

THE HOLOTYPE OF HAÜYNE

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1. Abstract

The aim of this brief monograph is to clarify the correct holotype of the mineral species known as *häüyne*, through a detailed analysis of historical and bibliographic sources. At present, such a holotype is registered at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris (code H2395ff) and corresponds to a specimen of the collection of R. J. Häüy, coming from Mount Somma, a well-known locality placed at north of the volcanic area of Vesuvius. Many historical evidences, however, prove that the samples which were originally analyzed (of course, according to the methods of that time) and identified as *häüyne* come from a different area, located around Lake Nemi. Then, the correct locality of the *häüyne* holotype should be identified as Nemi.

2. Introduction

As is well known, in Mineralogy the term *holotype* defines the single specimen used to univocally identify the mineral's physical and chemical characteristics and, eventually, to recognize it as a new species. Since 1959, the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) regulates the recognition of each new species and verifies, through highly specialized subcommittees, the correctness of the analysis procedures, the evaluation of results and the consistency/adequacy of the proposed name. These data must be officially published within a well-defined limited time and, in addition to chemical and morphological features, it is also necessary to specify the location of the original finding (which is called "type-locality" of the species) and the place where the holotype is entrusted. Within this context, our aim is to clarify what should be accounted for as the *häüyne* holotype or, in other words, what is the early specimen which was analyzed and classified as a *häüyne*¹ and, above all, where it comes from. It is worth noting that this research took a long time and is based on official bibliographic sources available in literature and mentioned in a lot of historical and mineralogical reviews.

3. History of the holotype

The history of the early finding of this mineral dates back to the first years of the 19th century, as evidenced by many reports and written notes between scholars and researchers.

¹ Na₃Ca(Si₃Al₃)O₁₂(SO₄), tectosilicate of the Cancrinite-Sodalite group, Sodalite subgroup, cubic system.

2.1 Bruun-Neergaard and Gismondi

In May 1807, the Danish mineralogist Tønnes Christian Bruun-Neergaard² published a paper on the *Journal des Mines* entitled *De la Haiüyne, Nouvelle substance minerale* [1], based on a report he read at the Class of Sciences of the National Institute. The same paper (written in French and attached in Appendix with the addition of useful notes for the reader) was published on the *Journal für die Chemie, Physik und Mineralogie* too [2, 3]: there, the author showed the results of the analysis carried out on a specimen of *lazialite* (*latialit*), which was given to him by Giuseppe Gismondi³, and mentioned some parts of an earlier Memorandum the same Gismondi read at the Lincei Academy in 1803⁴ [4]. The paper unequivocally reports that Bruun-Neergaard gave the name *haiüyne* to the same specimen of *latialit* found by Gismondi around Lake Nemi. In fact, Bruun-Neergaard made no distinction between the specimen of *haiüyne* he analysed on his own and the ones of *latialit* Gismondi dealt with in his Memorandum at the Lincei Academy. On the other hand, the misunderstanding concerning the *haiüyne* type-locality cannot be attributed either to the specimens found by the same author *in Naples* (to be meant as Mount Somma), whose analysis results he regrets to ignore (see note 17 in Appendix), or the chemical investigations performed with the help of Vaquelin on the same specimens of *haiüyne* provided by Gismondi, whose results were essentially the same (see note 14 in Appendix).

2.2 The Mineralogical Museum of Nazarene College

The specimens analyzed by Bruun-Neergaard are, by his own admission, the ones found by Gismondi near Lake Nemi. This fact is not put into question even by the work of reordering and cataloging performed by the Roman Mineralogical Group (GMR) on the old-time collection of the Nazarene College, which was based on the analysis of original cards from the early 1900s and led to the re-opening of the Mineralogical Museum (1997). Such a relevant and detailed work revealed the lack of any *haiüyne* and *latialit* specimen coming from the Lake Nemi area, although the collection probably includes some of the minerals from Gismondi's research activity, as well as some *haiüyne* (erroneously referred to as *gismondine*⁵) from Albano and the surroundings of Rome. On the other hand, the collection boasts a lot of historical specimens, as the ones from Lake Laach mentioned in the same Bruun-Neergaard

² BRUUN-NEERGAARD Tønnes Christian (1776-1824), Danish writer and traveler. He lived in Paris around 1800 and became famous for his rich collection of minerals. He studied mineralogy at the University of Copenhagen.

³ GISMONDI Carlo Giuseppe (1762-1824), was a member of the oldest Catholic educational order, known as the Scolopi. He was a professor at the Nazarene College in Rome, where he collaborated with G. V. Petrini in the foundation of the Mineralogical Museum. He was also the first director of the Mineralogical Museum of the Sapienza University in Rome, and the Mineralogical Museum in Naples.

⁴ The original title of the Memorandum is *Osservazioni Geognostiche sopra i contorni del lago di Nemi*, 1803; it was published by Il Cercapietre, Notiziario del GMR., 1998, n.1/2.

⁵ Ca₄(Al₈Si₈O₃₂)16H₂O, tectosilicate mineral of the Zeolite group, monoclinic system, ps.-tet.

report and examined by Gismondi, Morichini, Vauquelin and the same Haiÿy⁶, which also demonstrate the relationships between many important scholars of that time. In this regard, it is interesting to note what Morichini writes in his *Biografia degli Italiani illustri* [5, 6], in the section devoted to Gismondi: “*mineralogists from the most disparate localities, including the immortal Haiÿy [...] asked to our professor⁷ explanations about specimens from their own country and proposed to trade them with minerals from our regions. These trades improved both the Mineralogical Museum of the University and the collection of the Nazarene College*”.

2.3 Brocchi and Breislak

There are lot of citations of *latialit* subsequent to the Bruun-Neergaard report, but the one we want to remind here is from Giovanni Battista Brocchi⁸, who gave a lecture at the Real Academy of Naples, published in 1820 on the *Giornale di Letteratura, Scienze ed Arti* [7]. In his work, Brocchi expressed his great surprise for the remarkable findings of *latialit* on Mount Volture. Furthermore, he identified Scipione Breislak as the first scholar who reported about the discovery of a specimen by the *docteur Thompson*⁹ in the Mount Somma area and dealt with its characteristics in the *Voyages physiques et lythologiques dans la Campanie* in 1801 (page 162 on) [8, 9]. Nevertheless, Breislak explicitly refers to the *latialit*¹⁰ and describes it as: *i*) a dark blue material on a white-yellowish and fine-grained limestone; *ii*) blue grains in the substance of the leucite and disseminated in the cavities of a limestone rock; *iii*) blue-sky grains scattered in the white quartz and mica, or *iv*) a light blue and opaque grained material, which covers the surface and fills the fissures of brown siliceous rocks. However, Brocchi presented his considerations by ignoring the existence of the Bruun-Neergaard report of 1807 or, in any case, by not conferring to it the correct scientific and historical relevance.

2.4 The haiÿyne from Mount Somma

In a period prior to the Gismondi Memorandum at the Lincei Academy, William Thompson had attributed the name *haiÿyne* to a new species found in the Mount Somma area. In his work, Bruun-Neergaard reported that Haiÿy himself did not consider that mineral a new species, as rather a type of *hydocrase* (specifically, a *vesuvianite*¹¹).

⁶ HAÛY René Just (1743-1822) was a French mineralogist and may be considered the father of the modern mineralogy and crystallography. His mineral collection, which consists of 12000 specimens, was sold to the Duke of Buckingham in 1823 and then acquired by the Museum of Natural History in Paris, in 1848.

⁷ C.G. Gismondi, A/N.

⁸ BROCCHI Giovanni Battista (1772-1826). A famous Italian geologist, who met Scipione Breislak and Giuseppe Gismondi at the Nazarene College in Rome.

⁹ THOMPSON William (1760-1806). Scottish physicist, mineralogist expert of Vesuvius and Sicily. His collection is shown in the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh and in the Natural History Museum in London.

¹⁰ Breislak surely refers to Lapis Lazuli and not to lazulite, $[\text{MgAl}_2(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_2]$, phosphate, monoclinic system, a mineral species which was found out in 1795.

¹¹ $\text{Ca}_{19}(\text{Al},\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_{13}\text{Si}_{18}\text{O}_{68}(\text{O},\text{OH},\text{F})_{10}$, sorosilicate, tetragonal system.

2.5 Petrini

From an historical point of view, it seems also useful to point out the finding of *lapis lazuli*, a rock constituted by lazurite, calcite, pyrite, cancrinite, etc., mentioned by G. V. Petrini (the founder of the Mineralogical Museum of the Nazarene College), in the lava of Ariccia [10].

2.6 Haiüyne, latialit, abrazite, gismondine

Concerning the Bruun-Neergaard decision to attribute the name *haiüyne* to the Gismondi's *latialit*, it is interesting to read the following note by Leopoldo Pilla¹², published on *Il Progresso delle Scienze, delle Lettere e delle Arti* [11]: “*The freedom to alter or change the name of new species, assigned by their own discoverers, taken by some scholars with no significant reason, represents a very disreputable behavior; this is the case of the new species by Gismondi. Undoubtedly, no mineralogist had more rights than Haiüy to see his name perpetuated in Science through the dedication to a new mineral species; nonetheless, this aim should have been achieved more by a mineral with a well-defined crystalline structure, worth of the glory of Haiüy, rather than a mineral whose crystals look like an oryctological rarity*”. On the other hand, the “injustice” was somehow balanced in 1817, when Karl Caesar Leonhard¹³ turned the name of *abrazite*, another species found by Gismondi in the lava rocks of Capo di Bove, into *gismondine*.

We really hope that all information concerning the haiüyne, available in literature and many websites, will be updated or, at least, completed with the correct references to the Memorandum read by Gismondi at the Lincei Academy on June 2, 1803, published on the GMR journal “*Il Cercapietre*” (1998).

4. A direct research

In the hope of finding some specimen similar to the haiüyne holotype and also some sample of *latialit*, it was decided to travel through the locations described by Gismondi in his Memorandum at the Lincei Academy again¹⁴. Moving from the famous Duke of Nemi¹⁵ Palace, we traveled the mentioned “*hundred steps*” northward, but it was not possible to pinpoint “*the three caves dug to extract the pozzolana*”. On the contrary, by “*coming down towards the lake, along the road that leads to the emissary*¹⁶”, it was

¹² PILLA Leopoldo (Venafrò 1805 – Curtatone 1848), geologist and professor of mineralogy in Naples and Pisa.

¹³ LEONHARD K. C. (1779-1862), mineralogist and professor at the Heidelberg University, founder of the *Taschenbuch für die gesammte Mineralogie*. His great mineral collection is exhibited at the University of Göttingen.

¹⁴ The description of the places refers to GISMONDI (1803) and the itinerary is described in FUNICIELLO [12].

¹⁵ BRASCHI-ONESTI Luigi (Cesena 1745 – Roma 1816), nephew of Pope Pius VI. The Duke of Nemi's residence, now called Palazzo Ruspoli from the name of the family who bought it in 1902, was acquired in the 90's by a private company who restored it. At present, it is unoccupied and unadorned, but not abandoned at all [13].

¹⁶ We refer to an artificial effluent, consisting of a tunnel (1635 metres long and 80 centimetres wide), dug into the rock in the 5th century BC, connecting Lake Nemi and Vallericcia. Its aim was to keep the water of the lake at a constant level and to irrigate the valley.

easy to identify some scoria layers, due to the “*lava burning*”. In this area, some minuscule traces of blue häüyne were found, spread on a mica-based fragment of a few centimeters. Hopefully, the research will go on, although the whole area is included in the Regional Park of the Roman Castles and, then, subjected to stringent regulations.

5. Invitation to the Museum

Nowadays, in the Mineralogical Museum of the Nazarene College, it is possible to admire many minerals coming from the volcanic complexes of Latium and, specifically, some samples of häüyne from various localities, given to GMR by our friend Giancarlo Parodi. These specimens are displayed with the original findings of Gismondi, thus reminding the laboratories of that time and creating an evocative atmosphere, which calls to mind the great light of Science of the 19th century¹⁷.

6. Conclusions

The essential steps in the history of häüyne may be summarized in the following, chronological way:

- 1792 – Petrini finds some *lapis lazuli* (not *häüyne*) in the lava of Ariccia;
- 1801 – Breislak finds some blue specimens in the Mount Somma area and identifies them as *lazulite* (probably meaning *lapis lazuli*);
- 1802 – Gismondi discovers the mineral at Nemi, analyzes it and reports his results at the Lincei Academy in 1803. He first realizes it is a new species and name it *latialit*;
- 1807 - Bruun-Neergaard studies the Gismondi’s specimens and publishes his results on the *Journal of Mines*. He confirms the mineral represents a new species, but considers worthwhile to name it *häüyne*.

“Ethically” speaking, next ideal step would be a new finding of a representative specimen, just in the area of Lake Nemi and “*hundred steps*” from the Ruspoli Palace, which would allow to display the species (after over two centuries) at the Museum of the Nazarene College, the place where the study of its *holotype* started. Within this regard, it is essential to point out the stance of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA), the most important mineralogical organization in the world, founded in 1958, which represents the only authority responsible for the recognition of new mineralogical species and the assignment of the corresponding names. In the IMA website the häüyne holotype appears to be registered at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, with the code H2395ff: the specimen was included in the collection of R. J. Häüy and comes from Mount Somma. However, the presented

¹⁷ Unfortunately, in 2014 the owners of the Collegio Nazareno, after closing the school founded in the seventeenth century by S. Giuseppe Calasanzio, decided to transfer the findings of the Naturalistic Mineralogical Museum to another school in Rome, managed by the Piarist Fathers. The current state of the samples is not known, although they are probably no longer at the Museum restored by GMR at the end of the twentieth century.

historical and bibliographical research suggests that, under the assumption that the place of origin is really the area around the Vesuvius, that specimen cannot be the häüyne holotype. Alternatively, if that piece is really the häüyne scrap analyzed by Bruun-Neergaard and Gismondi, it cannot come from Mount Somma, since the exact place of origin is proven to be Nemi. In other words, as we hope to have fully demonstrated, from both an historical and scientific point of view, the häüyne “type-locality” should be identified as Nemi, not Mount Somma.

Acknowledgements

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Fig. 1 - Häüyne, Mount Gentile, Ariccia, Rome. Crystal of 3 mm (*Coll. P. Rossi, photo by R. Pucci*).



Fig. 2 - Häüyne, Mount Gentile, Ariccia, Rome. Largest crystal of 2.3 mm (*Coll. P. Rossi, photo by R. Pucci*).



Fig. 3 - Häüyne, Ariccia, Rome. Crystal of 3.5 mm (*Coll. and photo by R. Pucci*).

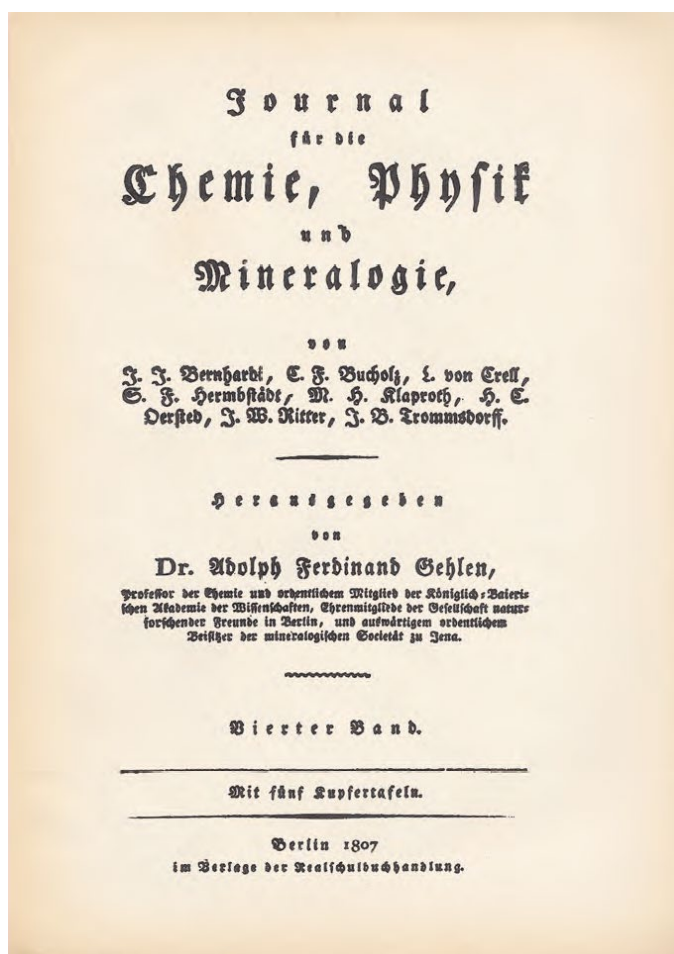


Fig. 4 - The frontispiece of the *Journal für die Chemie, Physik und Mineralogie*, where the Bruun-Neergard paper was published in 1807 (in German).



Fig. 5 - Lake Nemi and the tower of the Ruspoli Palace (*Photo by V. Nasti*)

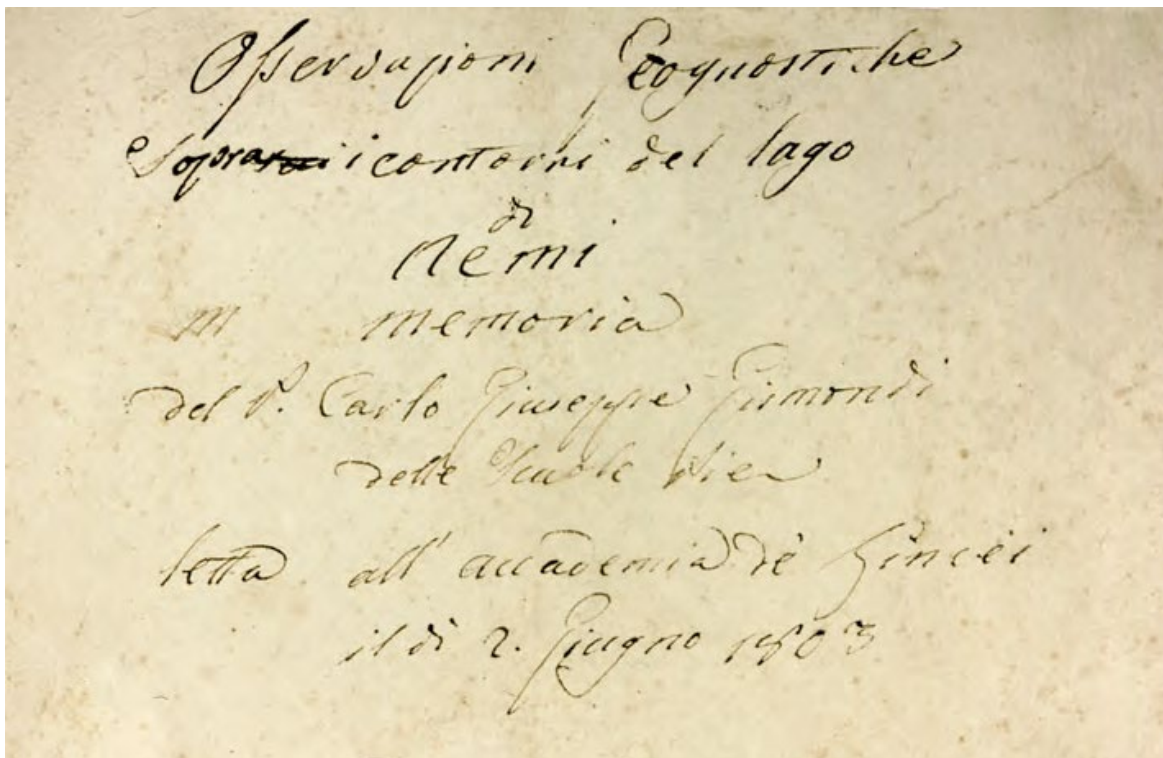


Fig. 6 - The frontispiece of the original manuscript of the Memorandum by C. G. Gismondi, read at the Lincei Academy on June 2 1803.



Fig. 7 - The inner part of Nemi crater, located in the north-western area. On the background, beyond the shores of the lake and the flat expanse, a steep escarpment is visible and (at the base of the escarpment, on the left) the road which leads to the emissary. In this area, in October 1802, Gismondi found “*in a shingle-red terrain, sprinkled with mica and olivine particles*” the fragments of the new species he named *latialit* (photo by V. Nasti).



Fig. 8 - Pyroclastics on the inner wall of Nemi crater (photo by M. Burli).



Fig. 9 - The traces of blue häüyne found in the Nemi crater, spread on a mica-based fragment of a few centimeters (*photo V. Pucci*).

APPENDIX

BRUUN NEERGAARD'S RELATION:

- DE LA HAÜYNE, NOUVELLE SUBSTANCE MINERALE –

READ AT:
SCIENCE CLASS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE
ON MAY 5 1807

PUBLISHED IN PARIS IN:
JOURNAL DES MINES
21ST VOLUME, FIRST SEMESTER 1807

Notes by V. Nasti

JOURNAL
DES MINES,

O U

RECUEIL DE MÉMOIRES
sur l'exploitation des Mines , et sur les
Sciences et les Arts qui s'y rapportent.

Par MM. COQUEBERT - MONTBRET, HAÿY, VAUQUELIN,
BAILLET, BROCHANT, TREMEY et COLLET-DESCOSTILS.

Publié par le CONSEIL DES MINES de
l'Empire Français.

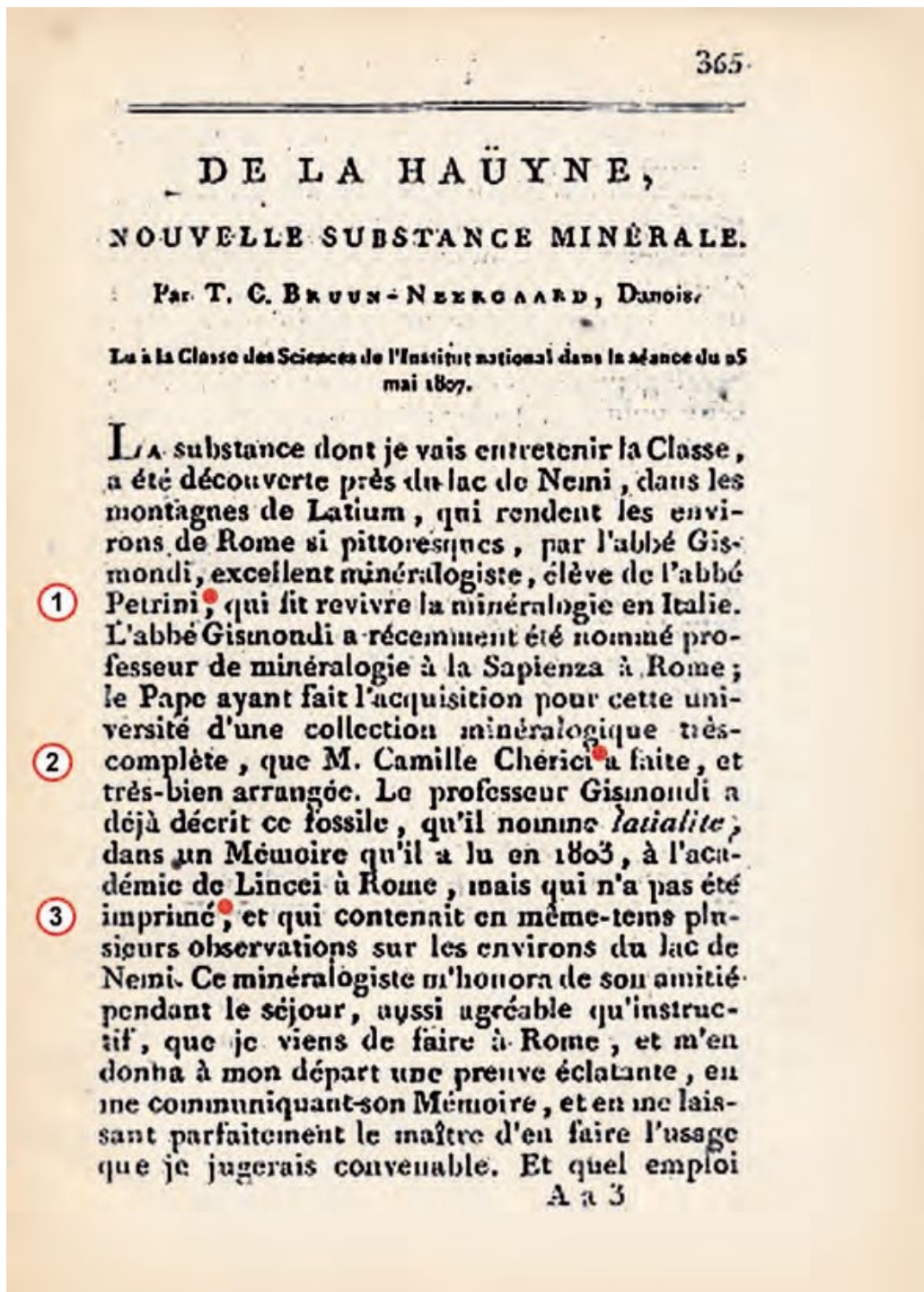
VINGT ET UNIÈME VOLUME.

PREMIER SEMESTRE, 1807.

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A P A R I S,

De l'Imprimerie de BOSSANGE, MASSON et BESSON,  
rue de Tournon, N°. 6.





1. PETRINI Gian Vincenzo (1725-1814) was the founder of the Mineralogical Museum of the Nazarene College and the author of *Il Gabinetto del Collegio Nazareno descritto secondo li caratteri esterni*, published in 1791-1792.
2. The collection Gismondi looked after consisted of a wide selection of natural evidence, gathered together during the reigns of Pope Pius VII and his precursors. The core of the collection (1116 minerals and 88 rocks from all over Europe and India, with the addition of many other rocks and minerals from Latium found by Gismondi) had been acquired by the Pope, expressly for the new Museum, by the Veronese mineralogist Camillo Chierici (and not Chericci, as incorrectly indicated in the text and in the German edition).
3. Published for the first time in *Il Cercapietre, Notiziario del Gruppo Mineralogico Romano*, Special number, March 1998, pp. 59-67.





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que des observations ultérieures n'obligent pas les minéralogistes de rejeter une seconde fois un nom si cher à la science. M. Weitch, minéralogiste allemand, vient aussi de me dire que dans un Journal de ce pays on a donné à une substance le nom d'*haiÿit*; mais que cette substance n'est qu'un aragonite.

⑥

Quelques naturalistes ont pris la substance que j'appellerai désormais *haiÿne*, pour un spath fluor, d'autres pour un spinelle; mais vous allez voir, Messieurs, qu'elle a des caractères si distincts de tous deux, que ces opinions n'auront pas même besoin d'être réfutées. Sa grande ressemblance avec la gadolinite et le lazulite, nous embarrasserait encore davantage, et nous obligerait peut-être de recourir à l'analyse pour décider qu'elle n'est ni l'un ni l'autre, et lui assigner la place qu'elle doit occuper entre les substances minérales.

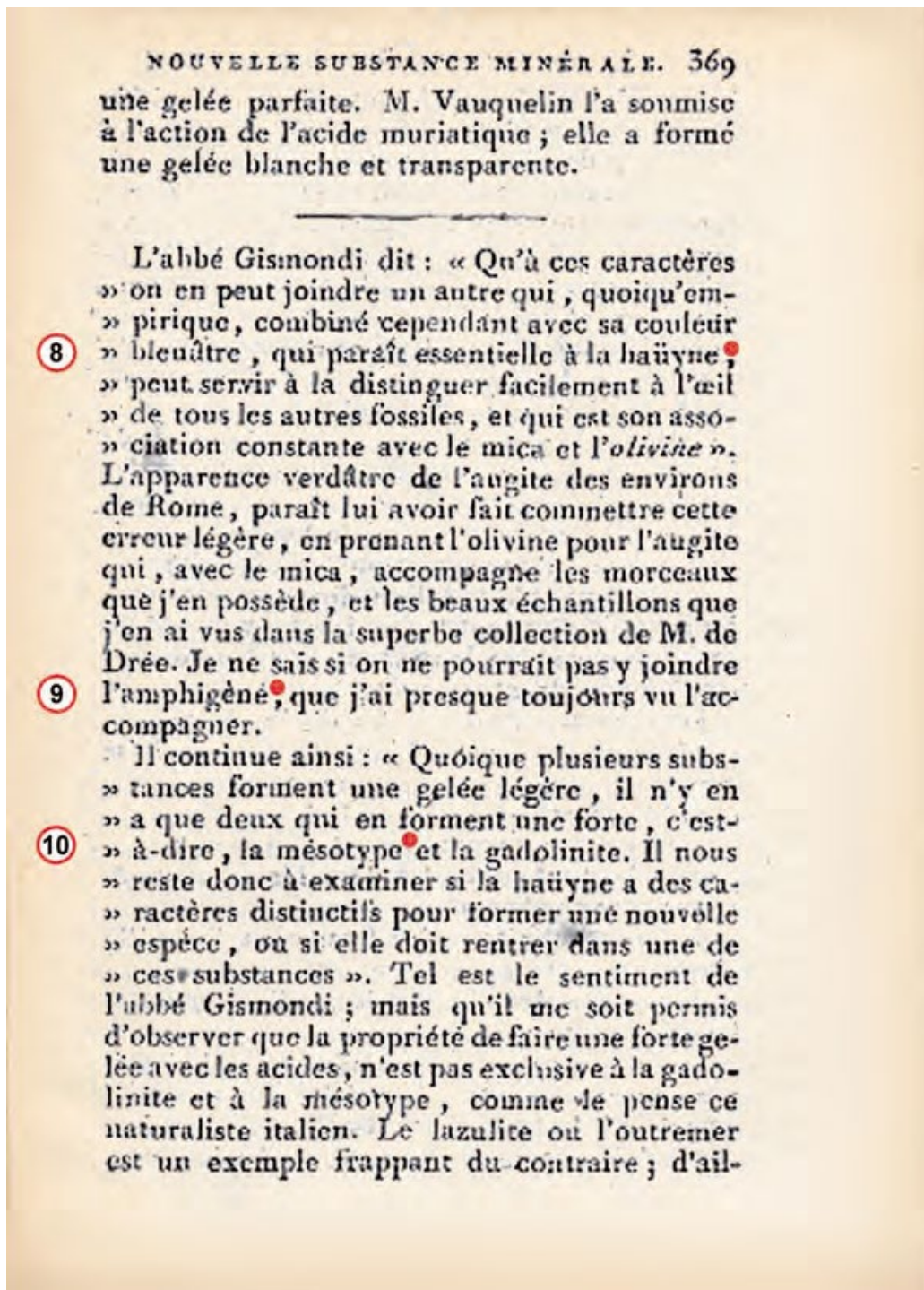
⑦

Ce n'est pas seulement les observations de l'abbé Gismondi qui formeront le principal mérite de ce Mémoire: M. Vauquelin a eu pour moi la complaisance d'analyser cette substance: M. Haiÿ a eu celle de répéter avec moi les expériences de physique déjà faites, ce qui a donné occasion d'en faire encore de nouvelles; M. Lemán m'a éclairé de ses lumières. Quant à moi, Messieurs, en vous communiquant mes observations, sur une substance que je regarde comme nouvelle, je m'estime trop heureux d'avoir pu contribuer à étendre les limites d'une science que j'aime.

Je n'ai encore vu la *haiÿne* qu'en masse, ou plutôt en grains vitreux, anguleux, plus ou moins gros.

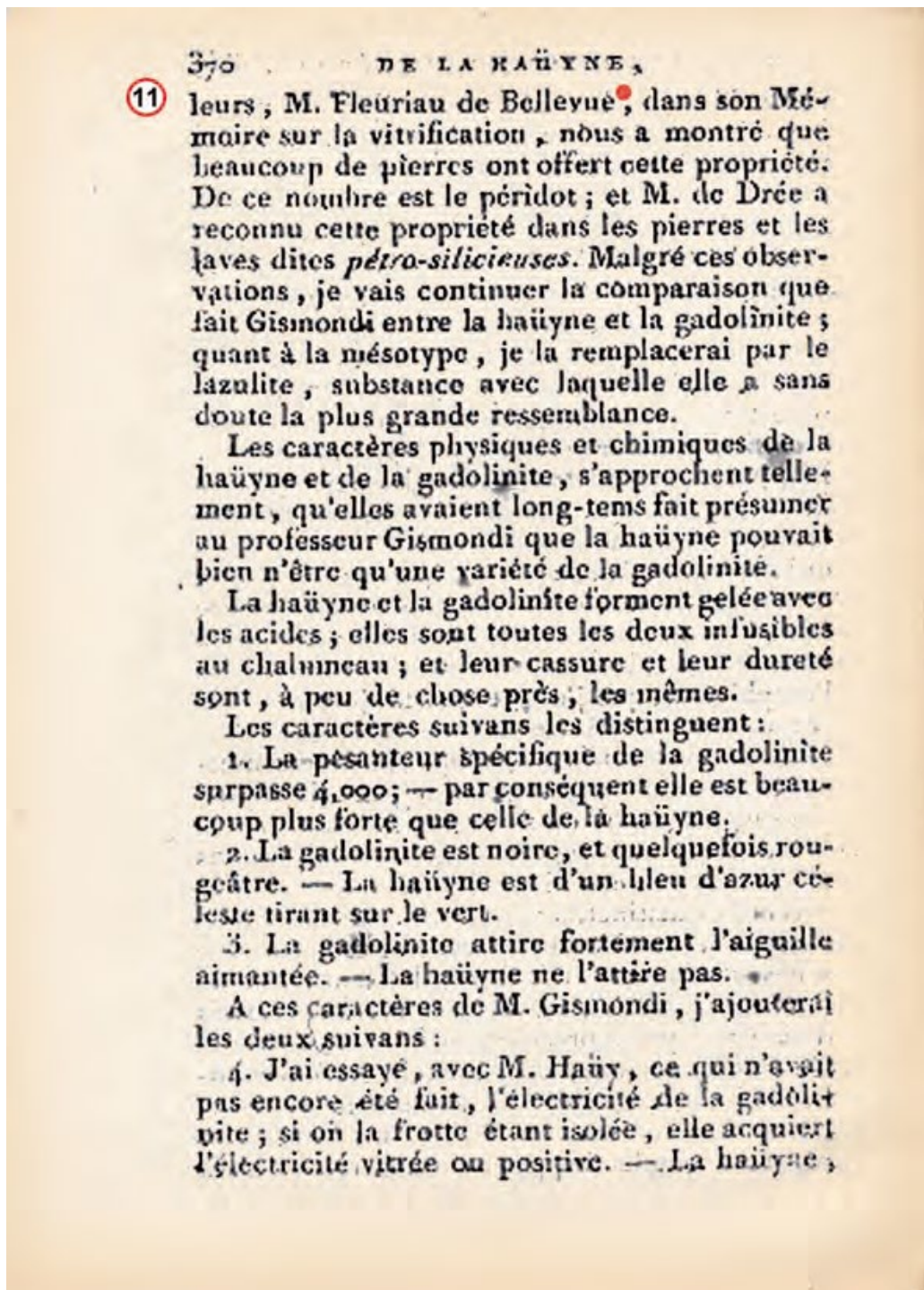
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6. In the German version of the paper, Bruun-Neergaard includes a note translated as follows: "This assertion has been reported by Mr Haberle in his *Beiträge zu einer allgemeinen Einleitung in das Studium der Mineralogie*; it is not a "presumed" aragonite but "real" aragonite, which he gave the name *haiÿit* to".
7. VAUQUELIN Louis Nicolas (16<sup>th</sup> May 1763 - 14<sup>th</sup> November 1829), French chemist and pharmacist.

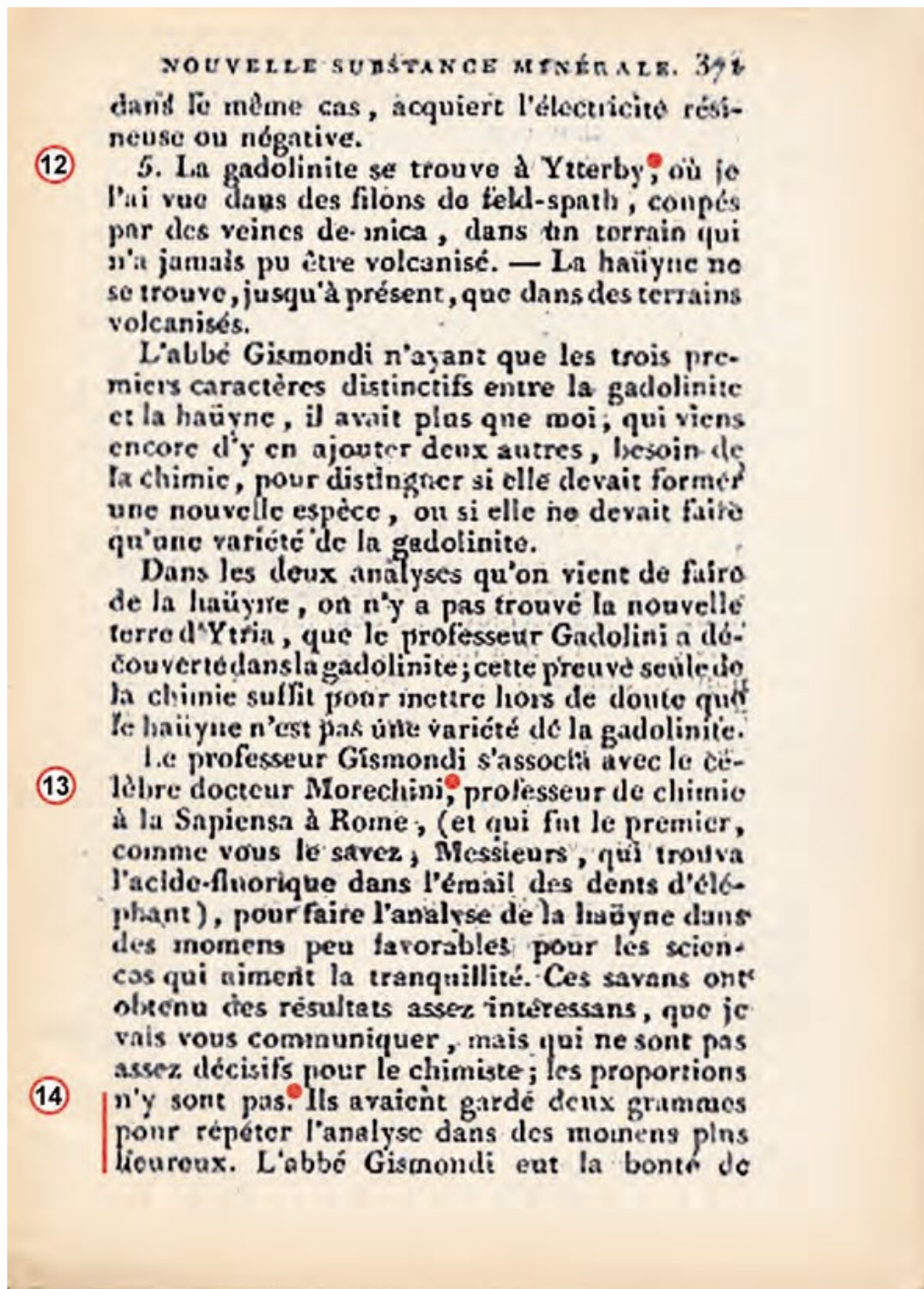


- 8. As said, by reporting the text of Gismondi's relation (1803), Bruun-Neergaard turns the name *latialit* into *haiÿyne*.
- 9. Leucite
- 10. Zeolite



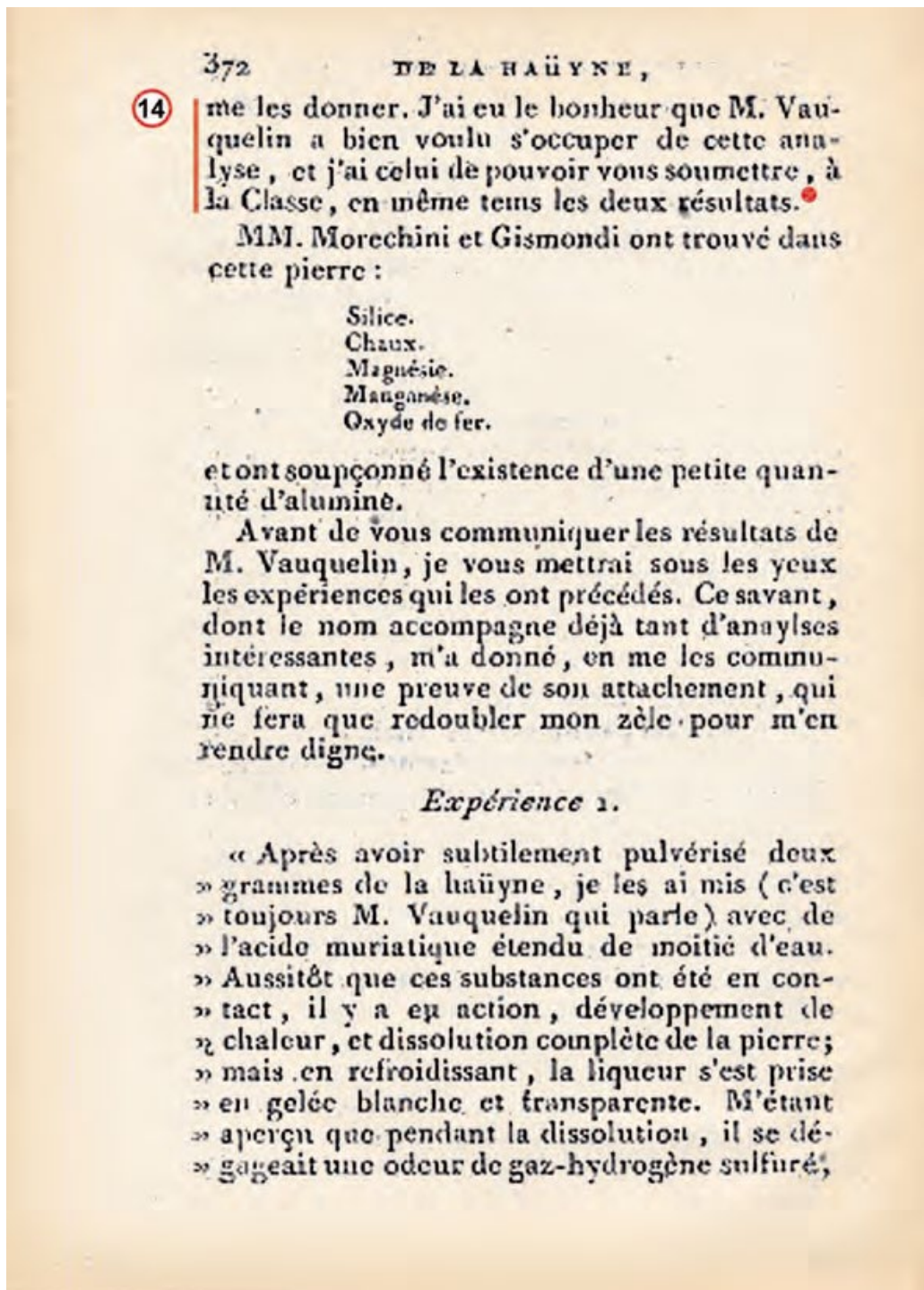


11. FLEURIAU DE BELLEVUE Louis Benjamin (1761-1852), French naturalist, who described some minerals from Latium, including, for the first time, the *melilite*.



12. Ytterby is a village on the Swedish island of Resarö, in the Vaxholm region of the Stockholm archipelago. The name comes from the famous quarry where many rare earth minerals were found and, specifically, the four chemical elements: yttrium (Y), ytterbium (Yb), terbium (Tb) and erbium (Er). Some other elements were discovered at the Ytterby quarry: gadolinium (Gd), from the chemist Johan Gadolin; holmium (Ho), from the Latin name of Stockholm; scandium (Sc), from the Latin word *Scandia* (for Scandinavia) and Thulium (Tm), being *Thule* an archaic Latin word used in the Nordic countries.
13. MORICHINI Domenico Pino (Civitanino 1773 – Rome 1836), doctor and naturalist, in 1797 held the chair of Chemistry at the Sapienza University of Rome. The collaboration with Gismondi dates back to those years and went on in the years that followed. Carlo Morichini, Domenico's son, went to study, at the age of ten, to the Casalanzio Minore of Scolopi in Albano and was appointed Bishop of Albano in 1877.





14. [...] *They had preserved two grams to repeat the analysis in happier moments. Abbot Gismondi generously gave them to me. Luckily for me, Mr Vauquelin wished to work on these analyses, then I am able to show to the Class both the results at the same time [...].*

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» j'ai placé sur l'ouverture du vase un mor-  
 » ceau de papier imbibé d'acétate de plomb,  
 » qui a été aussitôt noirci d'une manière très-  
 » intense ; ce qui ne m'a laissé aucun doute  
 » sur l'existence de l'hydrogène sulfuré dans  
 » cette pierre.

*Expérience 2.*

» Lorsque la pierre a été parfaitement dé-  
 » composée, j'ai délayé dans l'eau la gelée  
 » qu'elle a formée avec l'acide muriatique, et  
 » l'ai évaporée à siccité par une chaleur mé-  
 » nagée. J'ai ensuite repris le résidu avec de  
 » l'eau, et j'ai filtré.

» D'après la manière dont ce minéral me  
 » paraît avoir été attaqué, je m'attendais que  
 » la silice restée après l'évaporation serait pure ;  
 » cependant son aspect, son toucher doux,  
 » m'annonçaient qu'elle était encore mêlée de  
 » quelque substance étrangère. En conséquence,  
 » avant de la calciner, je l'ai fait bouillir avec  
 » de l'acide muriatique, et j'ai remarqué qu'en  
 » effet elle diminuait de volume, prenait la  
 » forme grenue, et la demi-transparence qui  
 » caractérise la silice pure. D'un autre côté,  
 » l'ammoniaque mêlé à l'acide muriatique  
 » dont je m'étais servi, a formé un précipité  
 » blanc floconneux qu'il m'a été facile de  
 » reconnaître pour de l'alumine. Après avoir  
 » bien lavé la silice, je l'ai calcinée ; elle pe-  
 » sait 6 décigrammes.

*Expérience 3.*

» J'ai fait évaporer la dissolution muriatique  
 » de l'expérience deuxième que j'avais em-



» ployée pour décomposer la pierre, et lors-  
 » qu'elle a été réduite à un petit volume, je  
 » l'ai laissée refroidir. Quelques instans après,  
 » il s'y est formé des aiguilles blanches grou-  
 » pées les unes avec les autres.

*Expérience 4.*

» Ces cristaux me paraissant être du sulfate  
 » de chaux, et m'étant aperçu que les autres  
 » sels qui les accompagnaient étaient déli-  
 » quescens, j'ai fait dessécher le tout, et je  
 » l'ai traité avec l'alcool chaud. Par ce moyen,  
 » je suis parvenu à séparer parfaitement les  
 » cristaux dont je viens de parler, des autres  
 » substances. Ces cristaux étaient du sulfate  
 » de chaux très-pur. Il y en avait 5 décigram.

*Expérience 5.*

» Après avoir fait évaporer l'alcool dans le-  
 » quel étaient les sels déliquescens, je les ai  
 » redissous dans l'eau, et j'y ai mêlé de l'am-  
 » moniaque qui y a formé un précipité blanc  
 » qui était de l'alumine pesant 3 décigrammes.

*Expérience 6.*

» Lorsque l'alumine fut précipitée et séparée  
 » par la filtration, je mêlai à la liqueur de  
 » l'oxalate d'ammoniaque, et j'obtins un pré-  
 » cipité d'oxalate de chaux: il pesait 18 cen-  
 » tigrammes; ce qui donnera environ un dé-  
 » cigramme de chaux pure.

*Expérience 7.*

» Enfin la liqueur de laquelle la chaux avait  
 » été séparée, ayant été mêlée avec un peu

NOUVELLE SUBSTANCE MINÉRALE. 375

» d'acide nitrique, je la fis évaporer à siccité,  
 » et la fis ensuite calciner dans un creuset de  
 » platine, jusqu'au moment où elle cessa de  
 » répandre des vapeurs blanches. J'ai redissous  
 » le résidu dans l'eau, et celle-ci évaporée m'a  
 » fourni 38 centigrammes de nitrate de potasse  
 » parfaitement pure et sèche; ce qui répond à  
 » environ 22 centigrammes de potasse.

» Cette pierre contient aussi du fer; mais je  
 » n'ai pu en déterminer le rapport sur une si  
 » petite quantité de matière; je crois qu'il n'y  
 » en a pas plus d'un ou deux centigrammes.

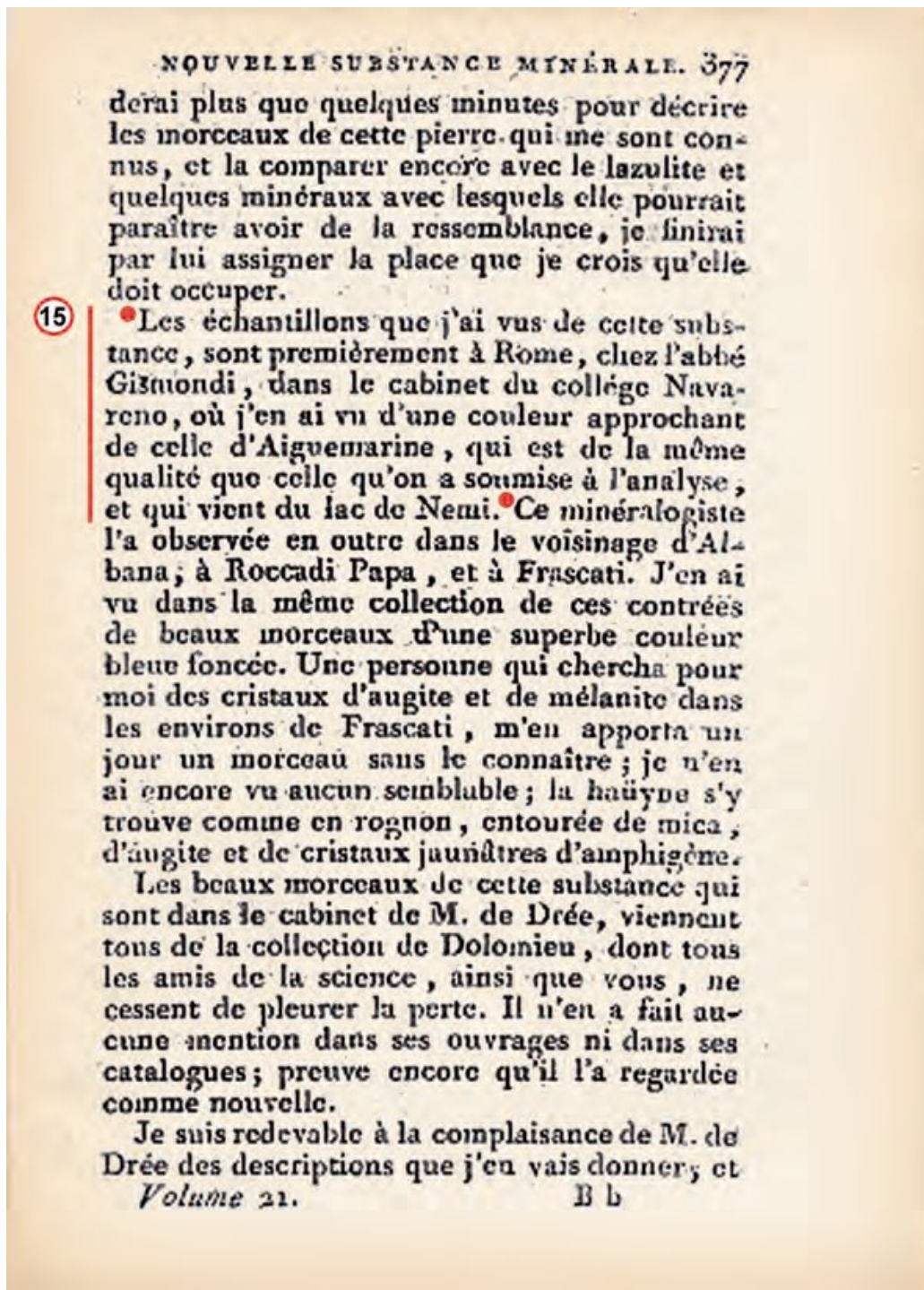
» J'ai lieu de croire qu'il y-existe aussi des  
 » traces de cuivre; au moins j'ai aperçu des  
 » effets qui l'annoncent; mais n'ayant pas prévu  
 » son existence, je n'ai pu m'en assurer par-  
 » faitement, faute de matière pour recommen-  
 » cer les essais qui auraient pu confirmer cet  
 » aperçu.

» La haiïyne est au moins composée des prin-  
 » cipés suivans sur deux grammes :

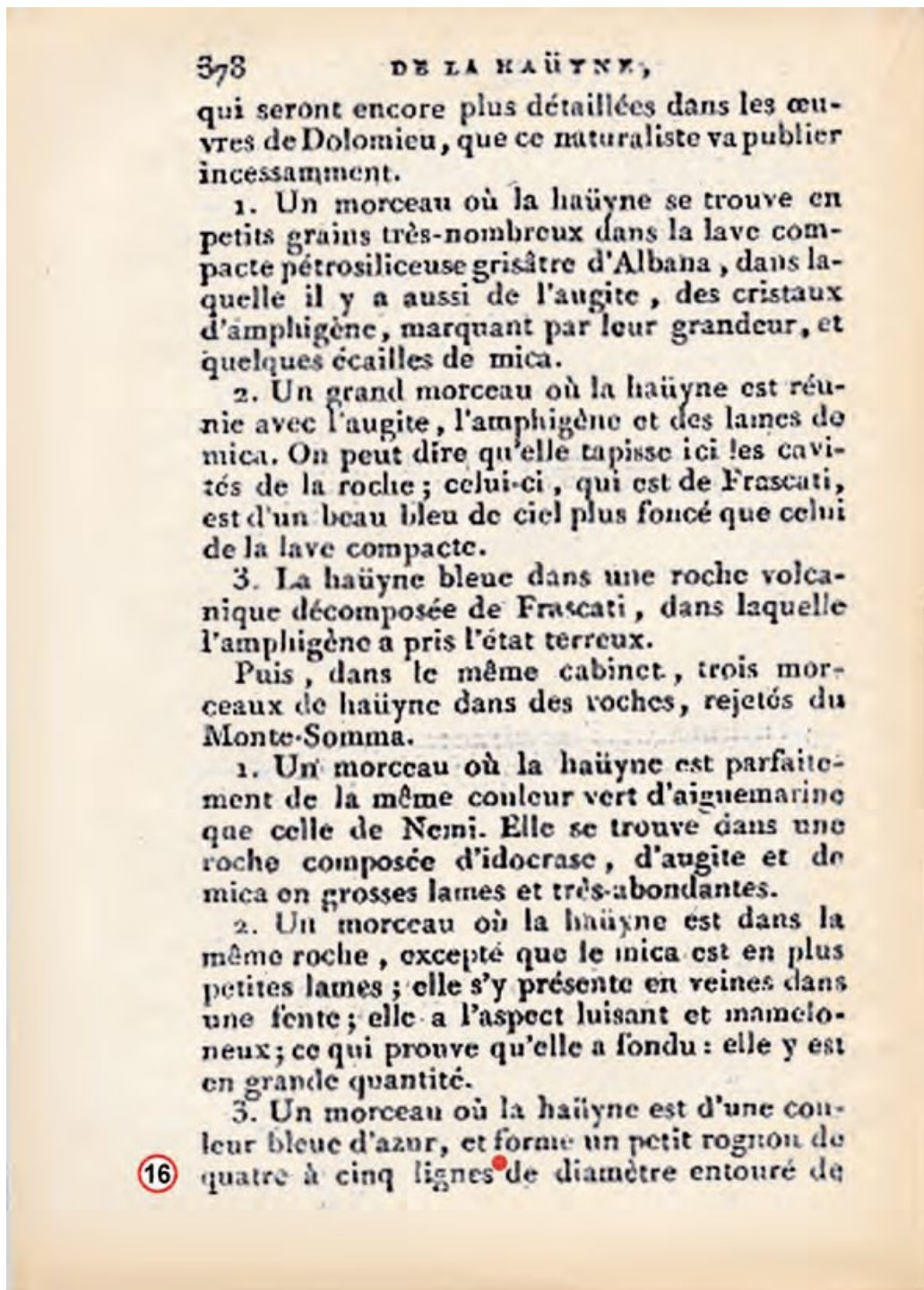
|                                                   |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Silice. . . . .                                | 0,60 |
| 2. Alumine. . . . .                               | 0,30 |
| 3. Sulfate de chaux. . . . .                      | 0,50 |
| 4. Chaux. . . . .                                 | 0,10 |
| 5. Potasse. . . . .                               | 0,32 |
| 6. Fer oxydé. . . . .                             | 0,02 |
| 7. Hydrogène sulfuré, quantité indé-<br>terminée. |      |
|                                                   | 1,74 |
| Perte. . . . .                                    | 0,26 |
|                                                   | 2,00 |

» Il est très-vraisemblable que cette perte est  
 » principalement due à de l'eau; car toutes les





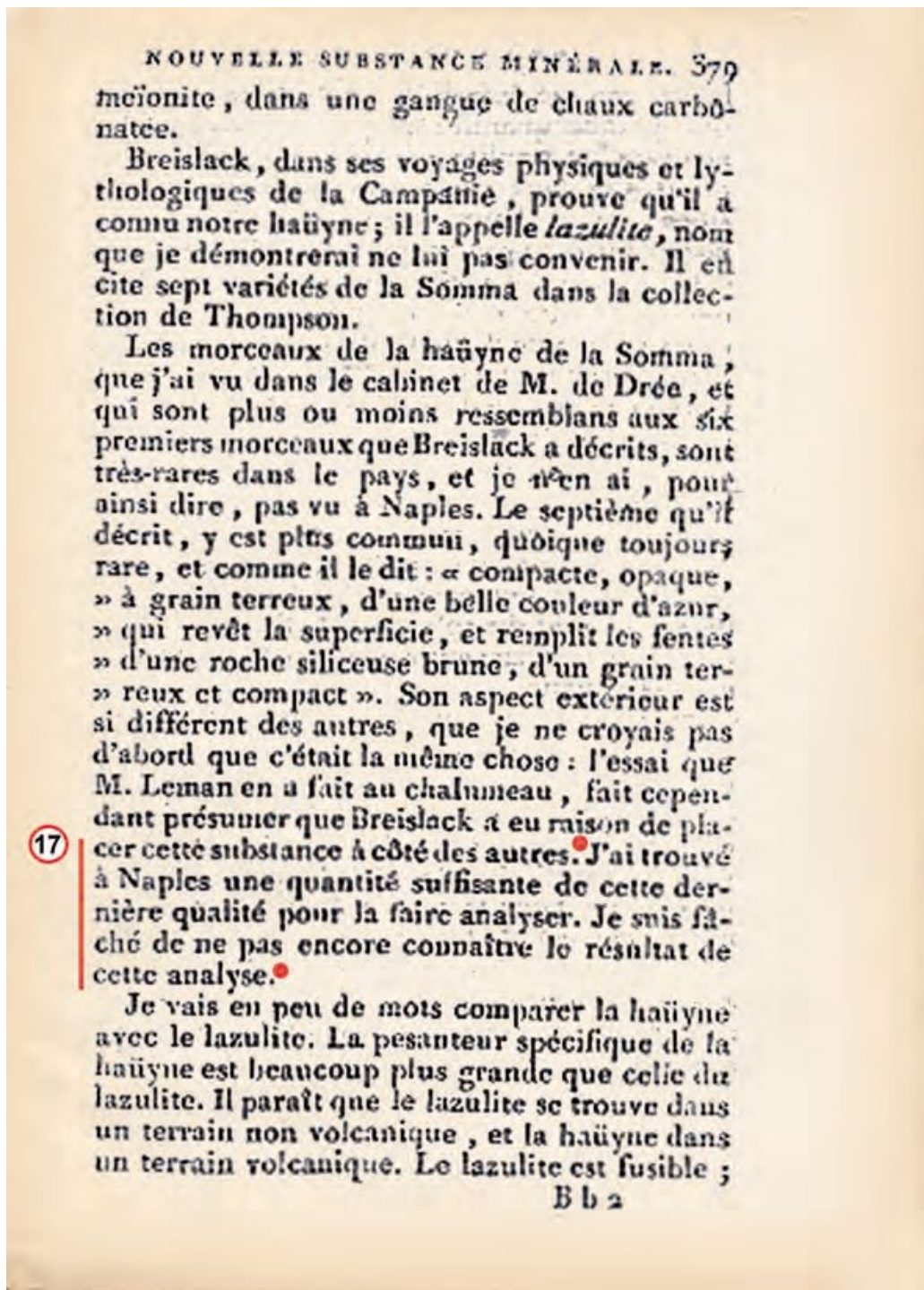
15. [...] *The specimens of the substance I saw are mainly in Rome, by Abbot Gismondi, in the Cabinet of the Nazarene College where I also saw some samples with a colour very similar to that of aquamarine, which is of the same quality of the substance analysed and which comes from Lake Nemi [...].*



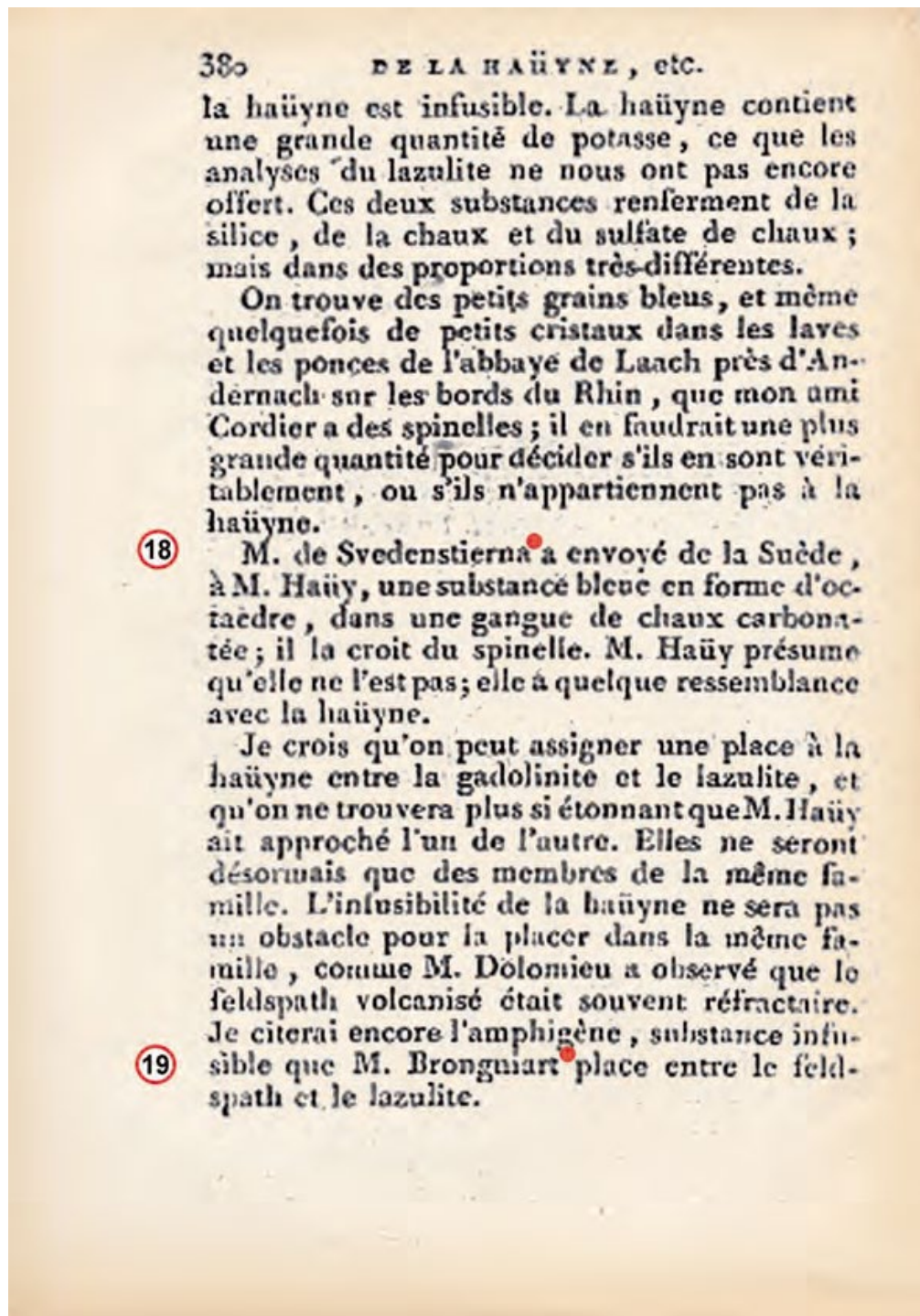
16

16. Ancient unit of measurement, equivalent to approximately 2,25 millimetres.





17. [...] Concerning this last quality, I found in Naples a quantity sufficient to be analyzed. I regret I still ignore the results of this analysis [...].



18. SVEDENSTIERNA Eric Thomas (1765-1825), Swedish expert in metallurgy, responsible for the metallurgical industry in Sweden, member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, author of *Tour of Great Britain*, 1802-1803.

19. BRONGNIART Alexandre (Paris, 10<sup>th</sup> February 1770 - 7<sup>th</sup> October 1847), French chemist, geologist and zoologist, mainly known for his research in the field of mineralogy. He was appointed engineer to the mines in 1794 and professor of Natural History to the École centrale des Quatre-Nations in 1796; subsequently, he succeeded René Just Haüy (1743-1822) in the chair of Mineralogy at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.