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"Saline Spring, Brandlehow Mine, near Keswick"
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SALINE SPRING, BRANDLEHOW MINE, NEAR KESWICK.

S.W. Feather, F.S.A. (Scot.)

From a paper by Mr. Thomas Ransome dated 1848
 Manchester Literary & Philosophical Society
 Journal Ser.2, Vol. VIII p.39.

‘Analysis of a Saline Spring in a Lead Mine near Keswick’

“The entrance to the mine is several feet above the lake, and a level of 200 yards in length is driven into the hill. At the extremity is the spring from which this water is taken; it rises through a small hole in the slate rock.”

“The water itself is quite clear, and has a saline and disagreeable taste, and is often taken medicinally by the country people. The specific gravity is 1.016”

“The solid contents are contained in the following proportions in the

[53]

Imperial pint:-

Chloride of Calcium	87.67	grains
Chloride of Magnesium	1.53	”
Chloride of Sodium	110.23	”
Sulphate of Magnesia	4.35	”
	203.78	”

or in 1000 parts by weight:-

Chloride of Calcium	9.86
Chloride of Magnesium	0.17
Chloride of Sodium	12.40
Sulphate of Magnesia	0.48
Water	977.09
	1000.00

“The peculiarity of this water is the large quantity of chloride of calcium which it contains. The largest amount recorded in any analysis I have been able to find is one of the saline springs at Leamington, which contains 28 grains in the pint, or not quite one-third of the quantity in the Brandley spring; but the deficiencies of Sulphates of Magnesia and Soda will prevent it being used for the same purposes as those celebrated (Leamington) Springs.”

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“Another saline spring occurs just east of Manesty, but apparently not upon the line of the Brandlehow vein, but on that of a copper vein.”

Ref: Memoirs of the Geological Survey, Northern Part of the English Lake District by J. Clifton Ward: 1876.

Note: Both the Author and Honorary Editor would be interested to find out whether this spring can be re-located and the Honorary Editor would be pleased to receive a sample of the water so that an analysis can be undertaken.

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