

the microscope demonstrated the entire absence of organic structure. The specimen came from the neighborhood of St. Mary's Bay, Digby



MANGANESE DENDRITES ON RED SANDSTONE.
(Reduced to one-fifth of linear dimensions.)

county. The structure of the flag showed that these Manganese dendrites were originally formed between two close layers of the original flaggy sandstone. He suggested as an explanation of the dendritic form of the manganese deposit, the observed fact that when a thin sheet of liquid holds in solution certain substance, and from any cause the solution is becoming supersaturated, these substances, if they have a tendency to crystalize, are not precipitated uniformly like ordinary sediment. The precipitation commences at a point where the supersaturation begins to develop, which, let it be supposed, in the thin plane of cleavage in the flag, was near the outer margin where the deposit salt first made its appearance. Assuming the crystalline attractive force to operate effectively at a distance of, say, the eighth of an inch, the precipitating material would congregate from that distance to the first point of deposition, leaving a clear space of that extent on each side. And as the supersaturation extended inwards, the point would be extended into a line. But, assuming that the wave of supersaturation