

COLUMNAR MANGANOCALCITE FROM FRANKLIN FURNACE, N. J.

WALLACE GOOLD LEVISON

Mr. Charles W. Hoadley recently obtained at Franklin Furnace, N. J., and presented to the writer, a specimen of an anhydrous mineral somewhat resembling a fibrous calcite of a slightly pinkish white color. It is soluble in cold, but more freely in warm HCl, with effervescence. It is, however, not brittle like calcite, but so tough that splinters of its entire length, over six inches, can be detached from it as from some asbestos.

It gives the ordinary blowpipe reactions of manganocalcite but its columnar structure is so striking that the writer made an approximate analysis of it with the following result:

Sp. Gr. = 2.81. Comp.: CaO 38.58, MnO 11.94, FeO 0.22, ZnO 0.29, MgO 4.33, CO₂ 39.70, SiO₂ & insol. 4.60, sum 99.66.

Carbon dioxide was determined by loss on ignition, with allowance for oxygen absorbed by conversion of MnO to Mn₃O₄.

According to Mr. Hoadley this variety of manganocalcite comes from the main shaft of the mine but occurs very sparingly. The specimen examined he took from the "picking table." It is not represented in Mr. Hodgkinson's or any other mineral collection he has seen in Franklin. He judges that it occurs only occasionally as a lining of fissures and not with willemite or other minerals attached to it.