mining captain, assay master, reduction officer, accountant storekeeper, blacksmith, and watchmaker. All these men and mules have property not has been presented below the old native workings. No prospecting to prove the claims in depth has been attempted. Large runs of ore have turned up, but the miners were not satisfied that the properties were proved to contain surficial reefs. The London board and office surveyed the properties and found that no one had been paid to the vendors until the claims had been thoroughly prospected. No machinery or costly buildings should have been erected before the claims had been thoroughly prospected to ascertain the surface crops, which reports are unavailable. All other required to develop this Wynaad reef was one mining captain and two or three practical quartz miners to each claim, to prospect the claims in a miner-like manner. If this plan had been followed, it is possible that the ore found would now be in a very much better position regarding their costs. The "Alpha" Mining Company was formed, and the capital was raised to Rs. 50 each. The vendors, being confident of the paying capacities of the new company, refused to sell. The ore was procured from Australia, roads were made and all the necessary buildings erected, which absorbed the greater part of the capital. The Company, being too strong, the sale as the Skull was first operated, on the reef being from 18 to 20 feet thick, consequently poor. The average running on the reef is less than 80 tons per day, whereas a mine on this description required a battery capable of crushing 50 or 100 tons per day.

Owing to the high cost of capital, the "Alpha" was deserted. On the 1st of June, 1877, we took over the claims on tribute for a period of nine months. We expanded a large sawn in repairing machinery, buildings and roads, which occupied three months: and yet the following results were obtained from our crushing (free gold only):

- The number of tons of quartz crushed was 428, which averaged 10 days, 12 gms. per ton. Pieces of quartz containing gold were sold for Rs. 90, containing gold, 3 gms. each for Rs. 90. Total, 428 tons, sold for Rs. 90.

We had to labour under great difficulties, working in a very sickly season, with famine-stricken coconuts, and often drowned out of work, in consequence of an unusually heavy monsoon. Still, with all these drawbacks, we obtained good dividends.

No doubt shareholders will naturally ask the reason why none of the proceeds were paid out, and why the spade and a suit of clothes were to attribute our good results to constant supervision, constantly testing the stone by hand pan, and sensible to the necessity of the battery.

No doubt when the present mine managers sink below the old native workings, they will find stone that will yield handsome dividends. The present and future generations of the world should be an incentive to mine managers to persevere in deep sinking.

Many great captains and others are sceptical regarding the gold and the "Aurora" mining company, saying we are taking them from Australia. We defy anyone to dispute our statement. The London board gave guarantees in England and India who can vouch for the truth of what we have stated.

To prove we have faith in the Wynaad reefs, we will engage to take over any company's or individual's claims on tribute, the reefs being fully developed, and crushing machinery in good working order.

In conclusion, we ask how it is possible the reefs can pay dividends subject to such reckless speculations as no machinery, and crushing from 10 to 20 tons of stone per day only?—We are, etc.,

Yours truly,

Ootacamund,
23rd June, 1888.

MINING ON THE GOLD COAST.

Sir,—I have by no means forgotten the "Miners' World," although the agnostics have kept me long silent. "Three are as good as a fire" in England; here we are cleverer, and reduce the number to two.

My friend and fellow traveller, Cameron, is also giving me trouble. He perfectly sees the better way, yet some kalamkoon is deliberately moving back to the old legend. I take the opportunity of taking a pinch of the rich of the Gold Coast; he finds it far richer than even we had expected, yet he is postponing "hydraulicking," sinking and washing, to the routine absurdities of the "consulting engineer."

The engine has been taken to pieces for cleaning purposes, and has been put together again. Pumping the head gets flooded, but it drains dry immediately. Nevertheless, I am glad of the experience it has over. They have spread a report in England that the engine came to grief at the first stream. I have set up about 200 feet of flumes, and I hope to start the pumps next week. All this work I have had to do myself, and it has been a slow job even at this time of year.

The dam holds up strongly, although a rain has been known for—4.28 to 6.65 inches in a single day. The lower section of the head gets flooded, but it drains dry immediately. Nevertheless, I am glad of the experience it has over. They have spread a report in England that the engine came to grief at the first stream. I have set up about 200 feet of flumes, and I hope to start the pumps next week. All this work I have had to do myself, and it has been a slow job even at this time of year.

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WEST AFRICAN GOLD FIELDS, LIMITED.

Sir,—In reference to my circular letter of the 14th July, which was written to your order, I beg to inform you that seven of the boxes of quartz received from Commander Commando-the forwarded to Messrs. Richardson and Co., shippers of Swans, for analysis.

The following is a copy of a letter received from them this day:

"Believe we give you our thanks for the gold quartz.

The four large boxes.

Gold.

Silver.

No. 1. 100.00 12.00 oz. per ton

No. 2. 100.00 5.00 oz. per ton

No. 3. 100.00 2.00 oz. per ton

No. 4. 100.00 0.50 oz. per ton

The three small boxes.

Gold.

Silver.

No. 1 (largest) 4.00 6.00 oz. per ton

No. 2 (Next size) 97.60 2.00 oz. per ton

No. 3 (Smallest) 36.50 6.00 oz. per ton

Yours truly,

[Signature]