

as a substitute for this purpose also. As a manure it has been actually applied to the land with great success; but a good and cheap method of decomposing it, previous to applying it to the soil, is still a desideratum. The usual mode of applying it as a manure, is to grind the mineral to powder, and treat with coarse sulphuric acid; about two-thirds of the phosphate is thus at once liberated, and enters into combination with the soil, while the remaining third will act upon the ground the ensuing year, by becoming soluble by natural agencies.

"This mineral is found very extensively distributed among the Laurentian rocks, both in detached nodules and in crystals; but the most important locality of its occurrence, hitherto discovered, is in the township of North Burgess, where it forms a massive bed of unknown though evidently very great dimensions, which has been quarried to a small extent. Another deposit in the adjoining township of Elmsley, but which, from the direction of the beds, seems to be in the same land, has also been worked a little, and apparently forms an irregular bed in the Laurentian limestone. This bed has been traced upwards of a mile, and seems to be about ten feet wide, of which three feet are nearly pure crystalline apatite, containing about ninety per cent of phosphate of lime, the remainder being mixed with the limestone rock, in which, however, the phosphate greatly predominates. The deposit in North Burgess has the great advantage of