

CHAP. VIII.

CLASS III.—FLOETZ ROCKS.

Floetz Gebirge.—Werner.Roches stratiformes ou secondaires, *Brochant.*

I. **I**T was long the prevalent opinion, that the various rocks of this class were confined to particular districts, and were therefore partial and unconnected depositions. The discoveries of Werner, and the numerous observations made in different parts of the earth by his pupils, have demonstrated, that the floetz, like the primitive and transition rocks, are in general *universal formations*, consequently extend around the whole globe.

2. They occur usually at the foot of primitive mountains, or in deep valleys, and in the first case they are generally very widely extended. They all present a gradually diminishing level of the outgoings of the newer and newer formations, excepting in the case of the newest formations, where the position is unconformable and overlying. They seldom reach to a very great height, which shews that the ocean, although universal, did not at that time cover the whole earth. There is, however, an exception to this in the newest floetz trap formation, which we find covering the sum-