

*syenite*: those masses which are composed of crystals of felspar, in a base of earthy felspar, constitute *porphyry*. Granite is found almost every where beneath gneiss and mica schist, and in contact with rocks of all ages, often rising into enormous masses and peaks; in the British islands it occurs in Cornwall, Dartmoor (Tab. 121), Skiddaw, and Shapfell in Cumberland, Glen Tilt, Ben Nevis, &c. It is also found in veins which traverse not only other rocks (Tab. 151), but also masses of granite, thus proving periodical formations of this crystalline rock.

In some instances, a tendency to a columnar or prismatic arrangement, is observable, and the granitic porphyry of Corsica (*Napoleonite*) presents an orbicular structure, in which balls or spheroids of concentric and alternate coats of hornblende and compact felspar, are disseminated with much regularity throughout the mass. An instance of the elevation of superincumbent beds of slate by granite, is seen in this section of the Cumberland rocks (Plate X); and of the carboniferous and old red strata by the granite of Dartmoor, in these sections (Tab. 121) of the formations of Devonshire. The distribution of the primary rocks in England is shown in the map (Plate X).

11. VOLCANIC AGENCY.—Throughout the vast series of stratified rocks the effect of water was every where apparent; and the existence of dry land, streams, rivers, seas, animals, and plants,