

apparent irregularity, giving rise to a beautiful variety of opicalcite or serpentine-marble. These portions, which are enclosed in the limestone destitute of serpentine, always present a rounded outline. In one instance there appears, in a high naked wall of limestone without serpentine, the outline of a mass of opicalcite, about sixteen feet long and twenty-five feet high, which, rising from a broad base, ends in a point, and is separated from the enclosing limestone by an undulating but clearly defined margin, as already well described by Wineberger. This mass of opicalcite recalls vividly a reef-like structure. Within this, and similar masses of opicalcite in the crystalline limestone, there are, so far as my observations in 1854 extend, no continuous lines or concentric layers of serpentine to be observed, this mineral being always distributed in small grains and patches. The few apparently regular layers which may be observed are soon interrupted, and the whole aggregation is irregular. [This is well shown in plates II. and III. in the original memoir, which recall the acervuline portions, that make up a large part of the Canadian specimens of Eozoon.—EDS.]

The numerous specimens which were subsequently collected, at the commencement of the winter, show, throughout, this irregular structure, which seems to characterize the Bavarian specimens of Eozoon, as is in part the case in those from Canada. It is true that small lenticular masses or nodules, consisting chiefly of scapolite, measuring fifty by twenty millimeters, and even much more, are often met with, around which serpentine is arranged in a concentric manner; but even here the serpentine is in small cohering masses, and not in regular layers; nor could I, after numerous examinations of fragments of such masses, satisfy myself whether I had to deal with the commencing growth of an Eozoon, or merely with a concretionary mass; since the granular structure of the scapolite centre could never be clearly made out. Moreover the occurrence of these nodules, arranged in a stratiform manner, is opposed to the notion that they are nuclei of Eozoon, although in the parts around these nodules I could sometimes distinctly observe tubuli, canals, and even indications of a shell-like structure.

The portions of serpentine in the opicalcite occur of very various sizes, from that of a millet-seed to lumps whose sections measure fifteen by six or eight millimeters. But I think I can detect within certain lines, (which are not, it is true, very well