

considered as hollow and white cylinders, formed by a concentric surface; these congelations sometimes descend, by drops, to the bottom, and form pillars, and a thousand other figures, as uncouth and ridiculous as the names which naturalists have been pleased to give them, such as, *Stalactites*, *Stelemites*, *Osleocollae*, &c.

When these concretic juices issue immediately from marble and hard stone, the lapidific matter conveyed by the water being rather dissolved than loosened, the small constituent parts take a regular figure, and form columns, terminated by triangular points, which are transparent and consist of oblique strata; this is called Spar, or Spall. It is generally transparent and colourless, but when the stone or marble, from whence it issues, contains metallic parts, this spar is as hard as stone; it dissolves, like stone, by acid spirits, and calcines with the same heat; therefore we cannot doubt that it is real stone, and perfectly homogeneous. It might even be said that it is a pure and elementary stone, under its proper and specific form.

Most naturalists nevertheless look on this matter as a direct substance, existing independent of stone; it is the lapidific or crystalline juice which, according to them, not only binds the  
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