

or tale, or both, which are so minute as not to be distinguished but with the aid of a microscope.

5.—CHLORITE SLATE.

This rock is essentially composed of chlorite in flattened crystalline grains and of quartz. Its color is some shade of olive green.

In Maryland it occupies a subordinate position within the mica slates.

6.—QUARTZITE.

This term is applied to all formations of quartz among the intrusive or metamorphic rocks, when the quartz is in sufficient mass to be considered a rock. It is doubtful whether we have such in Maryland. There are, however, thick veins and masses of quartz in some of our mica slates, to be noticed in another place.

7.—GRANULAR LIMESTONE.

This rock is usually found in contact either with intrusive or metamorphic rocks.

It is composed of crystalline grains of carbonate of lime aggregated into a solid rock, sometimes nearly pure, but most frequently mixed with more or less magnesia and other impurities.

This rock furnishes white marble, including the fine grain statuary marble from Tuscany.

In some localities the crystalline grains attain the size of half an inch in diameter, and such is called, in Maryland, alum limestone.

8.—DOLOMITE, OR MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE.

This term is applied to limestone whose composition is that given to the simple mineral of that name already noticed. The dolomites of Maryland are usually in smaller grains than granular limestone and have a more glistening lustre.

There are often small scales of talc or mica disseminated through the rock, and white augite sometimes is also present, with other minerals.

In addition to the essential constituents of rocks, later chemical researches shew that many of them contain minute traces of phosphoric acid and chlorine. They have been detected in limestones, hornblende rocks and granite, as well as in slates and shales and other rocks.