

1. Octahedron, which is slightly oblique, and the lateral planes sometimes concave, and deeply transversely streaked.
2. Double three-sided pyramid, on which the lateral planes of the one are set on the lateral planes of the other: Or it may be described as an acute rhomboid, the alternate angles of which are  $60^{\circ}$  and  $90^{\circ}$ .
3. Four-sided tables, which are scalarwise aggregated.

Internally it is splendent, and the lustre is metallic.

The fracture is perfect foliated, with a threefold cleavage.

The fragments are indeterminate angular, and blunt-edged.

It occurs in distinct concretions, which are small and fine granular, and very seldom coarse granular.

It is soft.

It is sectile, passing into malleable.

It is rather difficultly frangible.

It is uncommonly heavy.

Specific gravity, 9.0202, *Brisson*; 9.570, *Kirwan*.

#### *Chemical Characters.*

It melts even by the flame of a candle; before the blow-pipe it melts very quickly to a silver-white globule, which, by continuance of the heat, is volatilised, and deposits a white covering on the charcoal. It dissolves with effervescence in nitric acid; but if we add water to the solution, it is precipitated in the form of a white powder.

*Geognostic*