ons to this portion of the Province. From this source, Quebec, Montreal, and the steam navigation of the Gulph of St. Lawrence, might receive their supplies of fuel, and another important motive be offered for opening a canal between two of the most extensive and valuable bays of the North American continent.

The various shales, sandstones, and calcareous beds composing what is generally termed the coal formation have been most frequently preceded by thick deposits of other detrital rocks interposed between these and the still more ancient accumulations of solid matter which surround the globe, and very generally the mountain limestone and old red sandstone are seen cropping out beneath the coal series at some places along its margin, but the latter rocks have not been discovered in any part of the district under consideration, so far as it has been explored. It is probable that where they exist, they are buried beneath the new red sandstone and conglomerate that evidently overlies large tracts of the coal field. Another peculiarity is manifest in the junction of the carbonaceous strata with the syenite and trap north of Shepody. Upon a line explored to the distance of ten miles where these rocks meet, they appear to be in immediate contact. But whether the trap and syenite have been elevated by volcanic efforts since the rocks of the coal series were laid, or existed prior to the deposits now resting upon them, are circumstances upon which we cannot decide in the present state of our knowledge. If, however, the volcanic rocks possess the greatest antiquity, those causes which produced intermediate strata at other situations, have not been in operation here, or those rocks might have been worn away during a period that elapsed between the uplifting of one and the deposit of the other.

Of the importance of the examination made during the past season, in reference to coal only, it is almost unnecessary to make a remark. In a new country, where the progress of improvement is often retarded from the want of sufficient means to bring natural resources into operation, and where more or less timidity will exist, when a large capital is required for the accomplishment, even of objects known to be of the highest importance; the discovery of such natural resources may not always be viewed in their true light. But when coal is considered in reference to its value, and the services it is capable of performing by the agency of steam, and as being the prime mover in the arts and manufactures, the indications of its existence in any country will be hailed with pleasure by