

parts ; so much the more abundant as the platina was reduced to a fine powder. The first piece, whose grains were only agglutinated, being ground, rendered many more magnetical parts than the second and third, the grains of which had undergone a stronger fusion ; but, nevertheless, being both ground, they furnished magnetical parts ; insomuch that it cannot be doubted that there is iron in platina, after it has undergone the fiercest efforts of fire, and the devouring actions of the heat in the cupel. This demonstrates, that this mineral is really an intimate mixture of gold and iron, which hitherto has not been able to separate.

6. I made another observation with M. Morveau on melted, and afterwards on ground platina ; namely, that it takes in grinding precisely the same form as it had before it had been melted ; all the grains of this melted and ground platina are similar to those of the natural, as well in form as variety of size ; and they appear to differ only because the smallest alone suffer themselves to be raised by the loadstone, and in so much the less quantity as the platina has endured the fire. This seems also to prove, that, al hough the fire has been strong enough not only to burn and vitrify, but even to drive off a part of the iron with other vitrescible matter