

often banded or zoned with lighter or darker tints. This mineral, like the Agate, seems to offer facilities for the introduction of the skill of the artificer, as the manufactured articles often seen are not of natural hue, but are brought to that state of perfection by subjecting them to a certain degree of heat before polishing.

Crystals of this mineral are often found of large size and richly coloured, and have been employed in making rings, stones, etc., known in the trade as False Amethyst, False Emerald, False Ruby, False Topaz, etc., according to the colour. This mineral is much too soft for any purposes of jewellery.

At Lake Superior large cubical crystals of a dingy green colour are often found associated with Amethyst. Emerald green and purple cleavable varieties are often met with in the brecciated veins that are now being worked for Silver in the Port Arthur district. In the Township of Ross, in Ontario, a beautiful purplish-red granular variety occurs, with a more compact semi-transparent whitish fluor. In the Township of Hull a single crystal of semi-transparent green colour, and which must have been four cubic inches, was found by a farmer in developing an Apatite deposit, who, being of a liberal disposition, broke up the crystal to give pieces of it to his friends, thereby robbing the scientific world of one of the finest crystals ever found in Canada.

A portion of this crystal is in the Geological Museum.

Several other localities in this and the neighbouring Townships afford this mineral.

*Aragonite*, *Satin Spar* and *Alabaster*, are minerals used to a large extent abroad for making fancy ornaments, and as the two latter are often represented by various minerals, it may be as well to point out their difference.

*Satin Spar*, or fibrous limestone, is found largely in the coal formations of Cumberland and Derbyshire; it is also found in Hungary, United States and Canada. I have seen several specimens from the Lake Superior district that would cut into beads and other ornaments. Beads of this mineral were, some years ago, in great favour in England, but owing to the introduction of an imitation, made from hollow glass globes, filled with fish scales, which very nearly resembled the originals, they have of late years gone out of fashion.