

BOOLBOONDA GOLD FIELD

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SPLENDID RETURNS OBTAINED.

(From our own Correspondent.)

No doubt the above heading may read strange to some of your readers, so perhaps an explanation would be in order. For the last few years, I have written from time to time under the heading of New Moonta, for the reason that my information, conveyed to the "Mail," was chiefly of that place and oftentimes completely.

Last week I gave an account of progress at the newly-acquired Mount Madeline properties, which appeared under the heading of New Moonta. For this transgression I have been subjected to some severe adverse criticism, and I admit not without good cause, as Boolboondaites deserve the publicity given to progress of the gold field of their district. As Boolboonda is bidding well to attain its old prominence, the above heading should meet with the approval of the district generally.

After the bright outlook I predicted last week, it is pleasant to record in so short a time a certain measure of fulfilment. At the All Nations mine a party of five men raised a parcel of 82 tons. Six tons of ore were picked from this and sent to Mount Perry for treatment. A

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was given, namely, 3 ozs. of gold, 4.9 copper, and 7 ozs. silver. The remainder (25 tons) were crushed at Mr. McLaughlin's battery, and the concentrates saved by the stampers and Wifley table process amounted to about five tons. This also was despatched to the Mount Perry smelting works, and gave the splendid return of five ounces of gold, besides a moderate amount of copper and silver. Surely this borders on the sensational.

Good crushings are also being obtained at the Caledonia, a parallel lode of the above, and situated about a hundred yards away. The tributors last crushing gave the splendid

WAGE OF 16s. 8d. PER DIEM, and this after deducting £31 as tribute money. Further comment is needless.

The Day Dawn, a neighbour of the above lode, is being worked under the leadership of Mr. A. Tolstoi. The party are on a good body of ore, and will have six tons at grass by Saturday. Opinion tends to the belief that this claim would be highly remunerative to any party possessing a concentrating plant on the ground. Of course this may be said of several others, which under other conditions are not payable.

At the New Moonta mine, tenders were invited this week to work the drives east and west from the main shaft at the No. 4 level. The suc-

shaft at the No. 4 level. The successful tenderers were Messrs. Dunphy and Sivier, who commence work at once.

This particular work to New Moontaites indicates a gang forward policy significant of a turning of the side.

SPORTING ELEMENT.

At Boolboonda, the sporting enthusiasts are already contemplating the establishment of a cricket club. A cricket ground has been secured, close to Mr. Gibson's residence. Work has commenced at the Pansy mine, and the Mt. Madeline by a fair number of men, whose number doubtless will be augmented in the near future. Boolboonda is at present able to put a fairly strong cricket team in the field, so the future of the club is assured.

THE FUTURE.

A great number of the best allotments are taken up on the Boolboonda township. New Moontaites are very strongly represented. They evidently have an appreciable amount of business foresight, and have no intention of being too late for the good things which usually follow the success of a mining township.

RECENT HAILSTORM.

A shower of very large hailstones fell at this place on Wednesday at 5.30 (mine time). Some I measured were nearly half an inch in diameter. Had this continued for any time, great damage must have been done. Fortunately this gave way to a

great damage must have been done. Fortunately, this gave way to a steady downpour of rain. At present the climatic conditions are indicative of a very promising spring. Already the new grass is shooting forth, and a rapid improvement in the condition of cattle may be safely relied on.