

" With the ordinary type, however, there occur at two points to the north-east of St. Stephen, rocks of very different aspect. These are the dark grey dioritic rocks containing serpentine, diallage and chromic oxyd. About two miles north of St. Stephen, may be seen ledges of coarse grained, dark grey granitoid diorite, having thin layers of picrolite or fibrous serpentine in the joints as well as serpentinous matter in the body of the rock. In crossing these ledges towards St. Stephen, the rock becomes somewhat darker, and portions are met with exhibiting thin' lamination, the laminæ being separated by layers of serpentine about one-eighth of an inch in thickness." There seems to be some doubt as to the age of these serpentinous rocks, and although supposed to be of Laurentian age, they are here placed under the head of Huronian rocks. The presence of chromic oxyd in them and the want of crystalline limestone in their association with other rocks give them quite a different character to those of the Laurentian series of this Province. The first outcrops of these serpentines which we know of, in a north-westward direction from these last mentioned are on Lake Abittibi where they are found to be associated with micaceous, hornblendic, and chloritic schists, fine grained hard quartzites, diorites and dioritic schists. A little island in this lake is composed of strongly magnetic serpentine with splintery fracture, resinous lustre and weathering dull white. An analysis of it was made by Dr. Harrington who found it to contain grains of chromic iron and a very small quantity of nickel besides silica, alumina, protoxyd of iron and magnesia.

According to Dr. Bell there is, in the middle of Pigeon Lake, and at about one mile from the lower end of it, a small island composed of very dark green serpentine, with strings of calcspar and crysotile. It weathers rusty, and Dr. Harrington, on analysis, found it to contain oxyd of chromium, both in the form of small grains and in chemical combination with the rest of the rock.

No mineral of economic importance has yet been found in these serpentines, but perhaps when the country where they are more abundantly met with is settled, some wandering geologist or hard-working *habitant* will discover in them large deposits of asbestos or other valuable mineral.