

ated, lamellar, fibrous, or sparry, easily scraped by a knife, presenting a greyish streak or powder, and an earthy smell while scraping or powdering; when heated they assume a brownish red colour and harden; in a stronger heat they melt into a black flagg, or compact glass. They do not effervesce with acids, though partially soluble by them in a boiling heat. Their sp. gr. from 2,8 to 3,2."

This is almost an exact description of our hornblende. It is, he tells us, by the Swedes called *Hornberg*, and by the French *Roche de Corne*, and by the Germans *Hornfelstein*. Of this stone he distinguishes four varieties. 1st That which is obscurely lamellar which he calls *Corneus solidus nitens durior*. 2d That which is of a slaty texture, which he calls *Hornschiefer*, and is what I call *Hornblende slate*. 3d That which is of a sparry and striated texture, which he calls *Hornblende*, or *Strahl skimmer*, or *Shornblende*, *Roche de Corne strié*. And 4th That which breaks into cubes, or rhomboids, which he calls *Corneus trapezius* and *Trap*; yet he tells us, that when broken in another direction it presents conchoidal surfaces. Here he evidently confounds hornblends with traps.

Mr. Sauffure, though well aware of the double sense of the term *hornstone*, yet relying on the authority of Wallerius, and unwilling to multiply denominations, wished to restrain its signification to the species we here describe; but, in following Wallerius too implicitly, he unwarily comprehended stones under this name which are of a different species. Thus he reckons among corneous stones some which present no idea of crystallization,