COMBUSTIBLE MINERALS;

Those of which the base is sulphur or carbon. It includes substances of the most opposite external characters; both the hardest and the softest in nature.

SULPHUR.

Natürlicher Schwefel, W. Soufre, H. Prismatic Sulphur, M.

Sp. Gr. 1.9—2.1. H. = 1.5—2.5.

Colour when pure, citron-yellow; from accidental admixture sometimes red, brown, yellowish-grey, and even green. Primary a four-sided pyramid, with equal and similar scalene triangular planes, and of which the common base is rhombic. It occurs massive, disseminated, investing other minerals, and crystallized in the form of an acute four-sided pyramid, either perfect or variously modified; cleavage imperfect and interrupted; fracture conchoidal, uneven in the impure varieties; lustre shining and resinous, varying from transparent to translucent on the edges; very brittle. It burns readily with a lambent blue, or white flame, according to the low or high degree of temperature, emitting at the same time a pungent smell of sulphureous acid, and fuses into a brown liquid. It acquires resinous electricity by friction.

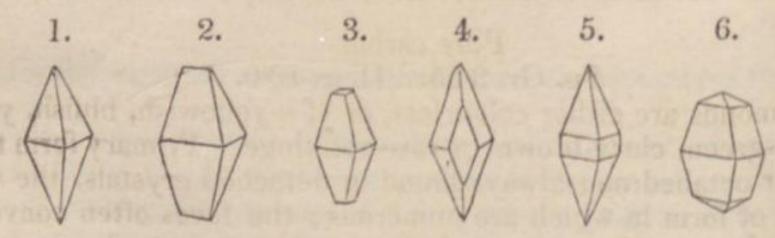


Fig. 1, the primary pyramid. Fig. 2. the same elongated. Fig. 3, the same, having its summits replaced. Fig. 4: in this two opposite solid angles of the octahedron are replaced by rhombic planes. Fig. 5: in this the edges of the base of the pyramid are deeply replaced by quadrangular planes. In fig. 6, the summits of the primary are replaced by four triangular planes, forming a low pyramid on each.