AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Number 207

Published by
The American Museum of Natural History
New York City

Feb. 16, 1926

55.2,6:07(74.7)

NOTES ON THE UNDESCRIBED METEORITES IN THE COLLECTION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

By Lewis W. MacNaughton¹

In the meteorite collection of The American Museum of Natural History there are represented ten undescribed falls. The late Doctor Edmund Otis Hovey, Curator of the Department of Geology, did not have the opportunity to describe them because of his untimely death. It seems desirable, therefore, to make note of these falls now, since the formal descriptions of them are not ready to be published. Below is a list of these meteorites.

AËROLITE

Culbertson: This is a 13-pound stone which was found, May, 1913, in the township of Culbertson, Hitchcock County, Nebraska. Mr. S. L. Fitzgibbons turned it up while planting corn with a lister. The entire stone rests in the Museum collection.

SIDEROLITES

Alten:—This specimen was labeled "Alten, Finmarken, Norway. Found 1902," when obtained from the Foote Mineral Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There is no town of Alten in the district of Finmarken, although there is a river of that name. There is a doubt as to the correctness of the above label. Since this siderolite is a pallasite apparently similar to the pallasite of the fall known as Finmarken, Norway, it is probable that the two falls are identical. Another similarity is that the dates when both falls were found are the same. The weight of the slice in the Museum collection is 54 grams.

Ollogue:—This pallasite, weighing about 6% kilograms, was found in Ollague, Bolivia, April, 1924. Juan Reyes, a prospector, discovered it at a depth of 14 feet in the earth. Mr. A. H. Verrill obtained it and presented to the Museum a portion of it in the form of a slice weighing 299 grams.

¹Prepared under the direction of Dr. Chester A. Reeds.

SIDERITES

Akpohon:—This complete specimen, weighing 1,660 grams, was secured in 1913 on the east coast of Ellesmereland from an Eskimo by W. E. Ekblaw of the Crocker Land Expedition.

Burkett¹:—This siderite is a coarse octahedrite. It was found by Mr. W. A. Smith in October, 1913, about three and a half miles south of Burkett, Coleman County, Texas. The Museum obtained the entire mass, weighing approximately 8,400 grams, from the Foote Mineral Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After making several casts of it, the specimen was cut into six pieces, the respective weights of which are: 3,082, 2,771, 833, 826, 324, and 182 grams.

Cruz del Aire:—This iron was found December 24, 1911, at Sabina Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. The specimen in the Museum is a complete individual weighing 15.2 kilograms.

It is possible that this iron is yet another one of those famous Coahuila irons which have been found scattered over the states of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon and even into Texas.

Knowles:—This mass, weighing 161 kilograms, was found in 1903 near Knowles, Beaver County, Oklahoma.

Leroy:—The locality and time of fall of this iron are unknown.

The Museum has in its collection a specimen weighing 102 grams. It was purchased from the E. E. Howell estate in 1914.

Norfolk:—This iron was seen to fall in Montgomery County, near Norfolk, Virginia, in September, 1907. The mass was cut into two pieces, the larger one weighing 21,659 grams, and the smaller, 1,275 grams.

Ysleta:—At an unknown date, a large iron, weighing 140.7 kilograms, was found near Ysleta, El Paso County, Texas. Mr. Arthur Curtiss James obtained it from Mr. Lazard Cahn and gave it to the Museum.

¹A preliminary notice by Dr. Chester A. Reeds (unsigned) appeared in 1917 in the American Museum Journal, XVII, p. 150.