

GOLD.

All the shares in the West Native Youth Company having been applied for, a meeting will be held in the Stock Exchange on Thursday afternoon, to form the Company, elect directors, etc.

Mr D. F. Scott, Government store-keeper at the Pieman, arrived at Launceston on Saturday, per s.s. Devon, and left for Hobart by express train. The object of Mr Scott's return is to obtain an increased supply of stores, for though, with the present population on the gold-field, he has a sufficient stock to last for the next two months, a considerable influx of miners is expected from the neighbouring colonies during the summer, and he desires to be in a position to meet the requirements of the new comers. From this it will be seen that the prospects of the goldfield are considered to be very good, and the coming summer will no doubt see the place well tested.

The first meeting of shareholders of the Great North Tasmania Company was held at Scott's Hotel, Melbourne, on the 17th inst. About thirty shareholders, representing 20,000 shares, were present. The following gentlemen were elected directors:—Messrs. A. Stackpoole, D. E. M'Dougall, E. B. Firebrace, John Spence (Spence Bros.), and Law Oldfield (Oldfield and Lindley). Mr Robt. Scott, of 34 Collins-street west, was appointed legal manager. It will be remembered that we referred recently to the formation of this Company for the purpose of testing the deep ground at Beaconsfield, running through the Ophir Estate. Circumstances are now much more favourable for proving the value of the deep lead than they were some time since, as the ground has been drained to such an extent by the pumping at the Florence Nightingale claim, that the Ophir shaft, at which the water was flowing over at the surface about nine months ago, is now dry down to the depth of 120ft. We understand that the Company will commence operations almost immediately.

We are requested to state that owing to the large number of shares applied for in the Dundee Company, the whole numbers applied for cannot be allotted to all shareholders. Allotment notices will be issued to-day, and the first meeting of the shareholders will be held in Hobart on Thursday next.

The second half-yearly meeting of the Chance Company will be held at the office of the manager, Mr T. H. Urquhart, this evening.

A meeting of shareholders in Dean's lease, Salisbury, will be held at Beaconsfield on Friday next, for the formation of a Company.

The manager of the East Try Again Company notifies that unless the first

call of one penny per share is paid on or before Monday next, the shares upon which it remains unpaid will be liable to forfeiture.

Mining managers and others report as under:—

LEFROY.

West New Chum.—Aug. 20—The scraping from the ripples and plates for the week ended to-day, gives 225ozs of amalgam. The quantity of stone crushed was 160 tons.

New Chum.—Aug. 20—The quantity of stone crushed for the week was 90 tons, and the scraping of the ripples and plates gave 226ozs of amalgam.

GLADSTONE.

Deskford.—Aug. 17—I have driven 11ft for the week, the total distance driven being 22ft. On Friday there was a change in the appearance of the country driven through, and some quartz came into the face. Since then the drive passed through a large slide, and cut all the quartz out. The ground then became very much disordered, and at present is very hard.

(From our own Correspondent.)

There is a suppressed feeling of excitement in mining circles here as to what will be the result of the first crushing of the Royal Tasman, and as the time draws near when all the various expectations are about to be realized, opinions are freely expressed, and various wagers are being laid as to what will be the return per ton. There is a wide margin allowed, as some put their faith in 20oz, and others as low as 2oz to the ton. I think that something like 5oz will be about it. It is stone that is utterly impossible to form an opinion of, from its appearance or from the show of gold in it, so all that an opinion can be expressed on is small

orter crushings, and they, as a rule, are not very reliable. I understand from Mr Anderson that on Wednesday, the 24th, he will be able to make a proper start to crush.

The Royal Mint have succeeded in getting their boiler landed at their machinery site after a very arduous struggle through the mud. It took a week for 21 horses and six men to drag it a distance of eight miles, so an opinion of the state of the road can be formed by that. The Mint have connected their tunnel with the shaft, and are opening out both ways on the lode. It is their intention to cut a water-race from Deep Creek, a distance of four miles, for the use of the battery.

It is necessary for the prosperity of mining on Mount Cameron that an extensive water scheme should be projected. There is no doubt that in the summer the present water supply will not be even enough for the tables and boilers of the batteries now erected. There is a splendid field for a large water-race, as the machinery could be driven by water power, and the quantity of tin sluicing ground is almost unlimited.

I notice that the North Mint (Ward, Burke, and Co.) have made a start on their section of 20 acres. I expect to hear a good account of this ground in a short time, as it only requires

20 acres. I expect to hear a good account of this ground in a short time, as it only requires opening out to make it a valuable property.

The Progress have succeeded in cutting a nice looking leader in their drive, carrying fair gold; it is about 19 inches thick, and is strong and well defined, and will in all probability live in the country it is in.

I hear that the South Standard have cut some payable gold in their shaft on the Standard line. They are sinking on the No. 2 Tasman line for the same run of stone that has been cut in the Golden Age.

There has been a considerable amount of excitement in tin matters, owing to a party of jumpers having marked off the ground lately taken up by the Tamar Tin Company, and Beveridge, Hoorke, and Co. It seems that this ground has been taken up as quartz area, it being within the proclaimed gold district. The law does not allow ground to be taken up within the gold district in any other manner than quartz area. The jumpers contend that no one can work tin on a quartz area. It certainly seems a queer mudile and a matter of great regret that there should be any doubt of a question of this sort. The fundamental principle in mining law should be fixity of tenure, and the authorities that be can never expect capital to be invested in mining ventures without such being the case. A small alteration in the law would do away with all questions of this sort, viz, to entitle holders of claims to everything inside of their four corner pegs.

The Tamar Company and Beveridge and Co. have secured a valuable piece of country. There seems to be a large extent of it, and is undoubtedly rich in tin, and has every facility for carrying on sluicing operations on a large scale. I would advise these parties to amalgamate and bring water on their claims, as it would be ridiculous for two races to come on to the same ground when one would do. The parties have a great future before them if they go properly to work and open the ground on a comprehensive scale.