splintery fracture, show a tendency to slaty\*, and the black variety has a conchoidal fracture.

Fragments indeterminately angular, not particularly sharp edged, and slaty.

Sometimes presents very small grained distinct con-

Translucent on the edges or opaque.

Passes from semi-hard to soft.

Not particularly brittle.

Eafily frangible.

When rubbed, emits an urinous smell.

Not particularly heavy.

## Chemical Properties.

When exposed to heat it loses its colour and finell, and is converted into quick lime. It effervesces powerfully with acids. Brochant.

## Constituent Parts.

Colour is wood brown, which pulle on the one

Besides lime and carbonic acid, which are its principal constituent parts, according to Vauquelin, it contains hydr sulphure, which is the cause of the smell it emits when rubbed.

\* The yellowish brown variety is most commonly slaty.

Geognostic



