THE

# MINERAL INDICATOR.

## TABLE I.

[Lustre metallic. Hardness sufficient to scratch glass strongly. Colour, brass-yellow.]

*Iron Pyrites* (Fe 47, S 53 = $FeS^2$); *Marcasite* (Fe 47, S 53).

These minerals are chemically identical, but differ in crystallization, and to some extent in other physical characters. *Iron Pyrites* belongs to the Regular or Isopolar System;* and when crystallized, is commonly in cubes, pentagonal dodecahedrons, or combinations of these forms. Its sp. gr. = 4·9 to 5·1. *Marcasite* is Rhombic in crystallization, and occurs commonly in groups of prismatic crystals often arranged in crested rows (= "Cockscomb Pyrites," "Spear Pyrites," &c.). Its sp. gr. = 4·7 to 4·9, and its colour is usually somewhat paler than that of Iron Pyrites, proper. It has, moreover, a great tendency to fall into decomposition. Massive and radio-fibrous varieties of both species are also common. BB, both emit a sulphurous odour, and melt readily into a dark magnetic globule. Ignited in a narrow test-tube or bulb-tube, both yield a sublimate of sulphur.

* The term "Isopolar" has reference to the fact, that, in this system of crystallization, all the planes, edges, and angles, at the poles or extremities of the axes are absolutely alike.