

schistose beds which are likewise slightly calcareous. To which formation these limestone beds belong there is here no direct evidence to inform us; and it is remarkable that beds precisely similar in character and appearance should be equally obscurely placed in Mortier Bay near Buria. In each case, however, beds of the variegated slate formation are not far distant, so that it is probable the limes one belongs to it. These fragments of the variegated slate formation around the headlands at the bottom of Conception Bay, have, as we have seen, always an inclination from the present land towards the waters of the Bay, which would lead us naturally to expect the presence of superior rocks in that direction. This expectation is verified by the fact of Great and Little Bell Isle and Kelly's Island consisting of the formation next above the variegated slate, namely that which I have called the Bell Isle shale and gritstone. The beds of shale and gritstone of which these Islands are composed, dip invariably N. W., so that the lowest beds are seen on the S. E. side. On the E. side of Kelly's Island a mass of gritstone of several beds, of the usual character, and forming altogether a thickness of about 30 feet, rises into the cliff, and as the soft beds of shale on which it rests have been decomposed, has continually fallen down so as to form a great mass of disjointed fragments at the cliff's foot. This heap of fragments being protected from the action of the sea breakers, by a considerable pebbly beach which stretches out round it, remains as a great natural stone-yard where every one may help himself to the block which suits him best. (1) In the cliffs of Bell Isle the regular alternations of the beds of shale and gritstone must strike every eye.—Several considerable beds of gritstone exist, but none in such a favorable situation for transportation as that of Kelly's Island. The general dip is N. W., at an angle of about 20°; and as the Island measures upwards of 3 miles across in that direction, and the cliffs are occasionally 300 feet high, the total thickness of the mass would apparently be very great. The distinctness of the beds, however, and the continuity of the perpendicular cliffs, enables us clearly to perceive that the Island is traversed by several faults. A fault is in a break in the continuity of a bed of rock, being sometimes a wide fissure filled with broken materials—sometimes a mere line of division; and in each case the separated portions of the beds are at different levels on the opposite sides of the fault. This difference of level, or throw of the fault as it is called, varies from a foot to hundreds of yards, and the range of a fault, or the space of country traversed by it, is frequently many miles. In consequence of such faults or dislocations, it is evident that beds which have in their regular course of dip become covered by a considerable mass of rocks may be again thrown up to the surface; and thus in estimating the thickness of any formation, the same beds may be reckoned over again two or three times unless the faults are attended to. On the W. side of Bell Isle a remarkably red bed of sandstone about 8 feet thick rises in an angle of 20° from the water's edge to the summit of the cliff near the N. end of Island, and a precisely similar one about the middle of the Island; in each case it is covered by a bed of very black shale; it is therefore highly probable that the two are but different portions of the same bed, whose re-appearance is caused by a fault. Several other dislocations may be observed at different points. The thickness of that part of the formation even which is shown in Bell Isle, thus becomes a complicated question not very easy to decide.

It appears from facts mentioned above that the St. John's slate formation is by far the oldest rock in Conception Bay, and that the porphyries and sienites are more modern than the variegated slate formation at least, since they cut through and produce alterations in its beds. It also appears that the space now occupied by the bottom of the Bay from Holywood and Collier's Bay down as far as a line drawn from Portugal Cove to Carbonear at least, was once filled by the Bell Isle shale and gritstone resting on the variegated slate formation, which reposed in a hollow of the St. John's slate. Whether, however, this tract was ever thus occupied by these beds above water, or whether the isolated patches now above the level of the sea were elevated individually, there is no direct evidence to shew. It is at least highly probable that the three islands of shale and gritstone were once much more extensive than at present, if they were not continuous, and that they have been worn away by the action of a strong N. or N. W. current. I shall have however, to return to this subject at a future time.

The external characters of Conception Bay are interesting and picturesque.—From Cape St. Francis to Portugal Cove the hills form a connected range, but have a serrated outline, are steep, and clothed with thick woods; they are much the same thence to Holywood, but are rather tamer, and removed from the coast by the flat land mentioned before. Round the head of the Bay, in the country composed of igneous rocks, the hills lose their connected character, and stand out in distinct peaks or, detached flat-topped masses. They are still, however, clothed with wood nearly to their summits. The headlands of this tract, those especially composed of the variegated slate formation, are green and fertile, yielding excellent grass, and amply repaying the labor of cultivation.—The shale and gritstone of the three islands too, the quiet shapes of which offer so striking a contrast with the rough outline of the main land, form a soil which seems admirably adapted for pasture land, bears good timber, and makes excellent garden ground. The St. John's slate formation on the W. side of

(1) Several workmen were busy, when I was there, removing blocks for the Catholic Cathedral of St. John's. At one spot in the midst of the fallen rubbish, and, as the workmen assured me, beneath the roots of an old tree growing on the rubbish, was found an old nine-pounder, and the remains of which was still visible S. C., with either a fleur-de-lis or an arrow head.

the Bay, preserves its usual character; its high lands, none of which are more than 800 feet above the level of the sea, frequently form connected ridges, whose summits are rocky and bare; their sides are clothed with dense woods, the trees being more remarkable for their number than their size, while the winding vallies are frequently very pretty and apparently fertile. This fertility is immediately obvious in all those vallies in which a good natural system of drainage exists, from the increased size of the trees, and the patches of fine grass that spring up wherever an old tilt has stood or other clearing been made. Of such vallies, those on each side of Clarke's Hill, at the head of Port-de-Grave, called the Northern & Southern Guts, are excellent examples; and many other pretty and fertile spots may be found along the coast between Brigus and Island Cove. I Bay Verde, however, the barren character of the Signal Hill sandstones is immediately apparent, stunted bushes alone concealing the nakedness of the rocks.

(To be continued.)

Colonial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

FEBRUARY 17.

House met and adj. TUESDAY.

Mr. Nugent from the committee appointed to present address to His Excellency, upon subject of refusal of Her Majesty's Council to permit their Journals to be searched, reported the following reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I shall take an early opportunity of bringing this address under the observation of her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. Winsor from the Committee appointed to present address to His Excellency the Governor, praying for certain Customs Returns, reported the following reply.

GENTLEMEN,—The returns here mentioned shall be sent.

Mr. Moore presented a petition from Samuel Short, John Hussien, and others, of Hants Harbor, praying for a grant to complete the road from Hants Harbor to Seal Cove (about 2 miles,) and for carrying the road through Hants Harbor—also for building a bridge across Short's river, and a bridge over Paly's Mead.—Referred to committee on roads and bridges.

Mr. Nugent, pursuant to notice, presented the draft of an address to His Excellency, praying for certain returns, and the same was read, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed and presented.

A Bill to repeal in part, "An Act for the relief of sick and disabled seamen, &c" and to authorise the appropriation of monies raised under said Act, was read a 2d time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Mr. Kent gave notice of a select committee to inquire into the causes which induced the Stipendiary Magistrates of this Town to search the House of Mr. John Delany, an officer of this House, on the 17th.—Adj.

WEDNESDAY.

Mr. Kent moved, seconded by Mr. Nugent, for the select committee, of which notice was given yesterday—which was agreed to, and Mr. Kent, Mr. Nugent, and Mr. Winsor were appointed said committee.

A bill to continue act to combine offices of Clerk of Supreme and Circuit Court, was read a 3d time and passed.

Mr. Nugent presented a petition from Thomas Houlton, praying remuneration for loss sustained on a road contract.—Referred to committee on roads.

The House went into committee on bill to repeal in part Hospital Act, and the chairman, Mr. Morris, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Mr. Nugent gave notice of bill to defray certain charges that have arisen for the support of aged and infant paupers, up to Jan. 1840.

Mr. Morris gave notice of an address to his Excellency, to pray that he would issue his warrant for a certain sum to be named, for the relief of the poor.

Mr. Kent gave notice of Committee of Supply for Friday.—Adj.

UNIVERSAL DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN TRADE.—To despise foreign trade is to throw contempt upon the very means by which every man in this town gets his living. Fading beauty paints its cheeks, and the convivial man his face from the spoils of the continent; you cannot make

a shoe without sending to Russia for bristles; and your coat and your caput must equally require the brush that divides its parentage between Honduras and Kamschatka; the scarlet that enrages the bull and pleases the ladies, the perfume that scents the beau and the pearl that adorns the belle; the silken handkerchief that wipes the tear of the sorrowful eye, and is stuffed into the mouth that is checked in the career of laughter; the brown juice of Mocha's sober berry and the goblet that carries it to the lip; the oil that at midnight sheds its useful lustre upon the laborious student and illuminates the gorgeous voice of the rejoicing revelry; the silver which the butcher gets for his meat, and the table on which the banker rings it; the veil through which beauty may blush unseen or coquetry flirt as through a casement; the skin of the young kid that encloses the small foot or encircles the snowy arm of Eve's fair daughters, and the tooth transferred from the elephant's mouth to the mumbling man's; the cork that supplies the want of an amputated limb; the wood that discourses most eloquent music; the marble that makes the breathing statue, and the point that perpetuates in the glowing picture, the lofty conceptions of nature's noblemen; all that we see or touch or handle, is derived more or less from the uttermost parts of the earth. Stop or discourage foreign trade, by injuring the prosperity of the manufactures, which alone we can exchange for foreign commodities, and instantly every shopkeeper and merchant becomes ruined men.—From Mr. Sydney Smith's Lecture, in Colburn's New Monthly Magazine.

Lieutenant Colonel Angelo Tattler, recently appointed commissioner of the Bolton Police, at a salary of £500 a year, has resigned the situation, because, as he says, "it would be a complete robbery upon the inhabitants to receive such a sum for the fulfilment of an office no more imported than the business of a common corporal in the regular service, viz. the management of Twenty men."—The gallant Colonel is truly a *rara avis in terra*.

ORNAMENTAL BRICKS.—It is not generally known that all kinds of ornamental bricks may be now made without their being subject to more than double duty. This information may conduce to the re-introduction of the ancient style of brickwork, which contributed so much to the beauty of the architecture of Henry and Elizabeth.

The new Postage Act.—A half-grown piece weighs 4 1-2 grains under the half ounce; so that a letter can be easily ascertained by this means to be within the weight allowed at the Post-Office.

A Brest letter of the 6th instant announces, that the Aube corvette had been in the roads for several days, under order for *New Zealand*, to protect the French whalers, and, as it says, "to foil the plans of England." She is said to be waiting only for the arrival of the consul sent by the French Government to the Bay of Islands—*Paris Correspondent of the Standard*.

The Royal Family of France seem not to sleep on beds of roses; for we are told that every precaution is taken for their protection. At nightfall the posts are doubled at the Tuileries, and 300 soldiers are bivouacked in the Garden.

The subscription to present a piece of plate to the Earl of Eglington, in commemoration of the late Tournament, now exceeds 1600 Guineas.

The value of the Corn which England has imported from Germany during the last year is estimated at Four Million Pounds Sterling.

By a recent regulation, deserving Soldiers, on quitting the Army, are presented with a Medal and a sum of Money.

The Legislature of Jamaica has voted £50,000 for the purpose of promoting the establishing of mulberry plantations and the culture of silk in that Island.

There are 1840 Catholic churches in Ireland, 435 in England, and in Scotland 98.

A young farmer of Woodley undertook for a wager, last week, to carry three sacks of wheat, which he did with apparent ease, being upwards of 7. cwt.

A USEFUL ARMY.—It appears from a statistical account of the public works of Sweden, that, from 1818 to 1838 the Swedish army performed in works of public utility 5,360,700 *journees* (the *journee* is the day's work of one man,) viz. canals and rivers, 4,164,000; roads and banking, 130,000; civil constructions, 240,000; fortifications, 201,700.—It was by this means that, in 1839, the canal of Gotha, which connects the North Sea with the Baltic, across the widest part of the Swedish continent, was completed.

It is a singular circumstance, that all the Equity Judges, and eleven of the Common Law Judges, (including all the Chief Justices,) received their education at Cambridge.

MONTREAL, DEC. 7.

I understand that Government have determined to keep this country as long as they can. They have expended large sums within the last year, £30,000 for barracks at St. John's; £15,000 or £20,000 for barracks at Chambly and also at Laprairie; and this winter Lord John Russell will introduce a Bill in the House of Commons to encourage the emigration of military settlers, who are to have farms given to them along the whole line of frontier. They will be formed into battalions, and will have officers, and will be called out to drill once or twice a week, and receive some pay and rations, I believe. By this arrangement a small body of troops only will be required in the country.

The Star.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1840.

The Season so far has been of an unusually mild character:—unprecedented indeed if we except the fine winter of '31, which alone gives us a parallel for the present. The Snow during the recent free thaw has almost disappeared, and the temperature is more like what might be expected in April than what February generally furnishes. This will tend materially to the successful issue of the SEAL FISHERY, the outfit for which is now proceeding, and with the most reasonable sanguine anticipations. St. John's will not send as many vessels as usual on this adventurous voyage, but several of the vessels belonging here have gone to the more Northern harbours, having been induced there by the greater success with which the Fishery was prosecuted in that quarter during the last few years, the whole leaving this port will be about 70, and should the present auspicious weather continue, they will all sail during the first week in March. Conception Bay will have the ordinary outfit. Harbor Grace is more extensively concerned than for some years, the outfit being fully equal to that of St. John's. We wish them all the full realization of those expecta-