

adverting to one of the useful practical points to which my own attention had been turned in different parts of the States, and to which I had in Boston, at these meetings and elsewhere, drawn that of scientific men.

In speaking of the rocks of Canada, north of the St Lawrence, I have described a metamorphic limestone in which the mineral phosphate of lime occurs in some places in very considerable quantity, and I have suggested the probability that, by a careful search, localities may be found in which it may be met with in sufficient quantity to admit of its being profitably dug up and exported to England.

I have also mentioned that this limestone rock, descending the river Ottawa from Bytown, crosses the St Lawrence at the Thousand Islands, and is found in the state of a white marble, but still rich in the same phosphate, among the so-called primitive rocks of northern New York. During my stay in Albany, Dr Emmons, who was qualified perfectly to understand the importance of the inquiry, in its practical and economical, as well as its theoretical bearings, assured me he knew one or more localities in Essex County, where a single man might excavate a ton a day of this mineral. Since my return to England he has re-examined these localities, and found his expectations realised. I have, therefore, put in communication with him a large consumer of the substance in London, and I hope to hear before long that the first shipment of it has arrived in the Thames.

Among the scientific mineralogists of New England, Mr Alger, of Boston, author of a well-known work on mineralogy, occupies a distinguished place. Engaged in business, he adorns his leisure with the pursuits of science; and, in company with Dr. Jackson, of whom I have already spoken, has made many scientific excursions, of which the results have been communicated to the world.