

MEREDITH'S SHAFT.

This Shaft is sunk by 4 men at £42 per fathom. The Lode looks rather poorer than it did last week.

In the 15 fathom level West from this Shaft, the Lode is poor and is worked by 2 men at £17 per fathom.

GLASS'S SHAFT.

This Shaft on the South Lode is suspended in consequence of the poor appearance it presents. The 3 men who were employed in it are now dividing down Ferrier's Shaft.

I went under ground this morning in order to furnish you with the latest intelligence regarding the department—the above observations therefore refer to the Mine at this moment. I must remark that there are rich stopes of Ore at present unworked in the Mine, as one plan is merely to lay open the Mine that it may be worked in the manner most favorable to its interest, and the most likely to arrive at a knowledge of its real condition and future prospects. You will perceive I most studiously have avoided any attempt to square produce and expenditure—an attempt which will generally fail in a pursuit so entirely speculative as Mining, the whole business of which is experiment and trial; and whenever such an attempt is prematurely made, *i. e.* before the value and prospects of a Mine have been thoroughly explored, the effect is like loading a payment with interest by postponement.

The numerous documents accompanying this will speak for themselves as to the state of this Establishment in its different Branches, and require but few comments from me.

With respect to the Location, my predecessors are better able to judge of the improvements made since the Annual Report, than I am. I regret to inform you that the wharf leading to the Stables was some time since partly carried away during a severe gale. Its repairs shall have my earliest consideration.

It affords me much pleasure to state that great sobriety and orderly conduct exists among the men, and that general good health prevails in our little settlement.