

streams; but though these outcrops have been carefully prospected, nothing more than small gash veins have been found. Further to the north-east on the south side of the great dioritic mass called Moose Mountain in Cranbourne, a small outcrop of serpentine, on the bank of the Etchemin River, shows small veins of one quarter to possibly half an inch of fibre, and this is the most northerly outcrop of asbestos-bearing serpentine yet known in this belt.

The most easterly area, viz., that of the Shickshocks, is largely made up of serpentine, different in character from the rock of Thetford which we may take as our typical locality; the southwestern portion being very hard and siliceous, in contact with black hornblende schists on the north; while the eastern or Mount Albert serpentine, which is the principal area in this direction, is frequently banded with shades of reddish brown and green. In these rocks only small veins of imperfect fibre have yet been found, and the generally hard and siliceous character of much of the rock is against the presence of large deposits of the fibrous variety. In the most easterly exposure, on the Dartmouth, the serpentine is very much of the same nature as in the Shickshocks, associated with hornblende schists and containing small veins of one-quarter inch fibre of but little economic value.

It is easily seen, therefore, that the character of serpentine which is really asbestos-bearing to an extent which can be profitably worked, is confined to a comparatively limited area, and more particularly to contain portions of the townships of Thetford, Ireland, Coleraine and Wolfestown, in which localities successful mining operations have been carried on for some years. But even in these favored districts there are large portions of the serpentine belts which, in so far as yet proved, have disclosed no asbestos in quantity to be economically available. The rock carrying the merchantable asbestos is generally a greyish weathering serpentine of some shade of green on fresh fracture, generally a greyish green, in which are contained numerous small particles of iron, both magnetic and chromic, more generally the former. Serpentine that have a black, hard, chippy aspect do not apparently promise well, nor does the rock which weathers a dirty reddish brown. In the asbestos-bearing rock proper the veins of asbestos are seen without any special arrangement, intersecting the mass of the rock