

top of which, a large crushing-plant is at present in course of erection. Owing to the manager's absence, and the shaft being inaccessible on account of water, Ulrich was not able to gain much information about the nature of this reef. At the place where it originally cropped out, at the western foot of the hill, close to a small creek, and was found very rich in coarse gold, is a trench-like excavation; but the bottom of it being covered with mullock, the reef could not be seen. According to the nature and direction of this cutting, the strike of the latter seems to be W.  $25^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$  N., and its dip N.  $25^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$  E., at a rather flat angle. The quartz lying near this place is good-looking, being somewhat seamy, and strongly impregnated with iron-pyrites and brown iron-ore. Empty cubical cavities, caused by the decomposition of the pyrites, impart to some fragments quite a cellular texture. The country consists of highly micaceous sandstones, alternating with mica-schist, and is decomposed, and easily brought near the surface, but becomes very hard and tough in depth; strike, N.  $30^{\circ}$  W.; dip, apparently E.  $30^{\circ}$  N. at  $45^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$ .

Beyond the excavation up-hill there is no outcrop of a reef observable at the surface; but at a distance of about 2 chains up the slope lies a vertical shaft in which, according to Williams (the former proprietor of the ground, and original discoverer of the rich outcrop), a strong quartz vein was struck at some depth down; but whether it was found auriferous he could not tell. A large and deep shaft, sunk in front of the machinery shed, lies considerably out of the line of strike and dip of the reef, as indicated by the first-mentioned excavation, and is therefore, perhaps, only intended for a water-shaft. There are, in different parts of the hill near the machinery, shallow holes and trenches in which strong quartz leaders are exposed, differing in strike from the supposed line of the reef. About their character, whether gold-bearing or not, Ulrich could not gain any information. On reviewing the results of his inspection, they are certainly unsatisfactory, regarding the character of this reef, and the prospects of the place generally; still, considering the large expenditure which the proprietors incur in the erection of the crushing-plant, previous to a proper opening of the reef and leaders, it must be concluded that they are thoroughly satisfied touching their gold-bearing character and capabilities, as exhibited in the workings executed.

The alluvial gully, running close past the rich outcrop, and crossing the supposed line of the reef, has not as yet been tested, though it has every prospect of being auriferous below that line.

German reef. — Having in Melbourne frequently heard credible accounts as to the richness of this reef, and actually seen splendid gold specimens obtained from it, Ulrich was not a little surprised to find it quite neglected, and a fine crushing-plant, erected close by, doomed to inactivity and slow decay.