

CHAPTER I.

GEOLOGICAL NOTES.

On page 13 of the former report it was observed, "That although there are many varieties of rock, yet we find that the number of mineral *species*, called simple minerals, which are considered essential to their composition is quite limited."

These called simple minerals are as follows :

Quartz,	Epidote,
Felspar,	Carbonate of Lime,
Mica,	Dolomite,
Talc and Steatite,	Oxides of Iron,
Serpentine,	" Manganese,
Chlorite,	Sulphur and Sulphates,
Augite, or	Phosphoric Acid, and
Pyroxene,	Phosphates,
Hornblende,	Chlorine.

As these were particularly described on pages 13 to 21, and their chemical constitution stated, no description need be given on the present occasion.

An uncertainty appears to exist in the minds of many people in reference to the precise meanings of the terms *rock* and *mineral* in geology, and it may be proper to define them.

Any solid inorganic substance is in fact called a mineral, but the term is usually restricted to such as have a definite composition, as quartz, felspar, mica, &c.

When any simple mineral occurs in *large* masses the name *rock* is applied, as in the case of limestone, quartz, &c.—Rocks in many cases consist of grains, as sandstone, or small confused crystals, as granite gneiss, &c., which are termed *aggregates*.