

of Thetford, Coleraine, Wolfestown and Ham a sudden and marked development is noticed, the rock forming great mountain masses, as seen about Black Lake and in Wolfe. Isolated areas are also found in the St. Francis River basin at Brompton, Melbourne and near Danville, but at no place is there such a great development visible as in Coleraine and Thetford. Other small areas, constituting part of the second or Stoke Mountain anticlinal, exist in the vicinity of Massawippi Lake, in Hatley, while the areas of Oxford and Bolton have already been indirectly referred to. While traces of asbestos are found at nearly every one of these localities, in many places the indications of it observed are insignificant, though over large areas, it must be confessed, the examinations yet made have been but cursory, and these may yet yield this peculiar and valuable mineral in abundance. It is, however, apparent that all serpentine is not equally rich in asbestos, for even in the most productive areas great differences in this respect are visible, and large portions of the belt are made up of what is called barren rock. As a general rule, the different kinds of serpentine, whether likely to be productive or not, can be determined by outward characters, either by peculiarities of weathering or by the texture and color of the mass of the rock itself. At Thetford and in the northern part of Coleraine, more particularly about Black Lake, certain peculiar conditions appear to have prevailed which have affected the great serpentine masses there, and led to the formation in large quantity of the mineralized form of asbestos, the veins here being not only very numerous, often interlacing the rock in all directions, but being also of large size, reaching a width at times of over six inches, while many of them range from two to four inches. In quality of fibre also a marked difference from that found at several other points is apparent by its greater softness and silkiness, which give it a special value for the many purposes of manufacture for which it is most in demand.

In its mode of occurrence asbestos appears to follow closely the principles which are known to affect metalliferous lodes in general. The veins have the aspect of segregation veins, the fibres in all cases, unless disturbed, being at right angles to the sides of the fissure, and in many cases, more especially in those of larger size, the fibre is broken near the centre by particles or grains of magnetic or chromic iron