

## CYANIDATION IN THE TRANSVAAL

(July 27 1907)

The Editor :

Sir—We have read in your issue of June 8 some statements made by your Johannesburg correspondent in connection with our metallurgical innovations on the Rand which have considerably astonished us, and we trust that as you have circulated through your journal statements which are calculated to do us some harm that you will grant us the use of your columns to rehabilitate ourselves in the eyes of your readers.

Your correspondent begins by stating that "several of the mines under our control spent thousands of pounds to install the process of circulating cyanide solutions advocated by the Denny brothers," and follows this with a quotation from the address of the Chairman of the New Goch Co. (on which mine we installed one of our plants), and an observation of his own that the Chairman's statement referred to "is rather disconcerting to the 'new metallurgy.' "

Before proceeding to deal with the Chairman's remarks on the subject of our process, we would like to point out that not a single pound was spent by us in the installation of the process for circulating cyanide solutions. We purposely built our plants so that in the event of our wishing to try the effect of circulating solutions they were as readily adapted for that as for our ordinary treatment without circulating cyanide solution, which we had installed at the Van Ryn mine, and which, we may add, is the system to which it is proposed now to revert at the New Goch. It would have been fair to us, more especially as we are not on the Witwatersrand, to reply to your correspondent's criticism, if he had stated that after all, the only portion of the plant that the Chairman of the New Goch found fault with was the system of circulating cyanide solution, and that the main principles of our plant, embodying tube-milling, automatic slime-treatment, and filter-pressing, remained as highly successful elements of the 'new metallurgy,' and constituting, of course as the technical man knows, practically the whole of the 'new metallurgy.'