tions), and measurement of their angles with a contact goniometer demonstrated their real character. Who was responsible for the mistaken identification is not certain, but it was probably Dr. J. T. M. Cardeza, an amateur mineralogist who collected extensively in that region some 50 years ago. Good specimens are now on exhibition in the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

The habit of the crystals is prismatic to tabular on the front (ortho) pinacoid. The dominant termination is a front (ortho) dome, which makes an angle of 54° with the pinacoid *a* (100) and is therefore *x* ($\bar{1}01$). The prism shows a $\varphi$ angle of 47°, both angles being characteristic of monazite. Minute faces of the following additional forms are often present: side (clino) pinacoid *b* (010), side (clino) dome *e* (011), pyramid *v* ($\bar{1}11$), and positive front (ortho) dome *w* (101). Some of the crystals are twinned, according to the usual law for this mineral, on the front pinacoid *a* (100). As these monazite crystals are of unusual size and quality, it seems worth while to publish a drawing showing their average development, which is placed on the frontispiece along with the columbite crystal from the same locality (Fig. 2).

## A NEW OCCURRENCE OF RHODONITE

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The granite pegmatites of Connecticut have yielded a large number of interesting minerals in the past. The feldspar quarries of Branchville and Haddam Neck have been most productive, but other quarries in the vicinity of Middletown and Portland— especially the Strickland quarry, Collins Hill, Portland— have produced a goodly number of specimens. Professor William North Rice[1] has listed the minerals from Middletown and vicinity as follows: Sphalerite, magnetite, gahnite, chrysoberyl, bismutite, orthoclase (crystals), albite, oligoclase, beryl, iolite, garnet, epidote, tourmaline, muscovite (crystals), lepidolite, biotite, columbite, samarskite, monazite, triplite, torbernite, autunite, uraninite. Manganese occurs in the pegmatites usually as a phosphate or

[1] Rice and Gregory, Manual of the Geology of Connecticut. *Ct. Geol. Nat. Hist. Survey, Bull.* **6**, 73; Professor Rice has recently added molybdenite and zircon to this list.

columbate-tantalate compound, but the silicate, rhodonite, has not appeared, as far as known, in any of the Connecticut pegmatites, until recently.

In working a narrow dike near the entrance to his quarry, Mr. F. E. Strickland came upon a pocket lined with the usual albite and lepidolite. The massive background behind the loose filling of the pocket was composed of a pink mineral which was at first thought to be a peculiar type of feldspar. Mr. Strickland saved a few bits from the wall of the pocket and gave them to Professor Rice and the writer during a recent visit. Details of the occurrence, other than those already stated, cannot be given, as the pocket was destroyed before our arrival.

The specimen, which is now on exhibition in the museum of Wesleyan University, shows massive rhodonite intergrown with albite and lepidolite. There is a sharp line of demarcation between these massive minerals and the tabular crystals of albite radiating into the pocket opening. Occasionally quartz, with small plates of columbite intergrown, forms a base from which the albite crystals radiate. Towards the junction the rhodonite is stained a light blue to lavender color by decomposition products.

The wonder is that with the large amount of silica present in the pegmatites, other compounds of manganese are more common than the silicate. It may be that the small dike branching from the main body of the Collins Hill mass did not have as abundant a supply of pneumatolytic agents, and that, as a result, conditions were present under which the silicate was stable.

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We learn from the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* that the Louisiana-Texas Quicksilver Company has purchased a large tract in the Terlingua district, Texas, and is about to begin extensive development operations. It will be recalled that when this district was first discovered a number of unusual minerals were obtained, but that the bulk of these was lost to science by their being worked up for their mercury content, whereas their sale as mineral specimens would have brought a far greater return to the miners. We hope that collectors who can get to the region will this time keep watch, and rescue from the furnace an adequate quantity for full scientific study of any rare minerals that may be found.