No. 1 shaft) has been continued with two men, and the total distance from the hanging wall is now 12ft. The stone has a good appearance, and is well charged with minerals. No. 2 shaft has been sunk and timbered 10ft during the week in hard sandstone. Its total distance from the surface is 48ft.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—July 30—I have extended the east drive 40ft, but have struck no stone. By the surface indications I consider that the reef is to the westward of the shaft, and I will start a drive that way on Monday.

No. 1 South Royal Standard.—July 30—The cross-cut has been further extended 5ft, through hard quartz, making the total distance of the cross-cut 26ft.

run out, through hard quartz, making the total distance of the cross-cut 26ft, and 9ft into the reef. The reef is very solid.

Fly-by-Night—July 30.—The country has slightly changed for the better. I am now making fair progress, and have driven the eastern cross-cut 13ft. for the week, total 77ft. I have crossed several quartz leaders, from which the water is making freely.

GOLCONDA.

Mount Wilson.—July 30—I have suspended work in the tunnel, and started sinking No. 1 shaft. Two men have sunk 8ft in five days.

Queensland.—July 30—I have made the connection between the battery and the quartz paddock, and will start the battery this afternoon. Should all go well with the machinery, I will put on a night shift on Monday. I am now making a hopper for quartz, to hold about 15 tons.

GOLCONDA AND DENISON.

(From a Correspondent.)

While making a tour of the mines in the north-eastern districts I had a look at Golconda, and was pleased to see they are beginning to shape to work again in earnest. The Queensland will be in full swing again next week, also the Exhibition and Mount Wilson. It seems a pity after so much money has been expended to see the mining shut up until it had a fair trial, as from all I could gather there are one or two companies that would pay small dividends if managed on an economical principle, and so long as they do that, or even clear expense, there is no knowing a day but what something good may turn up.

Four miles from here I came to the old Denison. I found the Royal Treasury Company sinking a good substantial main shaft, and erecting necessary buildings. They have a good show here, but the water is hindering the contractors a good deal.

About three-quarters of a mile from here is the new reef lately discovered by Messrs Edwards and Ponting, of Scottsdale. By the prospectus I see it is called the Nil Desperandum. Here a good deal of prospecting has been done. A shaft has been sunk twenty or thirty feet, showing a nice defined reef. Cross-cuts have also been cut east and west of the shaft, showing the reef about 2ft 6in wide, and showing splendid gold in the solid stone. I broke a few pieces from the reef east of the cross-cut, and got two fine specimens, and from a piece crushed where no gold was visible, obtained a splendid show of rough gold. How this Company hangs fire so I cannot imagine, with as genuine a show as they have. I suppose it is because the place has a bad name, but if speculators only go and look for themselves, I think they will agree with me that the Denison will yet come to the front, as a reefing district. It is as nice a looking reefing district as you could wish for, and very little genuine prospecting has been done on any of them.