MAMMOTH. An extinct species of the elephant (E. primigenius,) of which the fossil bones are frequently met with in various countries. The name is of Tartar

origin, and is used in Siberia for animals that burrow under ground. Maz. A mixture of clay and lime; usually soft, but sometimes hard, in which case it is called indurated marl.

MIGA. A simple mineral, having a shining silvery surface, and capable of being split into very thin elastic leaves or scales. It is often called *tate*, in common life, but mineralogists apply the term tale to a different mineral. The brilliant scales in granite are mica. *Etym. mico*, to shue. MOUNTAIN LIMESTONE. A certes of limestone strats, of which the geological position is immediately below the coal measures, and with which they also sometimes al-

ternute.

NEW RED SANDSTONE. A series of sandy, argillaceous, and often calearcons strats, the predominant colour of which is brick-red, but containing portions which are of a greenish grey. These occur often in spots and stripes, so that the series has sometimes been called the variegated sandstone. The Enropean formation so called lies in a geological position immediately above the coal messares. OLD RED SANDSTONE. A stratified rock belonging to the carboniferous Group. OROANIC REMAINS. The remains of animals and plants (organized bodies) found

in a fossil state.

- OXIDE. The combination of metal with oxygen; rust is oxide of iron. OXYGEN. One of the constituent parts of the air of the atmosphere; that part which supports life. For a further explanation of the word, consult elementary works on chemistry.
- PALEONTOLOGY. The science which treats of fossil remains, both animal and ve-
- getable. Etym., pelaios, ancient, onta, beings, and logos, a discourse. Роприках. An unstratified or igneous rock. The term is as old as the time of Pliny, and was applied to a red rock with small, angular, white bodies diffused through it, which are crystallized felspar, brought from Egypt. The term is bence applied to every species of unstratified rock in which detached crystals of felspar or some other mineral are diffused through a base of other mineral composition .--
- Elym., porphyra, purple. PLASTIC CLAY. One of the beds of the Eocene tertiary period, so called because it is used for making pottery. The formation to which this name is applied is a series of beds chiefly sands, with which the clay is associated. Elym., plasso, to form or fashion.
- PUMICE. A light spongy lava, of a white colour, produced by gases, or watery va-pour getting access to the particular kind of glassy lava called obsidian, when in a state of fusion-it may be called the froth of melted volcanic glass. The word comes from the Latin name of the stone, pumer.
- PYRITES (Iron). A compound of sulphur and iron, found usually in yellow shining crystals like brass, and in almost every rock, stratified and unstratified. The shining metallic bodies, so often seen in common roofing slate, are a familiar ex-ample of the mineral. It is derived from a Greek word, meaning *fire*, because, under particular circumstances, the stone produces spontaneous heat, and even inflammation.
- QUARTZ. A German provincial term, universally adopted in scientific language for a simple mineral composed of pure silex, or earth of flints; rock crystal is an example.

RED MARL. A term often applied to the New Red Sandstone, which is the principal member of the Red Sandstone Group.

SAND STONE. Any stone which is composed of an agglutination of grains of sand, whether calcareous, siliceous, or of any other mineral nature.

SAURIAN. Any animal belonging to the lizard tribe. Etym., saura, a lizard.

Schist is often used as synopimous with slate; but it may be very useful to distin-guish between a schistose and a slaty structure. The granitic or primary schists, as they are termed, such as gneiss, mica-schist, and others, cannot be split into an indefinite number of parallel laminæ, liko rocks which have a true slaty cleav-The uneven schistose layers of mica schist and gneiss are probably layers ago. of deposition which have assumed a crystalline texture.

SCHISTOSE ROCKS. See " Schist."

SEAMS. Thin layers which separate two strata of greater magnitude.

SECONDARY STRATA. An extensive series of the stratified rocks which compose the crust of the globe, with certain characters in common, which distinguish them from another series below them called primary, and from a third above them called tertiary.

SEDIMENTARY ROCKS, are those which have been formed by their materials having been thrown down from a state of suspension or solution in water.

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