

the State House dome, demolished by the giant's wife and her screaming boys, refers to a conglomerate.

“They flung it over to Roxbury hills,
They flung it over the plain;
And all over Milton and Dorchester, too,
Great lumps of pudding the giants threw;
They tumbled as thick as rain.”

Well, here is a rock with shining scale-like mineral fragments. Pick up a scale with your knife-blade. Do you see it split into laminæ or leaves of indefinite thinness? “Yes,” you say; “this is the same thing as is used in the doors of our stoves to permit the light to shine through; only these are black leaves and those are transparent.” Quite right. What do you call the mineral in your stove door? “Mica, though some people call it isinglass.” Mica is correct. One species of mica is black, and has a particular name; another varies from dark-brown or smoky to transparent, and has a different name. There are also some other species of mica. So you know mica.

Examine this rock very closely—do you find any quartz? “Yes,” you say, “there are two kinds of light-colored minerals here.” Carefully test them both for hardness. Can you scratch them? “Well, no. One of them is hard enough for quartz—it is quartz; but the other I am uncertain about.” Then you must try again. Bear on hard; can't you make a little scratch with your knife-point, or the end of a file? “I believe I do make a little impression on it.” Well, then, it is *not* quartz. Now take another look at it. Compare it with the quartz grain by its side. Is its surface broken and irregular? “No,” you say, “it is flat.” Hold it then so as to reflect the light from the window. Is the reflection as bright and glassy as the reflection from the quartz? “I think there is a little difference.” You see, too, it is an unbroken reflection, while that from the quartz is not uniform, in consequence of the uneven surface. There is also another point; this mineral appears to be a fragment of a crystal; you can detect one or more edges or angles. It is not so with the quartz.