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CONDUCTED BY

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"Nec aranearum sane textus ideo melior quia ex se fila grgnunt, nec noster villor quia ex alienis libamus ut apes." JUST. LIPS. Polit. lib. i. cap. 1. Not.

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XIX. A Description of Matlockite, a new Oxychloride of Lead. By R. P. GREG, Jun., Esg.*

M.^{R.} WRIGHT of Liverpool has recently obtained from the old heaps of the level mine at Cromford, near Matlock, a small number of specimens of the murio-carbonate of lead, or phosgenite of Haidinger; and he has also found a few specimens of another ore of lead, differing in appearance from any of the known salts of that metal.

At my request this mineral has been examined by Dr. Robert Angus Smith of Manchester, and his analysis of it has afforded the following results :---

Chloride of lead						55.177	
Oxide of lead	•					44.300	
Moisture .	•	•	•	•	•	·072	
						99.549	
The proportions by theory would be-							

Chloride of lead Oxide of lead.	•	•	•	•	•	55 ·46 44·53
						99.99

This gives a definite chemical composition of 1 atom of chloride of lead combined with 1 atom of oxide of lead; differing in this respect from Mendipite, in which the proportion of chloride to that of oxide is as 1 to 2.

The specific gravity of Matlockite is 7.21, and its hardness 2.5 to 3. Colour yellowish, with sometimes a slight greenish tinge; its lustre is adamantine, and occasionally pearly, and it is transparent and translucent. It cleaves, but not readily, parallel to P. Its fracture is uneven and slightly conchoidal. It decrepitates in the flame of the blowpipe, but with care is reduced to a grayish-yellow globule.

It occurs in tabular crystals, generally thin and superimposed on each other, and occasionally slightly curved; but my friend Mr. W. G. Lettsom has a perfect transparent crystal an inch square and an eighth of an inch thick.

The primitive form is a right square prism; and the following figure, drawn by Professor Miller of Cambridge, who has also corrected the measured angles, represents all the modifications hitherto observed :---

* Communicated by the Author.



Professor Miller adds, "A slice parallel to the plane c, 0.0204 inch thick, being placed in a polarizing instrument having the planes of polarization of the polarizer and analyser at right angles to each other, the angular radius of the first blue ring in air was found to be 22° 81'."

Dr. Smith has also analysed a crystal of the n urio-carbonate of lead, and has obtained—

Carbonate of lead	•	٠	51.784 J8.915
Carbonate of leau.	•	•	+0 /10
			99·999

corresponding to 1 atom of chloride combined with 1 atom of carbonate, which agrees with the proportions given by Klaproth and Berzelius.

Norchiffe Hall, near Wilmslow, Cheshire.

10.040.03

XX. On Symbolical Mechanics. By the Rev. M. O'BRIEN, M.A., Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy, King's College, London, late Fellow of Casus College, Cambridge*.

I. N. the previous paper I pointed out the distinction between geometrical and mechanical addition; the former consisting in the successive tracing of lines, the latter in the simultaneous

action of forces. When + is used in its geometrical sense, u + v, or AB + AC, denotes the change of position produced in a tracing point by causing it to describe the lines AB and BD in immediate succession, BD being parallel and



equal to AC; but when + has its mechanical signification, U+V denotes the mechanical effect produced by the simultaneous action of the two forces represented by U and V. In this way it is that AB+AC denotes the line AD, while U+V denotes the resultant of U and V.

* Communicated by the Author.