

*America.*—United States; Mexico; and Chili.

*Africa.*—Morocco; Abyssinia; country of the Namaquas, in Southern Africa.

*Uses.*

Nearly one-third of all the copper which is obtained by metallurgic operations, is extracted from this species: it is, however, a poor ore, seldom yielding above 36 pounds, more commonly only 20 pounds of copper in the hundred. Sulphur is frequently obtained from it by sublimation.

*Observations.*

1. It has been confounded with *Native Gold*, but it may be readily distinguished from it by its fracture, which is uneven, imperfect conchoidal, or imperfect foliated; whereas that of gold is hackly; and also by its tenacity, it being brittle, whereas gold is malleable. It is distinguished from *Iron-pyrites*, by its hardness, it being only intermediate between semi-hard and soft, whereas iron-pyrites gives fire with steel; by colour, iron-pyrites being bronze-yellow, whereas it is brass-yellow; and the crystallisations are also very different from those of iron-pyrites; in particular, it occurs in tetrahedrons, a form never observed in iron-pyrites.

2. It passes into several other species of ore, particularly into *White Copper-ore*, *Grey Copper-ore*, and *Variiegated Copper-ore*.

3. The softer varieties of copper-pyrites contain the greatest quantity of copper, and the harder the greatest proportion of iron. Among the softer varieties, those having a tarnished surface are said to contain the greatest quantity of copper.

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