

Editorial Correspondence.

Editors Journal of the Franklin Institute.

SIRS:—My attention was called by an abstract in the *Chemical News* to the article by Mr. C. P. Williams, in a late issue of your *Journal*, upon a variety of gossan, containing cobalt and nickel, supposed to be peculiar to the outcrops of auriferous veins in Venezuela. If Mr. Williams will refer to the *American Journal of Science*, Vol. XXVII., page 24, he will observe that what appears to be *identically the same thing*, is abundant in similar geological relations over large tracts of country far nearer home.

Indeed, it is very curious, that while the aggregate of the cobalt and nickel oxides in Mr. Williams' analysis is 13.95 per cent., that of my analysis of the North Carolina gossans, as given in the extracts below, was almost the same, 13.26 per cent. The other constituents also appear to be nearly the same in each case. Not having at hand the volume of Silliman, I quote from the proceedings of the *Association* for 1858, to which body my paper was read. Excuse the length of my extracts, which seemed to me justified by the renewed interest with which the subject has been invested by Mr. Williams' communication to you. HENRY WURTZ.

No. 26 Pine Street, New York. June 20, 1870.

(From the Proceedings of the *American Association* for the Advancement of Science, Baltimore Meeting, April, 1858, pp. 221 to 227.)

ON THE OCCURENCE OF COBALT AND NICKEL IN GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

BY PROF. HENRY WURTZ, of Washington.

In an exploration of a large tract of land in Gaston and Lincoln Counties, N. C., during the last summer, I found indication of the existence of ores of cobalt and nickel, in important quantity, throughout a considerable extent of country.

The region explored comprised a range of rocks composed of alternating strata of talcose and quartzose schists, which crosses the south fork of the Catawba river a little south of the line between Lincoln and Gaston Counties, and just above the falls known as the "High Shoals of the Catawba." The general direction of this