

about three and a-half miles in length, whence by the Grand River the St. John is reached about fourteen miles above the Grand Falls.

Settlement  
lands on the  
Restigouche.

The breadth of country in the Restigouche Valley occupied by rocks of Silurian age, from its southern margin on the Tobique to the Quebec boundary, across the strike of the beds, is about seventy miles. As much of the finest farming land of the Province is on rocks of this horizon, there will, doubtless, be found in this area, which comprises over 4000 square miles, a very large proportion of land suitable for settlement, which will be available as soon as means of access can be provided.

Character of  
the country  
on the Nipisiguit and  
Miramichi  
rivers.

The country in the vicinity of the Nipisiguit and Miramichi Rivers is of a totally different character. It is for the most part very rocky, the harder metamorphic rocks forming much more striking features. The soil is generally thin and often entirely denuded; so that except for timber a very large portion of the area between the Main South-west Miramichi and the Nipisiguit and the Tobique Rivers is worthless. The frequent fires also which have ravaged the country of the Miramichi River have destroyed large quantities of valuable timber, and for many hundreds of square miles the surface, especially in the vicinity of the head-waters of the North-west Miramichi and its branches, is completely wasted, nothing being left but the bare rock.

In connection with the general progress of the work, explorations were made to some extent in the country to the south of the Tobique River, but as the time available for this area was limited, further examinations will be necessary before definite results can be obtained. During the entire exploration particular attention was paid to the discovery of minerals of economic value, and though traces of several were found, the quantities were so small and the conditions of their occurrence such, that in so far as yet seen but small inducement for the investment of capital in this direction is presented. Further reference will be made to this subject under the heading of Economic Minerals.

#### MIDDLE CARBONIFEROUS.

Area of the  
Carboniferous  
system of  
eastern New  
Brunswick.

The portion of the Province covered by rocks of this age is very considerable, and includes not far from a third of its superficial area. In its general outline it is roughly triangular, the apex being placed in the south-western portion of the Province at the Kedron Lakes on the boundary of Charlotte county. The length of the northern side of the triangle, from the apex to the Island of Miscou, is about 210 miles, its southern side to Cape Tormentine about 160 miles, and a direct line between the two eastern ends about 140 miles. Allowing for sea area under the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the number of square miles belonging

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