

and a small sample from a dyke near Gunflint Lake, north-west of Lake Superior. The phenocrysts of felspar in the Silver Islet specimen, according to Professor Winchell (1) are distinctly angular and not greenish, but greyish in colour. Under the microscope, these felspar phenocrysts are seen to be a plagioclase towards the basic end of the series (very probably labradorite) which has undergone only incipient alteration, whereas, in general the Huronite shows very great decomposition.

The writer has seen numerous boulders of diabase containing this mineral in the region to the north and north-east of Lake Huron, especially on the shores of Lake Huron from Killarney westward to the mouth of the Spanish River,

During the summer of 1893, the writer also noticed a boulder of dark green diabase, on the west shore of Bear Island on Lake Temagami, with plagioclase phenocrysts, which bore a very marked resemblance to the more altered Huronite. As the felspar seemed so fresh and glassy in places, it was thought an optical examination accompanied by a chemical analysis would throw a great deal of light on the original character and composition of Huronite. Dr. Harrington kindly undertook the analysis of this felspar, which proves it to be labradorite. Under the microscope most of these crystals are quite fresh, although certain portions are more or less clouded by the presence of decomposition products, which it is often difficult to resolve, even with the higher powers of the microscope. Certain of the crystals, however, show the same alteration, only in a lesser degree, as that which characterizes the Huronite.

It will thus be seen that the mineral is by no means so rare as some have supposed, but has, on the contrary, a wide geographical distribution. The sole reason of its not being discovered, "in situ," earlier seems to have been due to the necessarily hurried and imperfect explorations first undertaken through these wild and unsettled districts.

In 1885, Dr. B. J. Harrington, of McGill University, Montreal, decided to undertake an examination of the Pogamung mineral for purposes of comparison with that contained in the original Drummond

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(1) No. 601, 10th Annual Report, Geological Survey, Minnesota, p. 56.