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| Grain of sand. Its properties, | 140 |
| Graminivorous. (<i>Gramen</i> , grass; <i>voro</i> , to eat;) feeding on grass, | 83 |
| <p>Granites. An igneous rock, usually composed of three simple minerals (felspar, quartz, and mica). It derives its name from its granular structure, (<i>granum</i>, a grain.) On the mode of its formation. See page 12, etc.</p> | |
| <p>Gravitation. (<i>Gravitas</i>, weight.) The mutual tendency of bodies towards one another. Newton laid down those laws of gravitation,—(1st) The gravitating forces of bodies are directly as their masses. If the mass of a body be twice that of another, its gravity is also double. (2d) The gravitating forces of bodies are inversely as the squares of their distances. When the distance of bodies is doubled, their gravity is reduced to a fourth. When the distance is tripled, the gravity is reduced to a ninth, etc., 107, etc.</p> | |
| <p>Gypsum. A mineral composed of lime and sulphuric acid; hence also called sulphate of lime. Plaster and stucco are obtained by exposing gypsum to a strong heat. It is found so abundantly near Paris that plaster of Paris is a common term in this country for the white powder of which casts are made.—<i>Lyell</i>. (<i>γυψος</i>, chalk; from <i>γη</i>, earth, and <i>ἔψω</i>, to bake.) This is the</p> | |