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*Wulfenite from Poddy Gill, Caldbeck Fells*

WULFENITE has been recorded from the Caldbeck Fells by Goodchild<sup>1</sup> in the last century and, more recently, by Sir Arthur Russell.<sup>2</sup> In the latter instance an exact locality is given ('a small dump derived from a trial level, three-quarters of the way up Brandy Gill') and the mineral is described as small, thin, honey-yellow rounded plates on tapering prisms of pyromorphite or on more or less iron-stained drusy quartz. Some material we have recently collected from a small weathered dump at the foot of Poddy Gill, Grid Reference NY/328328, consists of very similar matrix studded with orange-yellow thick rectangular and often elongated (bar-shaped) tablets of wulfenite of very simple crystal habit, up to 2 mm in length. Anglesite, mentioned by Goodchild as an associated mineral, is absent on our specimens and on those described by Sir Arthur Russell. We thank Dr. R. J. Davis and Miss E. E. Fejer of the British Museum (Natural History) for identifying an X-ray powder photograph of the wulfenite.

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<sup>1</sup> J. G. Goodchild, *Geol. Mag.* 1875, decade 2, vol. 2, p. 565.

<sup>2</sup> A. Russell, *Min. Mag.* 1936, vol. 24, p. 321.

*Mercurous nitrate in mineral separation*

MANY important silicate minerals, in particular pyroxenes, amphiboles, garnets, and epidote, have densities above 3.3 gm/cm<sup>3</sup> and below 4.3 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>. Separation of these minerals cannot be carried out with