

## ANKERITE FROM SANDHURST, VICTORIA.

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AMONG the specimens of minerals in the Museum Collection are two, which were obtained from the New Chum line of reef, Sandhurst, Victoria, and which had been placed among those of the Calcite group. That these were correctly named seemed doubtful, as the powdered mineral effervesced very feebly with dilute hydrochloric acid in the cold. A qualitative test showed that both iron and magnesia were present in considerable quantity and a complete analysis furnished the following results:—

CaCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	48.95
FeCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	23.12
MgCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	25.01
Insoluble residue	...	...	3.54

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100.62

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·3016 gram of material was taken for analysis, which on treating with hydrochloric acid, left ·0107 gram of insoluble matter consisting mainly of albite. By subtracting this insoluble portion from the total quantity taken, namely ·3016 gram, and calculating the results on the amount dissolved, that is ·2909 gram, the percentage composition of the three carbonates is found to be:—

CaCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	50.76
FeCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	23.97
MgCO <sub>3</sub> ...	...	...	25.93

Manganese was not present, neither the borax bead test nor the fusion with nitre and caustic potash giving the manganese reaction.

The specific gravity of the mineral is 2.994 (uncorr.) and its hardness about 3.5.

The crystals consist of very flat rhombohedrons with slightly curved faces occasionally striated, and form the lenticular crystals with sharp edges frequently seen in calcite and more especially in siderite. They are, however, externally slightly altered and the