

Syenitic Gneiss contains very little feldspar, we call the rock *Hornblende Schist*.

The names above explained embrace a majority of the rocks, and I do not by any means expect you to learn at present all of the others. But we may mention a few. Some rocks *appear* to be composed wholly of one mineral, and yet they are not quartzites. They are mostly dark-colored—slate-colored or blackish or greenish. If these are banded in different colors, or are capable of splitting into sheets, like shingles, they are *Argillites*—including most of the hard slates, like roofing slate. If a rock is very fine, blackish, and harder than slate, it may be an *Aphanite*. If it consists of a very fine, hard, uniform reddish or greenish base, having crystals of feldspar scattered through it, the rock is a *Porphyry*. But, if you feel inclined to go further into rock-details, it will be better to study some work which takes up the subject more thoroughly. (See the Author's *Geological Excursions*, and still fuller *Geological Studies*).

One word more. These boulder rocks are all hard, crystalline, and generally (not always) foreign to the region where they lie. We sometimes find fragments of rocks which are not hard and crystalline, and far-fetched. They come from ledges which appear at the surface not far away. The most common uncrystalline ledges are of sandstone, limestone, and shale. *Sandstone* is composed chiefly of grains of quartz—like those in a granular quartzite, but not so brilliant or so firmly compacted together. A grindstone is a fine sandstone. *Limestone* can be easily scratched with a knife; is generally not composed of grains; and, if you apply strong acid, an effervescence takes place. Very strong vinegar will often suffice, especially if the rock is first pulverized. *Shale* is quite soft, easily cut with a knife, dark-bluish or black, splitting into thin sheets. It is exceedingly common in coal regions. It crumbles into small fragments, and finally becomes mere mud.

I think this little knowledge about rocks is better than total ignorance. We may now go amongst our boulders, and speak many of their names.