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I. THE APATITE DEPOSITS OF CANADA.\*

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The presence of apatite in the Laurentian rocks of North America has long been known to mineralogists, and within a few years so much interest has been excited by the economic importance of deposits of this mineral, found in certain parts of Canada, that a brief history of our knowledge of these deposits may not be unacceptable to the members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. It was in 1847 that the present writer was shown by a local collector of minerals some large crystals, which had been called beryl, found in North Burgess, in Ontario. These were at once recognized as apatite; and after a visit to the locality, this was described in the report of the geological survey of Canada for that year as likely to furnish an abundant supply of a valuable fertilizer: the opinion being then expressed that the fact of "the existence of such deposits as these will prove of great importance."

Specimens of apatite from this locality, collected by the writer, were shown among the economic minerals of Canada at the great

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\* Read before the American Institute of Mining Engineers, at Cleveland, February, 1884, and reprinted from its Proceedings.