

stone. The crystals here were of a large size, sometimes as much as three feet across, and many of them so clear that plates two and three feet long by nearly a foot in breadth were obtained. The mica here was dark coloured as might be expected from the dark colour of the containing rock, and a large quantity of excellent mica was extracted before the deposit was exhausted.

A very pretty purple-tinted mica is also sometimes found in cases where a dyke of light-tinted granite cuts the limestone. but as yet has not been obtained in quantities to be of economic value.

IRON ORES.

The iron ores of this district are divisible into several classes and occur at several horizons. The principal workable deposits are magnetites, though several mines have been opened on hematite ores, and sometimes both varieties are associated, as in the case of the Haycock mine and at several points in Renfrew county. Of the magnetic variety there are also two kinds, viz., the titaniferous and the true magnetites, and each of these is found in its peculiar country rock. Thus in the case of the titanium ores it may be said that they usually occur in anorthosite rocks, which are a recent intrusion in the gneiss and limestones, and the amount of titanic acid in these sometimes reaches 45 per cent, which renders the ore practically useless on account of its great refractibility, and the consequent large amount of fuel necessary to reduce it to a state of metallic iron. Attempts have been made from time to time to utilize this ore, but always with disastrous results to those interested.

The true magnetites are found at many points and furnish an ore often of great purity and value for smelting purposes. They occur in the vicinity of Hull where they were mined extensively, and where they were also smelted for some years, though operations in this locality have now been suspended for nearly a quarter of a century. In Bristol also there are large deposits of this ore which have also been extensively worked, but its value is to some extent affected injuriously by a corral.