

III.—STALACTITES.

At the forty fathom level, in the mine called "*Little Bounds*," at Cape Cornwall, a drift has been carried a considerable distance under the sea; the agent, Mr. Chenalls, observed in this spot that there was a continual formation of *stalactites*. Dr. John Davy and Mr. Majendie, in consequence of this report, visited the spot; it had been closed for two years previously, and before it was shut up Mr. Chenalls had carefully removed all the *stalactites* which then existed. Upon examination, it was observed that a considerable formation of fresh *stalactites* had taken place during the interval just stated; some were eighteen inches in length, and about one inch in diameter. The *stalagmites* directly underneath them are of much larger dimensions; both have the same yellowish brown colour, and consist of *oxide of iron*. Dr. Paris has suggested that they are the result of decomposed pyrites, which form in the first place a *sulphate of iron*, that gradually loses its solubility by peroxidation, and is deposited in the form and manner which is here discovered.

A. MAJENDIE.

IV.—GREGORITE (*Menacchanite*) DISCOVERED AT LANARTH.

Some sand was lately sent to me by Colonel Sandys, from his estate at Lanarth, in the

parish of St. Keverne: he stated that it was taken from a stream of water which ran near his house, and that any quantity of the sand in question might be obtained, if required. Its external characters were sufficient to convince me of its nature. I nevertheless submitted it to experiment, and immediately proved that it was the ore of titanium, in which Mr. William Gregor first detected the existence of that metal, and to which the name of *menacchanite* has been given. Collectors will be glad to hear of this discovery, for specimens of the mineral were becoming scarce, from the exhaustion of the original stream at Tregonwell Mill, which has hitherto, I believe, been its only Cornish *habitat*.

JOHN AYRTON PARIS.

V.—FORMATION OF A SUBSTANCE, RESEMBLING GNEISS, TAKEN FROM A STEAM BOILER at HUEL ALFRED.

The specimen which I am about to describe was given me by Captain John Davy, a zealous and intelligent associate of the Society; it was broken from the interior of the large boiler of the steam engine, erected on Huel Alfred. From its structure and appearance it is impossible to infer its artificial origin, and several of my