

REVIEW.

Handbuch der Mineralogie (Erste Lieferung), von C. Hintze. Leipzig (Veit & Comp.), 1889.

This is the first instalment of what will be a very important treatise if the author, Prof. Hintze, of Breslau, succeeds in carrying his colossal task to a successful conclusion.

Most text-books of Mineralogy commence with a "General Part" or "Introduction," which includes a necessarily incomplete account of Crystallography and Chemistry of little use to the student who can consult text-books of those subjects, and of no use to those who want a book of reference on Minerals. Prof. Hintze wisely confines himself to a complete account of each mineral from the crystallographic, chemical, and mineralogical points of view. Special attention is paid to the associations and modes of occurrence of the specimens from various localities, and here the descriptions are made more than usually interesting by arranging them, where possible, not in geographical, but in historical order.

The first part begins with the Silicates, and includes the groups of minerals classed with Olivine, Willemite, Garnet, and Topaz, together with a few others.

The amount of detailed information given may be realised from the description of Topaz, which extends over 25 pages, and includes 29 analyses, while under Lime-Iron-garnet no less than 71 analyses are quoted.

There are very complete references to original authorities, and even the names of authors from whom the figures have been borrowed are given. This is an innovation much to be recommended. The work is of course almost entirely a compilation, but is so complete that it must become a standard book of reference. Prof. Hintze hopes to complete it in 3 or 4 years, and we wish him all success in his undertaking. H. A. M.