mineral impregnation, pyritous, or serpentinous admix-
ture, appears, which distinguishes the so-called " *walls* "
of a vein.   But this term is apt to mislead a geologist
into the notion that some definite parallel band always
insulates the vein from the inclosing rock; which is, in
general, not the fact.   In Cornwall generally, it is
thought by Mr. Fox that the rocks diminish in hard-
ness near a vein; and similar facts are mentioned by
Werner.

A curious circumstance is noticed by Mr. Fox and
others, regarding the arrangement of the quartz in the
cross courses of Cornwall.   This mineral does not in
such cases appear in its usual pyramidal or prismatic
crystallisation, but is of a fibrous structure, the axes of
the fibres lying across the vein, exactly as we may see
in hundreds of examples in thin quartz veins which
divide argillaceous slate, and other rocks.   There are in
some cases several parallel plates of this fibrous quartz,
marking successive small rents.

In the cross courses of Cornwall, which contain
quartz, clay, and other substances, these are very com-
monly arranged in alternate layers parallel to the walls.
(Mr. Fox.)   The same thing obtains very generally,
though not universally, in veins of all ages and contents;
as the small specimens commonly sold in Derbyshire
very prettily illustrate.   It is generally to be observed
in such cases, that the crystallisations are so arranged
that the terminal faces point inwards each way from
the walls of the vein, and that those bands of crystal-
lisation which are nearest to the walls, have themselves
served as surfaces of attachment for the next layer,
which is usually moulded on the other as if that had
been deposited first.   This appearance has suggested
successive irruptions of melted matter, successive secre-
tions from solution, successive accumulations from sub-
limation, and successive depositions by electrical currents,
to persons whose views led them thus diversely; but a
succession of operations is commonly (not universally)
admitted to explain these appearances.