

NOTES FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

ON SOME REMARKABLE CRYSTALS OF SIDERITE.

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(PLATE LVI.)

The object of this note is to record the occurrence of a group of crystals of siderite or carbonate of iron, arranged in so perfect and regular a manner that the case must be considered to be very rare.

It is well-known that this mineral is frequently found in lenticular, curved, distorted or even saddle-shaped crystals. These irregularities arise from the modification termed “*equiaxe*” when the solid angles appear rounded and the faces and the edges curved. One of these crystals isolated, is shown at the foot of fig. 1 (*d*), among some lenticular crystals of calcite, and others exist on the specimen which are not shown on the figure.

The group alluded to is formed of three principal crystals, each presenting the shape of a complete saddle, only about 100° or so being wanting to make it cup-shaped. These three crystals are regularly grouped so that their axes of symmetry are at about 120° respectively. A few lenticular and curved crystals spring from the centre of the group.

This remarkable group is attached to a perfect crystal of quartz terminating in two six-sided pyramids which has itself been enveloped by a larger crystal of quartz. This specimen has been secured for the Australian Museum, and is from the auriferous quartz reefs of Sandhurst, Victoria.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES.

Fig. 1.—Group of three saddle-shaped crystals of siderite on quartz :
a, b, c refer to each of the three crystals in this and the following figures.

d, saddle-shaped crystal of siderite, isolated among lenticular crystals of calcite, natural size.

Fig. 2.—Another view of the same.

Figs. 3 and 4.—The same group of crystals of siderite enlarged twice the natural size, showing one of the extremities of the smaller crystal of quartz.

In these last two figures the lines *x, y, x', y'*, represent the edge of the larger crystal of quartz.

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Mr. Brazier exhibited specimens of *Onchidium chameleon*, described by him in his Paper, and so named on account of its many changes of colour.

Mr. Douglas-Ogilby exhibited a specimen of *Nannocampus ruber*, previously described by himself and Mr. Ramsay.

Mr. Kyngdon exhibited specimens of *Penteune*, a fossil fruit found at a depth of 240 feet, under a layer of basalt at the Forest Reef, in the Great Extended Gold Mine, near Bathurst.

Mr. Whitelegge exhibited a number of water insects (*Notonecta*), with small mollusks attached to their legs, and suggested this as a probable way of the distribution of mollusca and fish ova over the country. He also exhibited some fresh water *Polyzoa* killed with the tentacles fully extended by means of chloroform.

Dr. von Lendenfeld exhibited a specimen of the *Alga-Pseudomorph*, described in his paper, together with a specimen of the



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