

- TESTACEA.** Molluscous animals, having a shelly covering. *Etym.*, *testa*, a shell, such as snails, whelks, oysters, &c.
- THERMAL.** Hot. *Etym.*, *θερμος*, *thermos*, hot.
- THERMO-ELECTRICITY.** Electricity developed by heat.
- THIN OUT.** When a stratum, in the course of its prolongation in any direction, becomes gradually less in thickness, the two surfaces approach nearer and nearer; and when at last they meet, the stratum is said to thin out or disappear.
- TRACHYTE.** A variety of lava essentially composed of glassy felspar, and frequently having detached crystals of felspar in the base or body of the stone, giving it the structure of porphyry. It sometimes contains hornblende and augite; and when these last predominate, the trachyte passes into the varieties of trap, called Greenstone, Basalt, Dolorite, &c. The term is derived from *τραχυς*, *trachus*, rough, because the rock has a peculiar rough feel.
- TRAP and TRAPPEAN ROCKS.** Volcanic rocks composed of felspar, augite, and hornblende. The various proportions and state of aggregation of these simple minerals, and differences in external forms, give rise to varieties, which have received distinct appellations, such as Basalt, Amygdaloid, Dolorite, Greenstone, and others. The term is derived from *trappa*, a Swedish word for stair, because the rocks of this class sometimes occur in large tabular masses, rising one above another like steps.
- TRAVERTIN.** A white concretionary limestone, usually hard and semi-crystalline, deposited from the water of springs holding lime in solution.—*Etym.* This stone was called by the ancients Lapis Tiburtinus, the stone being formed in great quantity by the river Anio, at Tibur, near Rome. Some suppose travertin to be an abbreviation of *trasteverino* from *transtiburtinus*.
- TRIPOLI.** The name of a powder used for polishing metals and stones, first imported from Tripoli, which, as well as a certain kind of siliceous stone of the same name, has been lately found to be composed of the flinty cases of *Infusoria*.
- TROPHI, of Insects.** Organs which form the mouth, consisting of an upper and under lip, and comprising the parts called mandibles, maxillæ, and palpi.
- TUFA, CALCAREOUS.** A porous rock deposited by calcareous waters on their exposure to the air, and usually containing portions of plants and other organic substances incrustated with carbonate of lime. The more solid form of the same deposit is called "travertin," into which it passes.
- TUFA, VOLCANIC.** See "Tuff."
- TUFACEOUS.** A rock with the texture of tuff, or tufa, which see.
- TUFF, or TUFA VOLCANIC.** An Italian name for a variety of volcanic rock of an earthy texture, seldom very compact, and composed of an agglutination of fragments of scorix and loose materials ejected from a volcano.
- TURBINATED.** Shells which have a spiral or screw-form structure. *Etym.*, *turbinatus*, made like a top.
- TURRILITE.** An extinct genus of chambered shells, allied to the Ammonites, having the siphuncle near the dorsal margin.
- UNCONFORMABLE.** See "Conformable."
- UNOXIDIZED, UNOXIDATED.** Not combined with oxygen.
- VEINS, MINERAL.** Cracks in rocks filled up by substances different from the rock, which may either be earthy or metallic. Veins are sometimes many yards wide; and they ramify or branch off into innumerable smaller parts, often as slender as threads, like the veins in an animal, hence their name.
- VERTEBRATED ANIMALS.** A great division of the animal kingdom, including all those which are furnished with a back-bone, as the mammalia, birds, reptiles, and fishes. The separate joints of the back-bone are called *vertebræ*, from the Latin verb *verto*, to turn.
- VESICLE.** A small, circular, inclosed space, like a little bladder. *Etym.*, diminutive of *vesica*, Latin for a bladder.
- VITRIFICATION.** The conversion of a body into glass by heat.
- VOLCANIC BOMBS.** Volcanos throw out sometimes detached masses of melted lava, which, as they fall, assume rounded forms (like bomb-shells), and are often elongated into a pear shape.
- VOLCANIC FOCI.** The subterranean centres of action in volcanos, where the heat is supposed to be in the highest degree of energy.