

MINING NEWS.

GOLD.

The directors of the Tasmania Company have, we learn, accepted the tender of Mr I. E. E. Salisbury for the manufacture of a twelve inch draw lift with working barrel all complete, and with 200ft of lifts, for the Golden Gate claim, to be completed in one month.

The general meeting of the shareholders in the Chance Gold Mining Company, announced to take place last evening, lapsed for want of a quorum.

Mr Peter M'Intyre, who returned from Melbourne last week, has succeeded in privately floating the Camden River Company, to work 200 acres of the estate recently owned by Mr Jas. Scott at the junction of the Camden and St. Patrick's Rivers, Mount Barrow. As we previously intimated, this estate, consisting of 800 acres, has been purchased by the Camden River Prospecting Association, and divided into four equal portions, companies to be floated to work each. The one in which Mr M'Intyre has recently interested himself has been floated in twelfth shares, and twice as many shares were applied for than were available. It is intended to divide these twelfth shares into 30,000 shares of £1 each, and Mr M'Intyre returns to Melbourne to-day to complete the transaction.

On Sunday evening a small quantity of quartz showing gold was brought into town from Panama Creek, a locality that has been prospected for some considerable time past. The samples were from Messrs. Ryan and Gibson's lease, and at a meeting of promoters held at Mr M'Meckan's office yesterday morning, one of the prospectors stated that they had driven along the reef for about 14ft, getting some very good stone, showing gold freely. The reef is about 2ft to 2ft 6in wide, and of good quality. A description of the property and workings was given, the locality of the find being in the gorge between Mount Brewer and Mount Wilson. It was decided to form a company to work the ground, the Company to be called the Long Tunnelling Company, and the capital being £20,000, in one pound shares, paid up to 10s. The rules of the Mount Cameron Company were adopted with the necessary alterations. It was decided that Mr J. M'Meckan should be manager of the Company, and Messrs W. Hart, R. M'Kenzie, J. R. Chaffey, L. Johnson, P. Barrett, D. Room, and J. M'Kenzie, directors. Messrs D. Cocker and N. Weetman were appointed auditors, and it was decided that the Bank of Tasmania should be the bankers of the Company. Several people went out to inspect the locality yesterday. The stone referred to

Several people went out to inspect the locality yesterday. The stone referred to above is on view at Mr M'Meckan's office, St. John-street.

The Commission, consisting of his Honour John Whiteford, Esq. (Chairman), Bernard Shaw, Esq., Commissioner of Goldfields, and H. T. A. Murray, Esq., Police Magistrate, appointed some months ago to decide upon the claims to the reward of £3000 offered under the Act 26 Vict., No. 6, for the discovery of a payable goldfield in Tasmania, have at length concluded preliminaries, and decided that Lefroy (or Nine-Mile Springs) is the first payable goldfield within the meaning of the act discovered in the colony. They will now hold their first public sitting at the Court House on 23rd September, to decide the claims of any applicants who may appear to prove their case, either personally or by counsel, and intending claimants are requested to furnish particulars of their claims to the Chairman as early as possible.

The prospectus is issued of the Nelson Company, which it is proposed to form to work a section at Gladstone, west of and adjoining the Royal Standard, South Standard, and Golden Age claims, and also bounded by the Grand Standard claims. A reef 3ft wide has been found upon the claim, and 60 out of 89 promoters' shares are offered to the public at £12 10s each, £600 of the proceeds being placed to the credit of the Company. Mr F. C. H. Dean is the agent for the proprietors.

Notice is given that all shares in Blyth's Freehold Company upon which the second call of sixpence is not paid by 5th September, will be liable to forfeiture.

The first half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Little Gem Company will be held at the office of Mr T. G. Williams, Beaconsfield, on 31st inst.

One-tenth of Cassidy's lease, Blue Tier, is offered to the public in ten shares at £6 each, the entire proceeds, less agents' commission, will be devoted to developing the mine, and if further prospecting is considered necessary, another tenth will be offered. A reef 2ft 6in wide has been found on the claim, which has been proved to be gold-bearing. The agents are Mr C. V. Kemp, Launceston, and Mr G. F. Williams, Beaconsfield.

Mining managers report as under :—
GLADSTONE.

Royal Tasman.—Aug. 19—Heavy rains stopped all outdoor work, and delayed preparations, but will be ready for crushing before end of next (this) week.

North Tasman.—Aug. 19—I have sunk the No. 2 shaft 9ft for the week, the total depth being 73ft, and timbered. The sinking is much softer. I have got 70ft of ladders ready to put in when required. When I break through to the tunnel level I

When I break through to the tunnel level I will have the mine well opened up, for I can stope north and south on the reef, and the mine will be well ventilated. I will be able to test that portion of the reef where the Royal Tasman No. 1 shaft is sunk on the boundary to a depth of 40 ft, as the tunnel level will be about 120 ft from the surface. From the quality and richness of the large reef in the Royal Tasman, and the same reef cut in No. 1 shaft in the North Tasman, I think the Company will have a good mine. I am driving north as yet, as there is a large quantity of water coming out of the reef, which will drain the south end. The reef is much more defined, and solid stone is making in the face. It is not so much broken at present. I am of opinion it will prove to be a large and well-defined reef when driven on.

Lady Tasman.—Aug. 19—Extended the drive 10 feet for the week, making total of 36 feet. The country is a little harder, and more

water making in the face, showing that we are drawing near some stone. The stone referred to in previous reports is a nice looking, and about two feet thick, and I intend to put a man on and open out on Monday. The Royal Mint are sinking a shaft much nearer to us, and getting some splendid golden stone. The reef where the Mint are now sinking is about 400 feet from the Lady Tasman claim in undisturbed country, and there is nothing to prevent us cutting it, but we may have to drive 10 or 20 feet further than I thought. It is a well defined reef, about two feet in thickness.

West Tasman.—Aug. 19—I have sunk the shaft 6 ft for the week, and secured it all through. The total depth from the brace is 45 ft. I am now engaged putting in a ladder way. The country is considerably harder, and requires shooting. It is also making a little more water. I intend to put on three shifts next week. I am still trenching on the northern end, but have cut nothing as yet.

Royal Standard.—Aug. 18—During the week I have continued driving north on the stone beyond the No. 2 cross-cut, with similar results to last report. The No. 2 shaft has been sunk and timbered 6 ft, making the total distance from the surface 73 ft; the ground is hard and water increasing.

No. 1 North Royal Standard.—Aug. 20.—I think the lay of the country has thrown the reef more to the east, thus giving it more underlay. I have driven 13 ft for the week.

No. 1 South Royal Standard.—Aug. 20.

No. 1 South Royal Standard.—Aug. 20. During the week the cross-cut has been further extended 3 ft into the reef, making the total distance from the shaft 37 ft, and 20 ft into the reef. No. 2 shaft has been sunk 10 ft, and securely timbered. The sinking has been through sandstone mixed with quartz veins. The total depth is 20 ft.

Golden Age.—Aug. 20—Still sinking on the line of No. 2 reef. The shaft is down 41 ft.

Progress.—Aug. 19—I have extended the drive 10 ft. for the week, and passed through a nice leader underlaying to the west, which I think will join the reef at a lower level. It is carrying a little gold. The drive is timbered up to the face.

Fly-by-Night.—Aug. 20—I have driven the cross-cut for the past week 10 ft. The total distance from the shaft is 107 ft. The water is very strong.

Royal Mint.—Aug. 20—For the past fortnight we have been engaged amongst other work in making a chamber at the bottom of the winze, 6 ft 6 in high and 8 ft 6 in in width. We have one more set to put in to complete to the back of the winze. The reef one foot from the south end of the winze has taken a sharp turn to the south, and seems rather smaller at this part, although not having broken it down I cannot say positively what thickness it is yet. The stone does not seem so good here as higher up in the winze. On Wednesday last I started two men to sink on the reef 245 ft south of the present winze. The size of the reef is 2 ft 6 in good solid stone and carrying a first-rate footwall down with it. From the surface down to 10 ft, as far as I have sunk, the stone prospects first-rate, equal to any I have seen on the claim. The course is N. 50 deg. W. by S. 50 deg. E., underlay S. W. I have tried this stone every foot sunk, and the prospects are much the same all through. The permanent tramway has been laid down and ballasted 1155 ft. We have still 265 ft to do, part of which will be carried on horses. The contractor, Mr Hicks, is getting on splendidly with his work, having got the crank shaft, fly-wheel, spur and driving wheels, cam shaft, and cams, all in position, the engine room floor laid down, the tables (both copper and blanket tables) all made and laid down, and at present is busy with the covers in front of the boxes. The windows are in, spouting, ridging, facing boards, etc., etc., all on, and he will commence on Monday building in the boiler. The bricklayers came by last boat. During the incoming week I will see about bringing the water in for battery.

South Mint.—Aug. 20—The drive has been extended 16 ft 6 in for the fortnight. The ground still continues hard and the water increasing. The Royal Mint Company have commenced a shaft on the reef

water increasing. The Royal Mint Company have commenced a shaft on the reef within 150ft of our boundary, in which the reef is of good solid stone, and prospecting splendidly. This ought to enhance the value of our claim. Further south and east the Lady Tasman has got the cap of a reef, and as they underlay south-west, they must come into this Company's claim.

Mount Cameron.—Aug. 20—The shaft has been sunk and timbered 35ft for the fortnight, making the total distance from the surface 85ft. The country is pretty hard and intermixed with quartz veins. The water is rather heavier, being about 80 gallons per hour.

MUSSEL ROE.

Blue Bell.—Aug. 19—We are making good progress with the machinery. We got up steam to-day, and the engine worked very well. To-morrow I will get all the pumps fixed, and I hope to get everything ready to make a start in the shaft on Monday. A house has been erected over the engine and pumping gear.

BEACONSFIELD.

Florence Nightingale.—Aug. 22—The cistern and well being cleaned out, and all the water we could collect from the levels being conveyed into the cistern, we began sinking on Thursday last, and have since sunk 3ft, the present depth being 16ft below the level. The ground has commenced to get firmer, which is a favourable change for making good progress. The water is also light (below the level). In the absence of any difficulties, such as breakages or an increase of water, we shall not be long in getting deep enough for opening out.

Star of Beaconsfield.—Aug. 22—I have started sinking, and am down 6ft, and logged up.

Blyth's Freehold.—Aug. 20—The drive has been extended 11ft for the week, making a total distance of 58ft. I am not yet through the hard bar.

Leviathan.—Aug. 20—The tunnel has been extended a further distance of 41ft 6 in for the week, making 139ft from the opening. The country passed through is still slate, but of a considerably lighter nature, though fair working ground. We have passed through several very nice looking east and west leaders, underlaying south or into the hill. Those out in the first 100ft were underlaying with the contour of the country. Some of the leaders for the past few days are from two to four inches wide, and are becoming more numerous as we get into the hill. We are getting into more quartz country.

Ilfracombe.—Aug. 22.—I have sunk 6ft for the week, making a total of 67ft 6 in, and I will open out on Monday (to-day). The country is still hard.

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LEFROY.

New Chum.—Aug. 22—For the week I have extended the western level 12ft; the reef is a little smaller than usual. There is a lot of water coming out of the face. I expect there is a large body of quartz ahead. The eastern level is driven 11ft, the reef is 18in wide, and the stone is showing good gold.

West New Chum.—Aug. 22—In No. 3 level the east drive is in 100ft from the cross-cut, making 14ft driven for the week. There is a great change for the

better. The reef is making, and is now 12in wide. The west drive is in 110ft, making the distance driven for the week 16ft; this end is also improving, and the reef is now quite 2ft wide. The stopes in the back of No. 3 level are also looking very well. The backs in No. 2 level are still turning out fair crushing stone.

Great Extended West Chum.—Aug. 22—I have driven 12ft for the week, and the total distance from the shaft is 32ft. I have got a change of country. The face is full of quartz leaders, and water is making freely.

United Chums.—Aug. 22—The contractors are down with the main shaft 175ft. They expect to finish their present contract in a fortnight.

Golden Era.—Aug. 22—Stoped No. 1 60ft. The reef is averaging 14in wide; the rise is up 14ft, and the stone is showing gold. I have delivered to the battery 28 tons of quartz, and have 30 tons still in paddock.

East Golden Era.—Aug. 22—Since last report I have sunk and timbered the shaft 14ft, making the total depth from the surface 201ft. The ground is composed of alternate layers of sandstone and slate. I look upon sandstone as being a favourable sign at this depth, as all the best gold in this locality has been found in the vicinity of sandstone. The sinking is good, and the water light, considering the depth.

Queen's Birthday.—Aug. 20—I have driven the cross-cut north 15ft, the total from the shaft being 171ft. I have had a great improvement for the last 5ft. I have a strong fluking, which forms the main back of a lode, intermixed with small spurs, and has every appearance of forming a body of stone on the footwall side, as the leaders, which are making from the south wall, are improving in size.

West Queen's Birthday.—Aug. 20—Since my last report I have driven the cross-cut south 15ft, making a total of 27ft from the shaft. I have not found any improvement in driving, so on Friday last I started

ment in driving, so on Friday last I started to sink the shaft, and have sunk a further depth of 6ft, which makes a total from the surface of 22ft. It is my intention, as the lode is only 6ft from the shaft, to sink it another 15ft, to prove the size and quality, as it is going down.

Land o' Cakes.—Aug. 22—The contractors have started to sink the main shaft, and have sunk 9ft and timbered, and puddled 6ft.

Waverly.—Aug. 22—We are making very favourable progress. The shaft is now down 28ft, and timbered 23ft. It passes through fine looking country, full of quartz leaders. I think we shall be able to go down a good depth before finding water.

Rob Roy.—Aug. 22—I have sunk and timbered 11ft for the week, the present depth of shaft being 54ft. The ground in the early part of the week was hard, but has again come in soft. I shall start two shifts on Monday, so as to push the work on, and by Thursday or Friday shall open out and drive for the reef, which in my opinion will not take long to cut.

Chance.—Aug. 20—The south cross-cut has been extended 2ft for the fortnight, and the total distance from the shaft is 112ft. The ground is getting harder in this drive, requiring powder. The north cross-cut has been extended 25ft for the fortnight, its total length being 199ft from the shaft. I have no change to report. Another fortnight will bring us to the southern boundary of the mine.

Pinafore.—Our Hobart correspondent telegraphs on 22nd :—Mr E. H. Crawford has received the following telegram from Mr J. L. Kitto—"There are two nice walls in the eastern drive, 2ft 6in wide, and the water in the cross-cut is coming in very strongly."

Caledonian.—Aug. 22—During the week the western drive has been extended 9ft 6in, making the total from the cross-cut 125ft. The lode is very much improved, and is making more quartz for the last day or two, and some good-looking leaders are dropping into it. I am in hopes of there being a great improvement in this drive soon. The eastern drive has been extended 8ft, making the total distance from cross-cut 32ft 6in. The ground is very much changed from last report. It is getting harder and making more quartz, and judging from the water coming out of the drive we might reasonably expect more quartz ahead. The contractor is pushing on with whim.

BACK CREEK.

Holdfast.—Aug. 20—The north cross-cut has been extended 20ft for the week, the total distance from the shaft being 80ft. There is no change in the country since last report. I intend to open out

80ft. There is no change in the country since last report. I intend to open out in the south side of the shaft next week.

Just in Time.—Aug. 19—I have driven 16ft for the week, north from No. 2 shaft, and am within a few feet of being through to the drive from No. 1 shaft. There is no change in the country as yet. Next week I will start south, when I expect a change.

Try Again.—Aug. 20—I have been compelled to stop Adams's shaft on account of the hardness of the ground and the great influx of water. I am going to sink a shaft on the south side of Burckett's section, on the crown of the hill. At the north shaft the east drive has been extended 5ft, the total distance from the cross-cut being 38ft. The size of the stone is 18in. The west drive has been extended 3ft for the week, the total distance from the cross-cut being 23ft. There is no improvement in the reef. The south cross-cut has been extended 10ft, the total distance from the shaft being 34ft. I have cut a large leader 10in wide, underlaying to the north, but can't find any gold in it. I have a new shaft about 200ft to the east of the north shaft. It is now down 14ft on quartz, from which I have obtained a prospect of fine gold in the rubble.

DENISON.

Royal Treasury.—Aug. 22—The whip has been erected, and the shaft is nearly bailed out. I expect to have the men below to-day.

GOLCONDA.

Queensland.—Aug. 22—During the week of 80 hours I have crushed thirty tons of stone. The scraping from the ripples and plates for that quantity gave 90 ounces amalgam. I was delayed by a slight accident, the bed of logs of stamper bed having given way, and I had to stop to re-pack and bolt them. I will keep the battery going full time next week.