

Grenville Serpentine, where he turned by a foot-lathe a number of very pretty ornaments such as vases, doorknobs, etc., but owing to his method of cutting up the stone with a hand-saw we need hardly mention that this enterprise was not attended with much success.

Calumet Island, Wakefield, Templeton, Bowman and Grenville probably afford the best translucent variety, although it is largely distributed over other parts of Canada, especially the Eastern Townships.

*Amber* is occasionally found in rounded pieces in the lignites of the cretaceous and may possibly afford material suitable for beads, etc. The North-West Territory and British Columbia have both contributed small specimens.

*Jet* is a variety of cannel coal, not yet observed at any Canadian locality, and judging from the many so-called imported Jet ornaments that I have seen lately, if the Whitby mineral is much used, black enamel and glass constitute the Jet of the present time.

I have now called your attention to the various minerals available for gems and semi-gems scattered over the Dominion and given the localities of the more important material, and at the same time have drawn comparisons with those of other countries. Some persons have an idea that our crude material has no value before cutting and that it might be sold by the ton or hundredweight instead of by the carat, as most European or Oriental gems are. Now this vague idea might lead some persons to infer that our gems in Canada are comparatively worthless, owing to the great abundance of cutting material, and only after being polished are they of any value. Certainly several of our semi-gems, such as Agate, Jasper, Amazon Stone, &c., might be obtained by the ton, and consequently are of little value, and even after being cut are quite inexpensive. But before we begin to gauge our material for gem cutting, we must provide ourselves with certain facts, respecting its uniformity of colour and transparency, and its freedom from flaws and cavities; then when blocks of six inch cube of such material can be obtained, we may talk of selling it by the ton. It is true of certain minerals, that large masses often occur, and perhaps one per cent. of this might be utilized, but then this large percentage only applies to a very few of our semi-gem minerals. And, on the other hand, the uncertainty of some minerals makes it almos-