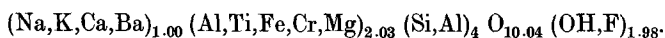


The nature of batchelorite.

THE name batchelorite was given by W. F. Petterd¹ to a green slaty mineral found in the Mt. Lyell Mine, Tasmania. He gave the composition as $\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2\text{SiO}_2$, a hydrated silicate of aluminium, but added, in parenthesis, that the analysis² was made on green nodules in the schist. It is evident, therefore, that the composition of batchelorite itself was never determined.

A specimen of batchelorite in the British Museum (B.M. 1956, 300), which, although not a type specimen, was collected from the type locality and conforms in appearance with the type mineral, has been shown by its optical properties and X-ray powder pattern to be muscovite schist. A chemical analysis confirmed this and revealed also that the mineral contains a small proportion of chromium. The analysis, given below, corresponds to the formula:



There would now appear to be no justification for the retention of the mineral name batchelorite.

Batchelorite from Mt. Lyell, Tasmania (B.M. 1956, 300).

SiO ₂ ...	45.1 %	CaO ...	0.7 %	H ₂ O(−) ...	0.3 %
Al ₂ O ₃ ...	36.4	MgO ...	1.2	H ₂ O(+) ...	4.0
TiO ₂ ...	0.4	Na ₂ O ...	1.5	F ...	1.0
Fe ₂ O ₃ ...	0.5	K ₂ O ...	8.8	MnO ...	nil
Cr ₂ O ₃ ...	0.3	BaO ...	0.3	Total ...	100.5
				less O for F ...	0.4
					100.1 %

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¹ Catalogue of the Minerals of Tasmania, 1910, p. 22, no. 39.

² SiO₂ 49.4, Al₂O₃ 45.1, H₂O 5.6, total 100.1 %.

Beaverite from the Lake District.

BEAVERITE $(\text{Pb}(\text{Cu}, \text{Fe}, \text{Al})_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6)$ was first recognized and identified by us as a British mineral in 1949, the occurrence being briefly recorded in 1952.¹ The first suspected specimens were examined spectrographically and they (as well as others found subsequently) were con-