

CHAPTER II.

GRANITES OF SCOTLAND.

Peterhead, Aberdeenshire. The red granite of Peterhead, quarried at Stirling Hill, is justly prized for the beauty of its colour, its closeness of texture, and the large blocks which it yields from the quarry. It is extensively employed for columns, tessellated pavements, and ornamental work both within and outside of buildings; and fine examples may be observed in the pillars of Carlton Club House, the Fishmongers' Hall, in London; the columns for the interior of St. George's Hall, Liverpool; and those of the Provincial Bank of Ireland, in Dublin. The large pedestal and tazza formed out of this granite in the hall of the Museum of Practical Geology, London, is also a most successful example, both of skilful workmanship and excellence of material.¹ The granite of Peterhead is composed of red orthoclase, albite, black mica, and quartz, and is considered by Dr. Haughton to be of eruptive origin.² It weighs 165 lbs. 14 ozs. per cubic foot.

¹ This large tazza (or vase) was made by Messrs. Macdonald and Leslie, Aberdeen.

² Proc. Roy. Soc. vol. xviii. (1870). A specimen of this granite, showing the two felspars, orthoclase and albite, is in the Museum of Trinity College, Dublin.