VII. Observations on the British trade with Turkey

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days pour off whichever of these liquids you have employed, and supply its place with warm water, which ought to be changed every three or four hours, until it come off perfectly clear. When the matter with which the prints are dirtied is of a resinous nature, which sometimes happens, dip them in a little alcohol : afterwards suffer all the moisture to drain off, and cover the prints with the liquor of the oxygenated muriatic acid made by minium. Place on the edges of the wax another pane of glass, of the same size as that below, in order that you may not be too much incommoded by the smell of the acid ; and you will then plainly see the yellowest prints resume their original whiteness. One or two hours will be sufficient to produce the desired effect. Having then poured off the acid, wash the prints, several times, in pure water, and dry them in the sun,

VII. *Observations on the British Trade with Turkey. From*
Eton's Survey of the Turkish Empire.

FORMERLY the trade to Turkey was of considerable importance to this country ; but of late years it had been languishing, and at last dwindled into a state of insignificance, when the present war entirely put a stop to all communication with the ports of the Levant.

As this trade will be again opened when a peace takes place, an investigation of the causes of its decline, and the means to give it its ancient extension, may not, in the mean time, be unimportant to the government and to the merchants of this country.

The causes of its gradual decline are, 1st, The rivalry of other European nations ; 2dly, The diminution of the consumption of our manufactures in Turkey, by the impoverished state of the country ; 3dly, Some branches of trade being got into other channels ; and 4thly, The monopoly of the Levant Company in London.

With

With respect to the rivalry of other nations, that cause will be considered when I speak of the Levant Company. As to the impoverished state of Turkey, it must affect the trade of other European nations as well as our own; if we are not, therefore, to expect to see it again in that flourishing state in which it was, when there were forty English houses of trade at Aleppo, (at present there is but one,) we may at least expect to have the same proportion of it as we then had; and if we acquire only this, our trade to the Levant will still be a national object. Some branches of trade are got into other channels; this regards principally certain imports from Turkey, and particularly of silk from Aleppo, whence formerly larger quantities of Persian silk came, which is not now brought thither, but the East India Company supply our market cheaper and more abundantly. Considerable quantities of cotton and drugs come from Holland and from Italy, which formerly came direct. This will also be accounted for in the next consideration, the monopoly of the Levant Company.

It is often necessary, and where merchants undertake to open to the country a new branch of trade, and where the expence and risk is great, it is just, to grant them exclusive privileges, or monopolies, for a certain limited time, to prevent others from reaping the harvest they had sown, and to secure their laudable industry as far as possible from risk; but when that risk exists no more, and when they have reaped their harvest over and over again, and have had a full compensation for their risk, their industry, and their expence, the country at large has a right to a participation of the trade. There may, indeed, sometimes exist circumstances of a peculiar nature, which give them a claim to a longer indulgence in their monopoly, particularly where that monopoly is no injurious, but, on the contrary, beneficial to the country in general, (and such is the case of the East India Company;) but in a trade where the merchants have no common stock, and can urge none of the above reasons in defence of their

monopoly; where they cannot prove that any particular loss would accrue to them by abolishing it; where it has operated as a restraint on the trade, confining it to narrow bounds, and giving a decided superiority to their rivals of other nations, to the almost total exclusion of the products and manufactures of their country from that to which their privilege exclusively permits them to trade, ought in common sense such a monopoly to exist? The Levant Company is truly become the *dog in the manger*; it does not operate so much to the profit of the company, as to the loss of the country.

This monopoly is of a singular nature: it has none of the advantages of a common stock, in which many individuals risk small sums, but which in the aggregate amount to a larger capital than any one merchant or set of merchants possess, or would choose to risk; a common stock to which any one may contribute, and which thereby, strictly speaking, ceases to be a monopoly: it is a privilege granted to certain persons only to trade to Turkey, each with his own capital, and for his own particular account and risk, without any assignable reason why they should be preferred to others his majesty's subjects: it has all the disadvantages of other monopolies; it has not one of their advantages.

In speaking thus freely of the company, I solemnly declare that I have no private motive, no rancour against any individual, and no inducement for writing on this subject but the advantage of the country. The few members of the company with whom I am acquainted I personally respect and highly esteem: on this subject they must differ with me; they are bound by oath to support the interests of their body.

The trade of all other nations to Turkey is free, and they have experienced the advantage of being liberated from the fetters of exclusive privileges. Let every obstacle be removed in this country to an equally free commerce, and the superior industry, skill, and riches of our manufacturers, our traders,

traders, and our navigators, will again restore to us our lost Turkey trade.

It may be said, that at present the Levant Company is not a monopoly, as any one, by paying twenty pounds, may become a member of it. When the trade was already ruined, it was imagined that this regulation was equivalent to laying the trade open, (a proof that government have thought it necessary to abolish the monopoly;) but the bye-laws of the company, and the power to enforce them, were permitted to exist, and these so fetter the trade to new adventurers, that few have found their account in pursuing it, and the trade still remains a monopoly in favour of the old houses.

It will be necessary to pass in review these bye-laws, which have operated so injuriously to the trade in general; and to show how they have gradually effected its total ruin, and the introduction of rivals, who have gotten possession of what we have lost.

By one of the bye-laws, for instance, it was enacted, that all merchandize brought from Turkey, and imported into England, should be the produce of goods exported from England to Turkey. The following are the words of the bye-law:

“That upon entering goods received in England from Turkey or Egypt, every member shall in like manner subscribe the following affirmation; *videlicet*:

“I affirm, by the oath I have taken to the Levant Company, that the goods above mentioned are for account of myself, or others free of the said company, or of such as now have their licence to trade, and are beyond the seas; and that the said goods, nor any part of them, are not, to the best of my knowledge, the produce of gold or silver, either in coin or bullion, sent into Turkey; but that the said goods are purchased by merchandize, or monies arising or to arise from the sale of merchandize sent into Turkey or Egypt, from Europe, or from the British settlements in America, on account of freemen of the Levant Company, or such as have their licence to trade, and of which regular entries have been

made

made with the company, or are purchased by freight received in Turkey or Egypt, by ships navigated according to law; which freight is entirely the property of members of the company, or such as have their licence to trade."

And every merchant or factor in Turkey or Egypt is required to make a similar affidavit, on exporting goods from Turkey for England; and to give, on oath, an exact account of every kind of transaction or business, direct and indirect; so that all his affairs become known.

The object of this law is evidently to encourage the exportation of cloth; and when we had no rivals, it produced no bad effects; but it soon produced rivals, and it continued in force till they had nearly got possession of the whole cloth trade. Such a law, indeed, was sufficient to ruin any trade. One house may deal in exports, another in imports; one may combine its Italian with its Turkey trade; another may send vessels for the carrying trade: but if every individual house be obliged to keep an exact register on oath, and under a penalty of 20 per cent. called "a broke," of all its exports and imports, and to balance them exactly, how is such a trade to prosper, where the profits are reduced by the rivalry of foreign nations? This bye-law at length, when it had produced the full effect of its ill tendency, was repealed; but the trade was not revived: so difficult is it to turn back commerce from channels into which it has run.

It will be asked, then, what are the restraints which now lie on the trade?

The subjection to the control of the company; the necessity of making entries with it of all their transactions on oath, and not being able to be concerned in anywise with others not free of the company, or foreigners; the power in the company, for the least violation of their rules, to inflict a penalty of 20 per cent.; the idea of restraint, and the apprehension of violating a solemn oath, have made many determine to trade with Turkey through foreign and circuitous channels, without becoming free of the company: witness
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the very large quantities of cottons and drugs, &c. which come from Holland and Italy, as the custom-house books prove. This was the case till our trade to Holland and the Mediterranean was stopped by the war, and in that same situation we shall be when a peace takes place.

The drugs, &c. which are imported from Italy, were carried thither from Turkey; they had already given a profit to the Italian factor in Turkey; to the importer, and to the purchaser in Italy, who cleans, afforts, repacks, and often adulterates them; to the commissioner, who purchases them for his correspondent in England; to which add charges, and interest of money for so long a disbursement, which the different people through whose hands the merchandise has gone have all calculated, as well as their profits, double freights, and loading and unloading, &c. &c.

Cottons are imported from Holland, because the company cannot import themselves enough for the consumption; and the reason why they do not is, because the old members, who are under no apprehensions of the bye-laws, find other articles enow to employ their whole capital, and beyond that the trade cannot increase. This is the reason, as will be seen hereafter more fully, why the trade in exports as well as imports is confined within such narrow bounds.

The British merchants in Italy and other foreign countries, not being members of the company, (and to become free of the company they must come to England,) cannot trade with British houses in Turkey; and these, if they will trade to Italy, must trade with foreigners: thus all combinations of the trades are prevented. English vessels in the Mediterranean might often make a voyage to Turkey, instead of lying in an Italian port, and return time enough to take in their cargoes for England.

The great preference given to British vessels in the Mediterranean would assure them an employment whenever they want freights. This carrying or caravan trade is so extensive,
that,

that, besides the French, the little state of Ragusa has no less than 400 vessels in it.

Were the masters of ships, their owners, and the English merchants in Italy and Turkey, under no restraint in regard to the Levant Company, people would risk more readily the sending their vessels to the Mediterranean to get employment in this carrying business, and, their speculation in trade being free, they would find means to employ their vessels in the intervals of their being without freights; the masters, owners, and correspondents might combine their own speculations in merchandize with their carrying business, and thus keep them constantly employed. It is the want of these resources to our ships, that prevents English owners from sending their ships into the Mediterranean to seek freights, and prevents the few which do go thither from profiting so much by it as those of other nations, whose houses of trade are nearer, and whose trade is under no restrictions.

Had the Turkey trade in England never been a monopoly, the French would never have got possession of almost all the cloth trade; and the laying it open will be the only means of our coming in again for any considerable share in it. There is a greater demand in Turkey for the light Languedoc cloths, than for any other sort. The Turks clothe their servants twice a year; and the French cloth, made into loose garments, (which last much longer than the tight European drefs,) is strong enough for their purpose, and its cheapness causes it to be preferred; poorer people, who form the great body of consumers, buy it also for æconomical reasons. English broad cloth, called mahoot, (of a light quality, made purposely for the Turkey market,) is only worn by those in easier circumstances. Considerable quantities of cloth have also of late years come to Turkey from Germany.

It is the opinion of many people well acquainted with these matters, that the English manufacturers might make the same sort of cloth as the Languedoc, and as cheap as the
French;

French ; but, as long as the Levant Company exists, who is to undertake it? Were the trade laid entirely open, it is probable that all kinds of English manufacturers would send people (called riders) to Turkey to seek for commissions, as they do to all parts of Europe. This practice, though not very agreeable to English merchants, (which however may not be the case in Turkey, as they may find the mediation of merchants necessary,) would greatly increase the vent of English commodities, and these industrious people might possibly be the means of our regaining the cloth trade.

The few merchants who are in the true secret of the Levant trade, can employ in it their whole capital advantageously, and therefore do not seek for new branches, or how to recover old ones which are lost.—This is the great secret.

The French do not get their wool cheaper than we do; the price of labour may be less; but will not superior skill and industry, with larger capitals, compensate this single circumstance against us? Experience in other articles shews it, as in the manufactures of Manchester, Sheffield, and Birmingham.

It is very worthy of attention, that the French cannot make so cheap as we can the same kinds of cloth, which our people bring to the Turkey market; it is not that they cannot make them so fine, for they make in France much finer cloth than that kind of broad cloth made in England purposely for the Turkey market. There is also a coarse strong cloth brought to Turkey from England, called *londras*: these the French cannot make so cheap neither; nor are their shalloons so cheap. In short, there is no sort of woollen stuff made in the two countries, of the same quality, which the English do not sell cheaper than the French. The fact seems to be, that the French invented a kind of cloth more proper for the general consumption of Turkey than that which the English had brought thither; and the English never attempted to follow their example, but continued carrying

rying to the market a sort of cloth, which at last got almost out of use. Whenever the English shall have made and brought to Turkey the same kind of cloth as the French, and cannot afford it so cheap, then with certainty we may conclude that the French have an advantage over us; but till then it ought to be doubted, and certainly it merits the trial; but a fair trial never can be made till the Levant trade is entirely free.

But even supposing that we cannot regain the cloth trade, there are very many other objects worth attending to, and which may be of great national advantage.

The Manchester stuffs would find a great vent in all parts of Turkey. The manufactories of Aleppo and Damascus are almost ruined; and if the Manchester people were to imitate the Turkish patterns of their stuffs, they could certainly afford them cheaper. Imitations of the Surat and Bengal goods of silk and cotton, which are enormously dear, would find also a ready sale in Turkey; and cotton velvets, velverets, &c. Birmingham and Sheffield wares would be articles of importance. The Turks, both in Europe and Asia, have a great partiality for all these kinds of English manufactures, and in general the epithet English is synonymous with excellent.

These articles at present are not attended to; but the masters of ships, who bring out their little ventures to Turkey in a contraband manner, in these kind of things, make great profits; they can, however, bring only small quantities, lest the Levant Company should take umbrage at it. A few of these goods also find their way to Turkey from Italy, but greatly enhanced in their price from the many hands they go through, and therefore this channel does not afford a great vent for them. Linen may likewise be an article of exportation for Turkey. The Turks wear linen of a hard twisted thread, very open and unbleached, which comes mostly from Egypt, and is exceedingly dear, but is the most pleasant kind to wear in hot weather. No European nation
has

has yet undertaken to imitate it ; but it is probable it might be made in Ireland infinitely cheaper than in Egypt : if this was the case, it would be of great importance. The German linens begin to be sold in considerable quantities in Turkey ; but they never will supply the place of the Egyptian, on account of their quality. Vast quantities of the above mentioned articles come from Venice and Germany, where they are dearer, and of worse quality, than those manufactured in England.

Were I to enter into an enumeration of all the English manufactures that could be sold in Turkey, and particularly in the interior parts of Asia, and point out the different ports to which they might be sent, the detail would be too long for a general representation ; but collectively it must be very obvious to every person acquainted but generally with the trade of Turkey, that our exportations to that country must become of great importance in a few years, were the monopoly removed, and the agents of the manufacturers sent to travel through the country, and get certain information of the state of its trade and manufactories.

Salt fish, could the Newfoundland ships, &c. go directly to Turkey as they go to Italy, would be a very important branch.

The East India Company could supply the Turkey market with muslins much cheaper than they are brought by the way of Baffora, of Gidda, and Suez, which trade is entirely in the hands of their servants: the trial has been successfully made ; but the members of the Levant Company have other articles now in which to invest their whole capitals. Other nations now bring large quantities of muslins to Turkey. British muslins (*i. e.* manufactured in Britain) also sell to considerable profit.

Let all this be mere supposition, is not the object of importance enough to give it a fair trial ? and does not common sense say, that a trade freed from obstacles must flourish more than when clogged with the most unsupportable shackles, or
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with any shackles at all? May it not be asked, what just right have the members of the Levant Company to lay restraints on this trade by their bye-laws? I have heard this subject discussed in Turkey, where people certainly understand the trade of the country better than in England, and I never heard one plausible reason alleged in favour of the company. Sophistical arguments may be produced in London, which may appear plausible to those who are not informed of the real state of matters in Turkey.

To show what little efforts have been made by the company to extend the trade, and how little they deviate from the footsteps of their forefathers, I will cite two striking instances:

Mr. John Humphrys, of Constantinople, was the first, who, a few years ago, imagined that English shalloons might be sold in Constantinople, and they soon became a very important article for exportation to Turkey. The French have not been able to make them so cheap.

Mr. Peter Took, of Constantinople, only about twenty years ago, discovered that he might buy raw silk from the first hands at Brusa, (the hills behind this city are visible from our merchants houses in Pera,) and thus make his returns direct to England. Before that period, from the first existence of the company, the merchants of Constantinople had always sent their money to Smyrna to be invested in silk, which the Turks and Jews of Smyrna bought at Brusa.

There is a great demand in Turkey for Staffordshire earthen-ware, which would become a very important article of commerce.

Perhaps the greatest importation of British articles into Turkey would be by foreigners, or natives of the Turkish provinces, as is the case in many branches of our commerce, where such restraints on foreigners do not exist; for instance, every one knows that not one-tenth part of our exports to Russia are on account of the Russia Company in London, or of the British Factory in Russia. These articles are sent to

Russia

Russia for account of foreigners settled in Russia, or Russians, and some part for account of our manufacturers. With respect to Germany this is still more the case.

The Levant Company exact a duty on all merchandise exported to and imported from Turkey, besides a consulage in the ports of Turkey on all the exports and imports in British vessels. This consulage is a very heavy burthen on our trade, and particularly when it is considered that some other nations pay none. The following are the words of the company's bye-law :

“ At a general court, &c. the following orders were established as proper and expedient for the support of the company's affairs, and for the government of the trade ; and they were confirmed at a general court held 3d of March 1775.

“ It was resolved and ordered, That all goods exported from Turkey or Egypt for Great Britain shall pay three consulages and one-half, or seven in the hundred, according to the rates of the company's tariff, in such species of the grand seignior's coin as his officers receive for customs ; which consulage shall be paid, one-half in thirty days, and the other half in sixty days after the departure of the ship, &c. ; and the company's treasurers are not to take any notes or obligations for the payments of consulages, but they are to insist upon being paid in money when it is due.

“ That all goods imported, &c. into Great Britain, shall pay one imposition according to the company's rates, &c. except cotton and emery stones, &c.

“ That all goods imported into Turkey or Egypt, from Leghorn, or any other port or ports of Christendom, by British subjects or British ships, for account of foreigners, shall pay a consulage of two in the hundred, &c.

“ That all goods exported from Constantinople, Smyrna, and Aleppo, to Leghorn, or any other foreign port or ports of Christendom, by British subjects, on foreign ships, on ac-

count of British subjects, shall pay a consulage of one in the hundred, &c.

“That all goods imported into Turkey or Egypt, by strangers, upon British ships, from any foreign port, &c. shall pay two in the hundred, &c. and in like manner exported, two in the hundred, &c.” and several other regulations for the paying of consulage, of lesser importance, which I omit for brevity.

“April 29th, 1785. It is resolved and ordered, &c.

“That all goods, excepting raw silk, mohair yarn, and drugs, exported from Turkey and Egypt, in the time of the plague, to Malta, Ancona, Venice, Messina, Leghorn, Genoa, or Marseilles, for the purpose of performing quarantine, and which are to be re-shipped on the same ship for Great Britain or Ireland, shall pay a consulage of two in the hundred only.”

Besides this revenue, the company have for many years received an assistance from government of five thousand pounds a year. All these sums are expended for paying a part of the salary of the ambassadors at Constantinople, the consuls at the several ports in Turkey, the chancellors and drogomans (or interpreters), and for defraying the expences attending visits from the ambassador to the porte, and of the consuls to pashas, besides extraordinary presents made at the first audience of a new ambassador and of a consul; for paying *avantias* (or money extorted by false accusations), and public entries of consuls, which were formerly very costly; and finally, for the expences of the company and its officers at home.

Were our trade put on the same footing as the Russian, the five thousand pounds government now pays, would perhaps more than suffice for all the expences which then would be necessary; and that our trade could be put on the same footing, I suppose nobody will deny. The Russian trade to Turkey is free to every one; there is no tax on it, either
under

under the appellation of consulship or otherwise; no fee is taken at any ambassador's, consul's, or chancellor's office, for documents necessary for the dispatch of trade; no presents are made by consuls to pashas or other officers; no avania is submitted to.

A consul at Smyrna only is necessary. Vice-consuls in the other ports would answer every purpose for the protection of trade; and there would be found merchants enough, who would be glad of the office without pay, for the honour of it, which in Turkey is considerable. There is at this day no necessity for consuls living in such great state as they did a few years ago. The foreign ministers at Constantinople have very considerably retrenched their expences.

The power of an ambassador and of a consul in Turkey is very great; it extends even to life and death. By one of the articles of the capitulations (or treaty with the porte) it is stipulated, that in all criminal cases wherein subjects of the porte are not concerned, ambassadors or consuls shall punish the criminal according to the laws of their country. In the Dutch capitulations this is expressed still stronger. As crimes committed in a state are crimes immediately against that state, the cognizance of them belongs to it alone. The sultan delegates his power to the ambassadors and consuls; and if in punishing the criminal they exceed the rule prescribed by the laws of their own country, they are only answerable for their conduct to the sultan; but the sultan takes no cognizance of it, therefore they are without control, and their power is despotic. It is indeed true, that they generally send such offenders home to their country; there have, however, with other nations, been examples where an European has killed a subject of the porte, and justice being demanded the ambassador or consul has put the criminal to death. Should it happen that an Englishman killed a Turk, it would certainly be better that the ambassador or consul should cause him to be hanged by his own people, than that he should deliver him up to the Turks, for justice being demanded,

there is no other alternative; if he escaped, the consequence might be a general massacre; we have lately had an example at Smyrna exactly of this nature, which cost the lives of many hundreds, and caused the European quarter to be reduced to ashes. There is no possibility of sending the criminal home if the populace demand justice.

The company have given also another power to the ambassadors and consuls over merchants, which free traders may not approve of. Their bye-law is: "If any factor or factors shall have any dealings with any person battulated by the lord ambassador, or the consul of any of the scales (ports, Scala Italian) in Turkey, with the advice of the respective factories, such factor or factors shall pay a fine for every offence to the amount of three consulages upon the value of the transaction by or with such battulated person, without appeal, &c." Battulation with them signifies interdiction of all commerce with the person battulated. The intention was to prevent the factors or merchants having dealings with litigious persons of the country; but this power has been abused.

The ambassador formerly had a considerable revenue from protections granted to subjects of the porte, under the title of Baratlî, or honorary drogomans; but these protections having been totally disregarded by the present sultan, who without any ceremony has beheaded several persons possessed of them, both that income and that source of constant litigation with the porte are partly done away. It were to be wished that this privilege was wholly abolished. The French several times proposed giving it up, and at a time when it was respected, and lucrative to their ambassadors.

The French also, on the representation of their ambassador, M. de St. Prieste, laid the Levant trade open; the consequence was, that immense quantities of French goods were carried to Turkey by subjects of the porte; but the company at Marseilles found means to get their exclusive privilege renewed; they had suffered, but the country had gained. At present

present every one has liberty to trade ; and since our fleet has left the Mediterranean, their commerce is revived, and, except the trade to Great Britain be equally free when a peace takes place, we shall have little chance of being able to rival them : but we must not wait till that period arrives to lay our trade open ; it must be done immediately.

As all communication with the Levant by sea is cut off, there remains no resource to our merchants, but to carry on their trade through Russia ; and though this be a circuitous way, it is not by far so expensive as might be imagined. The freights to the Baltic are very low, as half the ships go out empty. The carriage from Riga to Cherfon, or Nicolai on the Bog, is mostly by water, and the land carriage in Russia is not one fourth of the price it is in Germany. The expence on cloth would be trifling, and on cheap and bulky goods even would not be equal to the enormous price of insurance paid for armed ships, which run the voyage at present, and which is not equal to the risk ; it is indeed so great, that government should, perhaps, interfere. At Cherfon there are good vessels to be found, which in three days may carry the goods to Constantinople at a reasonable freight.

But in order to open such a communication, liberty must be obtained of the emperor of Russia to send merchandize in *transito* (without paying duty) across Russia ; and there is no doubt but that sovereign, who has studied Adam Smith's book on the Wealth of Nations, and who is perfectly acquainted with the principles of commerce and navigation, would see the very great advantage which would accrue to Russia by such a trade, both on account of the sums which would remain in the country for expences of carriage, the employment of a number of people, and also the encouragement it would be to the Russian navigation in the Black Sea ; but he never would *grant* such a privilege to a part of the British nation exclusively, and shut out from it the Russian merchants, who carry on a branch of commerce so advan-

tageous to his empire, nor exclude his own subjects from it. Before this can be done, the Turkey Company must be abolished.

At present a few goods, I am informed, have been sent to Hamburgh, thence to Vienna, and down the Danube, where they are shipped for Constantinople. The freight to Hamburgh is dearer than it is to Riga; the charges across Germany ten times as much as across Russia. At the mouth of the Danube there are only bad Turkish or Greek vessels to be freighted, on which no regular insurance can be made. At Cherfon there are some hundreds of vessels, among which many equal those to be found in the ports of other seas, and a reasonable insurance may be made on them by safe underwriters; but the route through Germany does not necessitate an abolition of the Levant Company.

VIII. *Observations on Naples Yellow, and the different Methods of preparing it.* By Professor BECKMANN.

NAPLES yellow, which is also called Neapolitan earth, in Italian *Giallolino*, and in French *Jaune de Naples*, has the appearance of an earth, is of a pale orange-yellow colour, ponderous, granulated, exceedingly friable, does not effloresce, nor become moist when exposed to the air, but when applied to the tongue seems to adhere to it. When reduced to a fine powder, it remains for some time suspended in water, but soon deposits itself at the bottom in the form of a slime. When boiled with water, the water, at least sometimes, is observed to have a somewhat saline taste. It does not effervesce with acids, but is in part dissolved by aqua-regia (*nitro-muriatic acid*). In the fire it emits no sulphureous vapour, is difficult to be fused, and by that operation undergoes no material change, only that its colour becomes somewhat redder. When fused with colourless glass, it gives it a milk-