

SYSTEM
OF
MINERALOGY,

COMPREHENSIVE

**ORYCTOGNOSY,
GEOGNOSY,
MINERALOGICAL CHEMIS-
TRY,**

**MINERALOGICAL GEOGRA-
PHY, AND
ECONOMICAL MINERALO-
GY.**

By ROBERT JAMESON,

**REGIUS PROFESSOR OF NATURAL HISTORY AND KEEPER OF THE MUSEUM
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL AND
ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES OF EDINBURGH, OF THE LINNEAN
SOCIETY OF LONDON, HONORARY MEMBER OF THE ROYAL
IRISH ACADEMY, OF THE MINERALOGICAL AND
PHYSICAL SOCIETIES OF JENA, ETC.**

VOL. II.

EDINBURGH:

**PRINTED FOR BELL & BRADFUTE; GUTHRIE
& TAIT; AND WILLIAM BLACKWOOD;
AND FOR LONGMAN, HURST, REES
AND ORME, LONDON.**

1805.

Fracture nearly perfect conchoidal.
 Fragments indeterminately angular.
 Semitransparent, and transparent.
 - Is malleable. Soft. Light. Taste stinging, urinous.—*Klaproth*, *Beit.* 3. b. f. 93.

FIFTH SPECIES.

Natural Epsom Salt.

Natürliches Bitterfalz.—*Werner*.

Sal neutrum acidulare, *Wall.* t. 2. p. 71.—Sel d'Epsom, Sel de Sedlitz, Sel d'Angleterre, Vitriol de Magnesia, *Romé de L.* t. 1. p. 306.—Natürliches Bitterfalz, *Wid.* p. 595.—Epsom Salt, *Kirw.* vol. ii. p. 12.—Natürliches Bitterfalz, *Efner*, 3. b. f. 44. *Id. Emm.* 2. b. f. 14.—Le Sel amere natif, ou Sel d'Epsom natif, *Broch.* t. 2. p. 11.—Magnésie sulphatée, *Hauy*, t. 2. p. 331. 336.—Bitterfalz, *Reufs*, 3. b. f. 53.

External Characters.

Colour greyish-white.
 Occurs in capillary efflorescences, and is sometimes mealy, sometimes flaky.
 Saline consistence.
 Taste saltly bitter.

Constituents

Constituent Parts.

The constituent parts of the purified Epsom salt, the sulphat of magnesia of the chemists, is, according to

<i>Bergman,</i>	and	<i>Kirwan.</i>
Sulphuric acid,	33	29.46
Magnesia,	19	17.0
Water of crytallization,	48	53.54
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	105.

Chemical Characters.

Before the blow-pipe, it dissolves very easily by the assistance of its water of crytallization, but it is difficultly fusible. Its solution gives a precipitate with lime-water.

Geognostic and Geographic Situations.

It occurs as an efflorescence on clayey stones, as common clay, slate clay, clay-slate, grey wacke, and porphyry slate; at Jena, it occurs in gyps rocks; at Witschiz in Bohemia, on half-burnt clay; on porphyry slate at the village of Kaitz; at Stiahlaw on clay slate; and at Solfatara on decomposing lava. In the mines at Clausthal in the Hartz, it occurs in considerable quantity; at Gran in Hungary, it effloresces on sandstone, clay, and compact limestone. It is also contained in many mineral

mineral springs, particularly in those of Epsom, and it often effloresces on old walls.

Uses.

When purified, it is used as a purgative medicine, and it is valued by chemists on account of the magnesia which can be obtained from it.

SIXTH SPECIES.

Natural Glauber Salt.

Natürliches Glaubersalz.—*Werner.*

Sal mirabile, *Wall.* t. 2. p. 70.—Sel de Glauber, *Rom. d. L.* t. 1. p. 301. *Id. Born.* t. 2. p. 26.—Natürliches Wundersalz, *Wid. f.* 597.—Glauber Salt, *Kirw.* vol. 2. p. 9.—Natürliches Glaubersalz, *Efnér*, 3 b. f. 50. *Id. Emm.* 3 b. f. 401.—Le Sel de Glauber natif, *Broch.* t. 2. p. 14.—Glaubersalz, *Reufs.*, 3 b. f. 49.

External Characters.

Colour greyish and yellowish white; seldom snow or milk white.

Occurs in the form of mealy efflorescences; in crusts, seldom stalactitic, small botryoidal, reniform; and crystallized.

1. In acicular crystals.

2. In