

## 3. Iridium.

Iridium, *Wollaston*.

Philosophical Transactions for 1805.

*External Characters.*

Its colour is very pale steel-grey.

It occurs in very small irregular flat grains:

The lustre is shining and metallic.

The fracture is foliated.

It is brittle.

It is harder than platina.

Specific gravity, 19.5.

*Chemical Characters.*

By fusion with nitre, it acquires a dull black colour, but recovers its original colour and lustre by heating with charcoal.

*Constituent Parts.*

It is composed of Osmium and Iridium, alloyed together.

*Geognostic and Geographic Situations.*

It occurs in alluvial soil in South America, along with platina.

*Observations.*

It was first examined, and introduced to the notice of naturalists, by Dr Wollaston.