ART. XIV.—*A new Meteoric Iron from Mexico*; by J. LAWRENCE SMITH, Louisville, Ky.

A FRAGMENT of this meteoric mass was placed in my hands by Dr. Joseph Leidy, of Philadelphia, with the following statement of its history:—"Sometime ago, the American Philosophical Society deposited its natural historical collection with the Academy of Natural Sciences. In the collection of minerals there was a special lot of Mexican minerals presented by Mr. Poinsett, who was at one time U. S. Minister to Mexico. The minerals consisted of rich silver ores, &c., among them this specimen of meteoric iron, which was labelled 'native silver, Mexico.' It appeared to be an entire meteorite, exhibiting no where a cut or broken surface; one end, however, was much crushed, as if the specimen had been used for a hammer. The present weight of the specimen is 3,600 grains; it is two inches long, one and a half wide, and one and a half high in the middle, and slopes irregularly toward each end. The face from which the piece sent was cut is hexagonal, and exhibits a partial crystalline arrangement without development by an acid."

Its structure is highly crystalline, and on the cut face of the piece I have, the laminae of the crystals are over $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch thick and cross each other at the usual angle. The Widmannstättian figures are very strongly developed by acid. Its sp. grav. is 7.72, and its composition shows the usual constituents in the following proportions:

Iron,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91.103
Nickel,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.557
Cobalt,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.763
Phosphorus,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.020
Sulphur,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	trace
Copper,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	trace

Although this specimen is spoken of as being a complete meteorite, it not unfrequently happens that fragments of larger masses of meteoric iron of a very highly crystalline structure, which have been detached for some time, present the appearance of being complete masses. It is possible that this iron may be a portion of the large mass recently sent to France from Mexico by Gen. Bazaine.