

Meyer & Charlton, extraordinary success has been attained; which is attested by the fact that the manager of the mine, when showing the members of a scientific society over the plant at the end of last year, stated that the extraction up to that date, nearly a year after the plant had started running, was 95%. We may mention that with the former plant, our extractions averaged between 80 and 85% only, so that the new plant, according to the official statement of the manager, is responsible for 10% higher extraction, at an increased working cost of one shilling per ton; the net result being from 4 to 5s. per ton profit in favor of the new plant. Our estimate on which the plant was built was a net improvement of 4s. per ton in the profits.

It is interesting to observe that the Chairman of the New Goch, who is also Chairman of the Meyer & Charlton, stated in his annual address in 1907, when dealing with the operations for the past year, that "the larger profits resulting (from the year's work) have more than justified the expenditure occurred in the additions to, and improvement of, the plant." He further stated that "the company had produced more gold and earned a larger profit than in any previous year," the actual figures being with the old plant for 1905 a gross profit of £99,784, and with the new for the year 1906 a gross profit of £136,967, or an increase of over 36 per cent.

The question now arises why, with the Meyer & Charlton plant, such magnificent results have been secured, and why at the New Goch they have been so disappointing as to give rise to the criticisms and damning statements of your correspondent.

We are in position to say that during the time we were in control of the plants, we made complete clean-ups of the new Meyer & Charlton plant, first, to satisfy ourselves that the gold called for, as between the screen assays and the residue-assays, was in the plant, and subsequently, at the instance of the Chairman of the company, on more than one occasion, to satisfy his doubt on the matter. The clean-up was in each case a complete vindication of our methods, as we had in each case a plus extraction. In the face of these results, and of the actual record of the Meyer & Charlton with its new plant, for 1906, we think that you must agree that your correspondent's strictures, and his concluding observation that "it is fortunate for the rest of the Rand that conservative counsels prevailed, and that the