

VII. PITCHSTONE FAMILY.

THIS Family contains the following Species: Obsidian; Pitchstone, Pearlstone, and Pumice.

1. Obsidian.

This Species is divided into two subspecies, viz. Translucent Obsidian and Transparent Obsidian.

First Subspecies.

Translucent Obsidian.

Durchscheinender Obsidian, *Hoffmann.*

Achates islandicus, *Wall.* t. ii. p. 378.—*Pumex vitreus solidus*, *Syst. Nat.* xii. 3. p. 182. n. 7.—*Verre de volcan en masses irreguliers, Pierre obsidienne, Pierre de gallinace, & Agathe noir d'Islande*, *Romé de Lisle*, t. ii. p. 685.—*Verre ou Laitier de volean*, *Faujas*, des Volcans, p. 308.—*Obsidian*, *Wid.* s. 348. *Id. Kirwan*, vol. i. p. 265.—*Obsidiano*, *Nap.* p. 205.—*Lave vitreuse obsidienne*, *Haüy*, t. iv. p. 494.—*Obsidian*, *Reuss*, b. ii. s. 355. *Id. Lud.* b. i. s. 85. *Id. Suck.* 1^r th. s. 371. *Id. Bert.* s. 270. *Id. Mohs*, b. i. s. 349. *Id. Hab.* s. 15.—*Lave vitreuse obsidienne*, *Lucas*, p. 231.—*Obsidienne*, *Brong.* t. i. p. 355.—*Lava verre noire*, *Brard*, p. 447.—*Obsidian gemeiner*, *Leonhard*, *Tabel.* s. 14.—*Obsidian*, *Karsten*, *Tabel.* s. 36.—*Obsidian*, *Kid*, *Appendix*, p. 38. *Id. Steffens*, b. i. s. 371.—*Durchscheinender Obsidian*, *Hoff.* b. ii. s. 191.—*Gemeiner Obsidian*, *Lenz*, b. i. s. 432.—*Obsidian, or Lava-glass*, *Oken*, b. i. s. 305.

External Characters.

Its most frequent colour is velvet-black, which sometimes