

On the Continent of Europe it is not unfrequent: thus it occurs imbedded in chalk in the islands of Rugen and Zeeland; in floetz limestone in Swabia, Bavaria, Saxony, Prussia, Franconia, Austria, Galicia, France, Spain, and Swisserland.

*Asia*—In the Uralian mountains it occurs in beds in floetz limestone; also in veins that traverse both primitive and floetz rocks. It has been found on the shores of the lake Baikal; and on the banks of the river Tura, also in Siberia; and in different parts of China.

*America*.—It occurs in North America, either imbedded in rocks, or in rolled pieces.

#### *Uses.*

The principal use of this mineral is for gun-flints, for which purpose it is excellently fitted, on account of its hardness, the abundance of sparks it affords with steel, and the sharp fragments it gives in breaking\*. The most celebrated manufactures of gun-flints are those in England, Muesnes near Berry in France, in Gallicia, and of Avio in the Tyrol. The operation of making them is so simple and easy, that a good workman will make 1500 flints in a day. The whole art consists in striking the stone repeatedly with a kind of mallet, and breaking off at each stroke a fragment, sharp at one end, and thicker at the other. These fragments are afterwards shaped at pleasure, by laying the line at which it is wished they should break, upon a sharp iron instrument, and then giving it repeatedly smart blows with a mallet. During the whole operation, the workman holds the stone in his left hand,

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\* Flint was first used as for muskets in the year 1670.