

considerable distance, but becoming suddenly impure, it is lost by abruptly dipping under the "Black Rock" in the direction of its bearing. The fragment of one solitary bivalve was observed in it.

The minerals found in the "Black Rock" are

1st. Iron as an oxide and as a sulphuret : the former, in a state of solution, often bestows a red or yellow stain on the surface of the rock. The latter is not so common and is generally found with a soft greenish variety of the rock.

2nd. Quartz sometimes in fine acicular crystals of considerable transparency, as are also others approaching the form of the double pyramid, applied base to base more frequently in ill formed semi-transparent prisms. They vary in size from drusy, to crystals as large as the thumb. The latter are never transparent throughout ; and often appear in the progress of formation.

3rd. Calcareous Spar, in white and brown acicular crystals, finer than spun glass, radiating from a white calcareous base, often enclosing ill formed crystals of quartz ; also in perfect rhombs. But its most common appearance is in veins of a laminar structure, traversing the rock in all directions ; these in some places become so numerous as to give the rock the aspect of a conglomerate ; they often traverse each other, and in this case, one vein appears to have dislodged that portion of the other it met with in its progress.*

4th. Petroleum, in soft translucent pieces of a green and yellow colour, sometimes surrounding the soot, more rarely insinuating itself into the interior, of a crystal of quartz.

5th. Coal-dust or soot, often investing the surface of quartz. Crystals, in drusy cavities.

* The same thing has been observed of veins of granite in gneiss—the former is owing to the infiltration of calcareous spar, through the agency of water, into fractures of the rock across older veins of that mineral. The latter does not probably admit of so satisfactory an explanation.