

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 being white, the appearance is that of a mass of cotton.

Being a poor conductor of heat, owing to the retention of air in its interstices, it is suggested as a covering for steam-boilers and pipes.