

*Note on Connellite from a New Locality.*

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THE locality of the specimen which is the subject of the present note is Namaqualand, South Africa. It was brought over from Africa, together with other minerals, about the year 1861, by Mr. Edgar Layard, who was at that time acting as curator of the Museum at Cape Town. It was in the same year that Mr. Layard presented to the British Museum Collection specimens of Namaqualite, the mineral which was subsequently examined by Professor Church and shown to be a new species. The connellite was given by Mr. Layard, among other specimens, to Mr. T. Davies, who in 1887 presented it to the Museum. It was not recognised as certainly connellite, but was put aside for chemical examination as being either clinoclase or connellite.

The connellite on the specimen consists of a small radiating group of acicular crystals lying quite flat on the matrix, together with a few smaller patches not so well defined. Fragments from one of the latter were taken for a qualitative examination. The mineral was freely soluble in nitric and hydrochloric acid, and during solution under the microscope each fragment was seen to consist of a bundle of minute needles presenting the fine dark Prussian-blue colour characteristic of connellite, and showing, as they became more transparent under the action of the solvent, straight extinction between crossed nicols. Perfectly definite reactions for copper chloride and sulphate were given by the usual qualitative tests.

The minerals accompanying the connellite on the specimen are massive cuprite, malachite and quartz: the connellite is deposited on the cuprite. No atacamite or chrysocolla could be detected.