

R. Irvine and G. Sims Woodhead.—On the Secretion of Carbonate of Lime by Animals.

W. S. Anderson.—The Solubility of Carbonate of Lime in Fresh and Sea Water.

Dr. Traquair.—Restoration of *Asterolepis maximus* (Agassiz), with remarks on the Zoological affinities of the Pterichthyidæ.

Section E. (Geography.)

Joseph Thomson.—Report to the Committee appointed to investigate the Geography and Geology of the Atlas Ranges in the Empire of Morocco.

W. J. Flinders Petrie.—Wind Action in Egypt.

Section F. (Economic Science and Statistics.)

Prof. Edward Hull.—The State of our Coal Resources.

Prof. Edward Hull.—Diagram showing the rate of Production of Coal during the present Century.

Section G. (Mechanical Science.)

C. E. De Rance.—Records of River Volumes and Flood Levels.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SIR,—So many of your readers must go Alp-wards that I appeal, though late, to any who may visit the Chamounix district, to help me in a little investigation by looking out for diorites about the junction of the gneiss with the protogine—the inner portions of de Saussure's "Artichoke." I am prevented from doing so myself this year.

Last summer I picked up a worn pebble in the gorge below Pierre a l'Echelle, and above Pierre Pointue, both mere cockney points of interest on the way up Mont Blanc.

I do not remember any mass of diorite thereabouts. But it appears at intervals from the Mottets¹ to the upper Grands Mulets. I did not climb in search, not having sufficient time left.

My specimen proved to be an epidiorite, under the microscope, with slightly banded structure. Hornblende, not orientated, probably of augitic origin, showed two periods, one, the older, giving the usual pleochroic green and yellow, the other nearly colourless, with a cement, so to speak, of the secondary hornblende. The cleavage continued through this portion. There is apatite, plagioclase and a ground mass which I have not properly investigated.

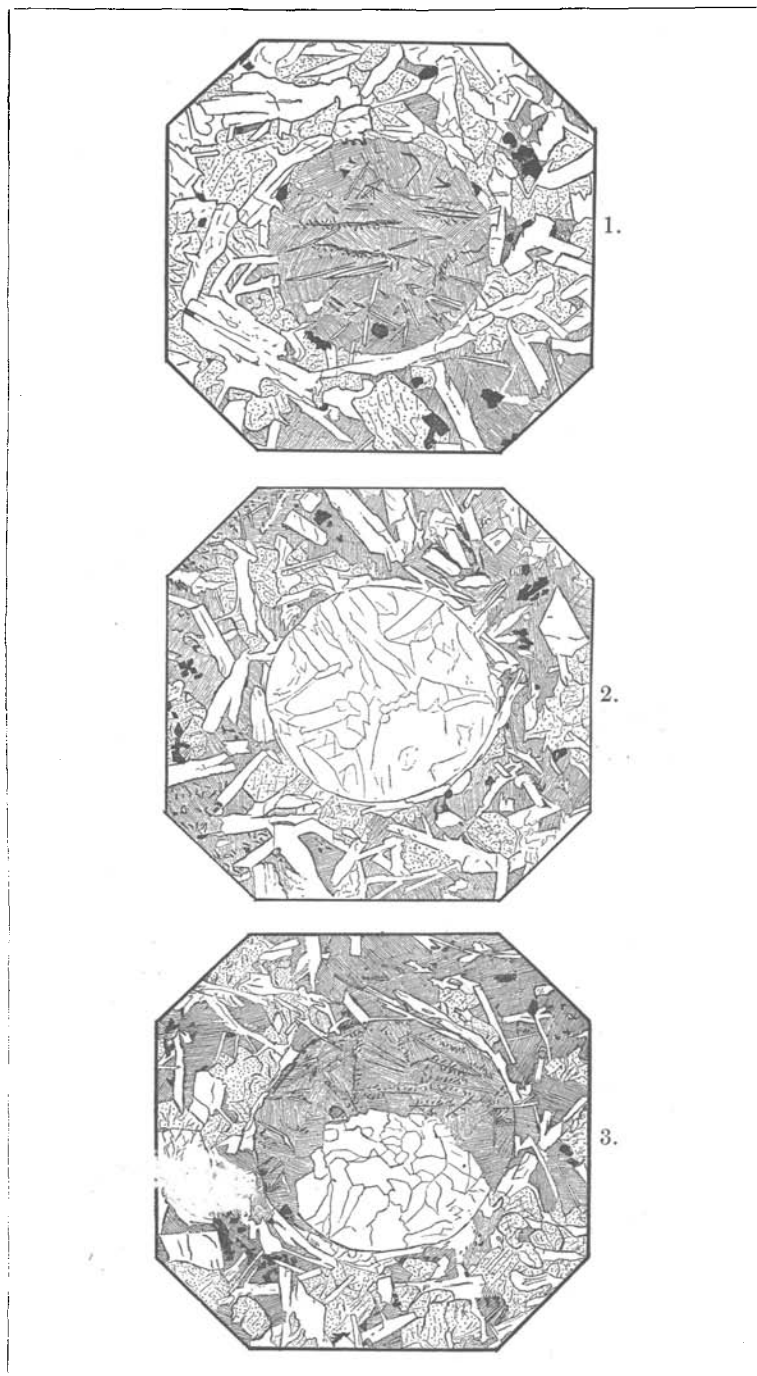
I feel sure that careful study would give interesting results if this contact-region were investigated. Something like what my section gives is shown in Teall's grand book, at plate 17.

The problem of at least two periods of formation of the hornblende points to an interesting history of the Mont Blanc "Artichoke" formation period.

MARSHALL HALL.

GROSVENOR CLUB, *September*, 1889.

¹ The rocks exposed close to the Glacier des Bois and Mer de Glace.



To illustrate Mr. Teall's paper on the Amygdaloids of the Tynemouth Dyke.