

pleasantly, one incident occurring worthy of mention. When returning to camp with a plump young partridge, (we had to be content with one) we discovered a fat, lazy porcupine taking his morning nap upon the limb of a tree directly before us and presenting a tempting shot. I deliberately fired; but not a motion gave sign that the little leaden messengers had fulfilled their mission. I was too much astonished to fire again. "How could I have missed it?" Presently the animal raised its head as if just awaking, moved it slowly from side to side, slid off of the limb and fell with a heavy thud to the ground. Taking our booty we proceeded to camp, and in less than two hours the skin of said porcupine had been removed, covered internally with arsenic, and carefully rolled up to be at some future day stuffed out to its natural shape and dimensions and made to simulate, in as far as possible, the living animal when first we saw it.

After dinner we descended the slope and continued our search for minerals. As we proceeded the slope again became steep and rugged, and hundreds of feet above could be seen a perpendicular cliff of columnar trap from the top of which a gentle slope stretched away to the summit of the ridge. We soon found scattered over the beach in abundance water-worn specimens of the beautiful purple *amethyst*. The presence of these indicated that their source was above; and the course of a land-slide that had fallen, probably during the preceding spring, could be distinctly traced for a distance. With no inconsiderable labor we ascended and after long and careful search among the amygdaloid near the base of the basaltic cliff we succeeded in finding a rich seam of amethyst upon which our hammers and chisels made music for a few hours. Then as the seam became nearly exhausted and

the shades of evening began to gather around us, we filled our satchels and baskets with our booty and descended. Depositing our specimens at the foot of the cliff we ascended to our camp. After lighting our fires and partaking of our evening meal we wrapped ourselves in our blankets and were soon fast asleep.

Next morning we were up betimes. The rising sun was just flooding the mountain side with his golden glory when we descended to continue our exploration. A little beyond the point that we had reached the day before we came to a land-slide that had fallen in the spring and had not yet been removed by the waves. This afforded us good specimens of *heulandite*, a handsome mineral occurring in rhomboidal prisms of white, red, or brown color. Here we found only the white and brown varieties. We continued our search some five miles from our camp but as that point of Blomidon over which we travelled is not very rich in minerals we did not succeed in obtaining a large variety. In addition to the heulandite, we secured some fine *agates*, *chalcedony*, *jasper*, and good specimens of *acadialite*, a variety of chabazite peculiar to Nova cotia. With these we returned to camp before nightfall.

According to programme next day was to be devoted to the collecting of marine invertebrates of the coast; so the early morning found us on the beach taking advantage of the low state of the tide which here rises and falls some fifty feet or more. In the little pools near low water we found specimens of the pretty *Pecten Islandicus* or scallop; and there also, upon a stratum of "new red" which appeared from under the overlying trap debris, we secured a few specimens of *Fusus tornatus*. In many places the sandstone was observed to be perforated.