

a succession of beds of ore interstratified with layers of greenish talcoid slate and of crystalline limestone, with which were also met serpentine, chlorite, diallage, and a greenish epidotic rock. Iron of a superior quality was manufactured from this deposit.

Pyralloolite, a mineral similar to steatite in chemical composition, softness, and refractory properties, is often met with in the Laurentian series. A bed of it, associated with serpentine, occurs between the gneiss and the limestone on lot 13, range 5, of Grenville. It may be traced thence into range 6, and appears to be in considerable quantity. The colour of this mineral is generally greenish-white or sea-green; some varieties of it are nearly white and have the translucency of porcelain. Very dark-coloured, nearly black varieties, have been described by Dr. Emmons, who says this mineral is capable of being turned in a lathe and wrought like soapstone, and has been made into small vases, inkstands and similar objects. Much of the figure-stone, or pagodite, of which the Chinese carve various ornaments, appears to be pyralloolite. It was used by the aborigines to make pipes and calumets.

The serpentine of lot 13, range 5, Grenville, and of some parts of the Township of Burgess, is of a pale-green colour, marked with spots of iron, and forms a fine ornamental stone.

The limestones of the Laurentian series are very important, not only on account of their extent, or their association with serpentine and apatite, but from the fact that wherever they occur the Laurentian region presents fine fertile valleys fit for cultivation. The principal settlements found among these rocks are upon the outcrop of the limestone bands. These limestones afford excellent lime as well as good materials.

The Laurentian serpentine on account of being light in colour in many places could be ground, and subsequently impregnated, by a peculiar process, with various mineral and vegetable colour, and then used for the manufacture of cheap and durable paints of various hues.

HURONIAN SERPENTINES.

These are but little known and of very limited extent.

Messrs. Bailey and Matthew report as follows of a series of rocks of Charlotte County, New Brunswick, which they suppose to belong to the Laurentian system :—