America.—At Coquimbo in Chili, along with coppergreen and malachite.

Uses.

Copper is extracted from it, but it is not so easily reduced as copper-glance. It yields from 50 to 70 per cent. of copper.

Observations.

1. Its external characters and chemical composition, shew that it is a species intermediate between copper-glance and copper-pyrites.

2. It occurs equally abundant with copper-glance, but

not in such great quantity as copper-pyrites.

3. This variety differs from copper-glance or vitreous copper-ore, with respect to its component parts, in containing a smaller proportion of copper, and a greater proportion of iron. The variegated colour is supposed by Klaproth to be owing to the slightly oxidated state of the metal: so in steel, and other metallic substances, the beginning of their oxidation is indicated by a similar diversity of colours. In the last-mentioned substances, indeed, the change of colour is only superficial, for the oxygen of the atmosphere can only act upon the surface of the metal: in the variegated copper-ore, the diversity of colour penetrates the whole mass, in consequence of the general distribution of the oxygen throughout the substance of the ore. As, however, the oxidation is slight, the metal is disposed to absorb a farther portion of oxygen; and the uniform brown colour is gradually VOL. III.