Iron ores are both the most abundant and most interesting of these minerals. They occupy veins traversing the trappean rock, and with a tendency, apparently, to run in north and south directions. They occur at many points, the most prominent being along the road from Digby to Pigby Light, Nicholl's mine in Rossway, Johnson's mine in Waterford, and Morehouse's mine on the St. Mary's Bay shore near Sandy Cove. At several of these points attempts have been made to remove the ore, and considerable money has been spent, but the small size of the veins and the cost of removal have in all instances prevented them from being remunerative. The ore is sometimes massive, but more generally crystalline, being partly magnetite and partly hematite. Fine crystals of martite or octahedral hematite, probably a pseudomorph of magnetite, are especially abundant at Johnson's mine and near Sandy Cove. The mining never proceeded beyond the digging of shallow trenches in the side of the hills, and these are now largely filled with rubbish; but it is among the latter that the most interesting specimens, both of the iron ore and of the associated minerals, are to be had.

Among these associated minerals quartz is by far the most abundant, rock crystal being especially common and of great variety and beauty. Amethysts are less common, and are now hard to obtain, but very beautiful specimens were disclosed during the opening of the trenches, and are occasionally met with in boulders on the hillsides, or upon the beaches. With these varieties of quartz, and others such as agate, chalcedony and jasper, are often found one or more of the zeolites, and many specimens have their beauty much enhanced by the curious way in which the iron ore, rock crystal or amethyst, the zeolitic minerals, and, it may be, white or yellow calcite, are commingled or disposed in alternating layers.

It is of little use to name definite localities for these minerals, other than the mines alluded to above, for the finding of specimens is largely a matter of chance and of diligent search. It may, however, be mentioned that the rocks near the light house in Tiverton (Petite Passage) are especially noticeable for the