of bituminous and carbonaceous substances which we find filling cracks and fissures in bituminous and carbonaceous beds in more recent formations. But the chief bulk of the graphite occurs finely dissiminated through the rocks as above mentioned.[1]

It was, however, observed by the geologists who first worked on these Laurentian rocks that there occur, in many places together with the above mentioned orthoclase gneisses, &c., great areas of a rock that is principally and sometimes almost exclusively composed of a triclinic or plagioclase feldspar. They found that in many places the structure and the appearance of this rock varied considerably from place to place; it being sometimes massive, sometimes schistose, sometimes coarse grained, sometimes fine grained. But all these structural varieties agree in having the same composition.

For this reason they were all placed together in one class and called "Anorthosite Rock" or "Anorthosite," a name derived from "Anorthose," a term proposed by Delesse to designate the triclinic feldspars, and which is thus synonymous with the term "Plagioclase" now more commonly employed. This designation therefore serves to emphasize the difference between these and the predominating orthoclase feldspar rocks of the rest of the Laurentian.

The term "anorthosite" which has been often misunderstood[2] on account of its presumed derivation from anorthite, a feldspar which rarely occurs in these rocks, has hitherto found no place in the systems most generally used in the classification of eruptive rocks. But in Canada, it has been used for many years, and will here be employed to designate a certain well defined class of rocks which belong to the family of gabbros and which stand at one end of the series, being distinguished by the marked predominance of plagioclase and the marked subordination or entire absence of all coloured constituents. Their place in the family of gabbros, corresponds in a certain way to that of the pyroxenites

[1] For further evidence see Sterry Hunt, Chemical and Geological Essays, p. 272, and Sir William Dawson: "The Dawn of Life" and many other writings.

[2] Wichman, Zeit. der Deutsch. Geol. Ges., 1884 p. 496.