

XVII. *On Kyanite Localities in the North.*

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(Communicated by Rev. W. W. PEYTON.)

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THE parish of Engie in Banffshire lies on the south shore of the Moray Firth, to the East of the Spey. From the Spey to Buckie on the East the rock is Old Red Sandstone, which extends from the sea inland for about two or two and a half miles. This sandstone area is bounded on the south by a series of clay-slates and mica-schists. Both on the low and high grounds of this little parish, specimens of Kyanite were often picked up, sometimes associated with quartz, and sometimes with the schistose rocks of the district. So far as I have been able to determine, its position *in situ* was not known in the locality until I happened to stumble upon it in July 1882 (see *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Vol. IV. Part III. p. 269), after having examined the Old Red Conglomerates of the "Dramlachs," two streams near Fochabers, remarkable for the sections of conglomerate which they have exposed. Proceeding up the little "Dramlach," until the schist which has been exposed by the entire denudation of the Old Red Sandstone was reached, Kyanite was found *in situ*. The exact locality may be easily found by proceeding along the road from Fochabers to Keith, until the "Little Dramlach," which crosses the road, is reached; following this streamlet until a bridge is reached, Kyanite will be found in the rock on which the bridge is built. It may be remarked that these Eastern schists are in every way more interesting, mineralogically, than the Western or gneissose rocks of the Highlands.\* They consist of clay-slates, mica-schists; andalusite, chiastolite, and kyanite-schists; associated with quartzites, serpentines, limestones, diorites, &c. At Portsoy and its neighbourhood the richness of these schists may be easily proved by the great variety of their mineralogical contents. It has been called by one well acquainted with the geology of the Highlands, "a perfect Mineralogical World." Kyanite is also found at Potriphnie in Banffshire, and at Glen Urquhart in Inverness-shire. It is very plentiful in Glen Urquhart, where it is associated with serpentine,

\* See *Geol. Soc. Trans.* Vol. III. Part III. p. 333.

anthophyllite, Wollastonite, Biotite, chondrodite, edenite (brown and green), tremolite, actinolite, andesine, felspar, apatite, sphene, and zoisite.

*Staurolite*.—These Eastern schists also contain rutile, and I send a specimen of rutile from a new locality, Preshome, in the Engie. The specimen is by no means a good one, not so good as some that I have seen from this locality. It is plentiful here, and better specimens can easily be procured if wanted.

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