Min'er-al Cot'ton. A fiber formed by allowing
a jet of steam to escape through a stream of liquid
slag, by which it is blown into fine white threads,
sometimes two or three feet in length. These
threads, though somewhat elastic, readily break up
into smaller ones, and, the color of the substance be-
ing white, the appearance is that of a mass of cotton.
Being a poor conductor of heat, owing to the re-
tention of air in its interstices, it is suggested as a
covering for steam-boilers and pipes.