

3. There were by no means so many tarnished and rusty parts in my first platina as in that of Comte de Milly's, nor was it properly a rust which covered the surface of those ferruginous particles, but a black substance produced by fire, and perfectly similar to that which covers the surface of burnt iron. But my second platina, that which I had from the royal cabinet, had a mixture of some ferruginous parts, which under the hammer were reduced into a yellow powder, and had all the characters of rust. This platina therefore of the royal cabinet, and that of Comte de Milly, resembling in every respect, it is probable that they proceeded from the same part, and by the same road. I even suspect that both had been sophisticated and mixed nearly one half with foreign crystalline and ferruginous rusty matters, which are not to be met with in the natural platina.

4. The production of Prussian blue by platina appears evidently to prove the presence of iron in those parts even of this mineral which are the least attractable to the magnet, and at the same time confirms what I have advanced on the intimate mixture of iron in its substance. The flowing of platina by spirits of nitre, also proves that although it has no sensible effervescence, this acid attracts the platina in an evident manner ;