

as occurring at several places in Canada. has not, however, been found sufficiently large, I think, for the needs of the optician, who designates this mineral pebble, and who prefers it to glass on account of its superior hardness and coolness to the touch.

I shall here call your attention to some erroneous ideas concerning different coloured Quartz.

The Cairngorm (named from the Cairngorm Mountain in Scotland) is a smoky variety of Quartz--although this name is often applied to the same mineral of other tints. Such names as the Brazilian Topaz Mexican Topaz, Spanish Topaz, False Topaz, Citrine, Smoke Stone Cairngorm, etc., are all applied in turn to coloured Quartz by jewellers and others, who appear to have a name always ready, according to the shade of gem in demand. If this loose nomenclature were confined to varieties of Quartz it would not be of so much consequence, but regardless of their composition, they call all stones of a pale green colour Aquamarine, and all pale yellow ones Topaz.

*Amethyst* is another variety of Quartz, found principally at Lake Superior and Nova Scotia, although at the former locality it is much more abundant and is found lining cavities in groups of large crystals that are often coated with Jasper, Pyrite, Fluorite, etc. Its colour is of various shades of purple in blotched markings, which prevents their use to any extent as gems, owing to the difficulty of getting an evenly coloured stone. On the Bay of Fundy a more uniformly coloured stone is met with, although comparatively rare, which will at times cut into a costly jewel.

Amethyst is valued according to the depth, richness and uniformity of colour, and its transparency. "This stone like most gems appears less brilliant at night, but when surrounded with pearls it appears at all times to its best advantage." In 1652 Emmanuel says that an Amethyst was worth as much as a Diamond of equal weight.

*Cats-Eye Quartz* is reported to have been found on the Bay of Fundy. Sometime ago I was shown a rolled specimen from Partridge Island, N.S., which the owner prized very much, but which I was convinced was nothing but a pebble of Heulandite. However, notwithstanding this single mistake, we are informed on good authority that the