

to be found ancient works on the most gigantic scale. The ores are chiefly auro-argentiferous; galena is also obtained in sufficient quantity to afford lead for separating the silver. These mines are much less productive than formerly, but works are in progress on a gigantic scale *to open them at a great depth*, though the quantity of the *precious metals* has been found to decrease, as the veins are worked downwards. The rare and curious combinations of gold and tellurium are found in Transylvania. In 1854 the annual product was 2850 lbs. gold and 57,000 lbs. silver. The Hungarian mines could not be worked profitably unless under the highest development of metallurgic and mineral skill, and the lowest price of labor.

The same may be said of the other portions of the Austrian dominions, but from skill and economy in management the total product of the Empire, increased from 2,682 lbs. in 1820, to 5,645 lbs. in 1848, and 6,000 lbs. in 1854.

RUSSIA.—Russian gold is obtained almost entirely from the eastern slope of the Ural mountains, from Siberia and the Caucasus. It was first discovered in 1743 near Ekatherinesberg, *and the first workings were in the solid rock*, in 1752 at Bresow, they are still productive though in a diminished degree. In 1823 gold had been mined from the solid rock in sixty-six localities, but with the exception of eight, all had been abandoned. *The veins are numerous and contained in GRANITE, which itself forms veins in the talcose, chloritic and micaceous slates.* The productive ores are of quartz, *and cut the granite masses at right angles, having nearly a vertical dip.* They do not generally extend beyond *the limits of the granite*, and the workings demonstrated that the amount of gold decreases according to depth. No one on reading this description can doubt that these are either *seg-*