

Barren quartz
veins.

but no visible gold was observed in any of them. The great majority of these veins are small and irregular, and often of the nature of short, gash veins. Washings at various points frequently disclosed the existence of black sand, with which the gold is often associated, but gold was not found, though many persons have been deceived by the occurrence of small scales of yellow mica and minute particles of yellow pyrites. Explorations have been carried on irregularly by various persons for a number of years, apparently without any satisfactory results. A company, during the summer of 1879, however, profess to have found quartz in one of the branches of the Nipisiguit that yielded gold at the rate of \$5.00 per ton. This company subsequently carried on operations on the Millstream, about eight or ten miles from Bathurst, in rocks of presumed Cambro-Silurian age, the result of which has not yet been learned. On some of the streams in the county of Northumberland good specimens of gold-bearing quartz are reported to have been picked up several years ago, and the number and aspect of the quartz veins at several points renders the occurrence of this metal probable. On the Little South-west Miramichi a fine specimen of gold is said to have been found, about three miles above the North Branch, and not far below a heavy rapid known as Main's Ledges, while on the Main South-west several small pieces have been obtained a few miles above Boiestown, but the exact locality from which these were originally derived, has not as yet been ascertained. Mispickel and other forms of pyrites occur in considerable quantities in these rocks, and in places the quartz veins look promising. A few specimens were examined in the laboratory of the survey, but without affording any trace of gold. It seems probable that, if it occurred in any considerable quantity, the various explorations would have revealed some trace of its existence. The equivalents of the gold-bearing slates of Nova Scotia have not been discerned in this portion of the province, and though from the large area which has not yet been examined, owing to the difficulty of access, further explorations may be more successful, the conditions do not seem to warrant the expenditure, in so far as seen, of any very considerable amount of capital in that direction.

Mispickel.

Copper mines
of the Nipisiguit and Tête à
Gauche.

Copper occurs in very limited quantity at several points and in different formations. The deposit formerly worked at Bathurst, in the Lower Carboniferous rocks, has been already described under that formation. Other localities where mining has been carried on are the Falls of the Tête à Gauche and the Baldwin Mine, on the Nipisiguit, about twelve miles from its mouth. In both these localities the amount of copper was very small, and the results exceedingly unsatisfactory. The extension of the belt in which the Baldwin Mine is situated can