

PARTICULAR GENERIC EXTERNAL
CHARACTERS.

I.

PARTICULAR GENERIC EXTERNAL CHARACTERS
OF SOLID MINERALS.

1. THE EXTERNAL ASPECT.

The external aspect of a mineral is that outline or contour which it has received from nature. Thus, if we have a piece of lead glance, as it has been found loose, or imbedded in another mineral, we name the surface which it has received from nature its aspect. All those characters which we can discover by the eye on this outline are denominated the external aspect of the mineral. They are of three kinds. 1, The external shape, 2. The external surface; and, 3. The external lustre.

1. THE EXTERNAL SHAPE

Is divided into four classes,

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Common | } external shape, |
| 2. Particular | |
| 3. Regular | |
| 4. Extraneous | |

All of these classes have their subordinate differences which we shall now describe, and first the

1. *Common external shape,*

By this we understand the most common and most simple kind of shape, and that which has no resemblance to any