

plored. The Touffe de Pins is also rapid, but the valley through which it runs is seldom so narrow. Beds of clay alternate with those of gravel to the depth, sometimes, of eight and twelve feet; and a stiff clay, when lying immediately upon the slate, is often as rich throughout as where it rests upon the ledge. This was the case at several spots at the Rodrigue mine. The bed is composed of dark slate, very open in its cleavage. The Famire resembles generally the Touffe de Pins; but about a mile and a half above the falls, that is about five miles from its mouth, there commences an extensive deposit of clay, sand, and gravel. Sir W. Logan reports, in 1850-51, having "followed the section made through it by the river for about a mile and a-half, and constantly found the clay beneath and the gravel resting on it. Toward the top of the gravel, the bank often presented a horizontal deposit of mingled oxyde of iron and manganese, in some parts six and eight inches thick, filling the interstices among pebbles of various kinds. Gold is found in the underlying gravel as well as in the clay beneath; both of which deposits appear to belong to the modified drift." \* A great quantity of gold is said to have been found this last summer about the head waters of the river. Gold occurs in the Metgermet, a tributary of the Du Loup, under the same curious condition as in the Famire. There the beds of stratified material attain a height of fifty feet above the bed of the river.

Where gold has been most extensively worked in the Du Loup, that is at its mouth, the deposit is composed of loose gravel, averaging not above two feet in thickness.

With regard to the quality of Chaudière alluvial gold: an assay of a sample made by Messrs. Thomas, Abell & Co. shows it to be  $3\frac{1}{4}$  grains worse than standard, with 28 dwts. of silver per lb. But different samples vary greatly in their purity, according to the size of the gold and the locality whence it comes. The following results of assays by Mr. Hunt are given in the report of 1852-53, and are repeated in the General Report of the Geological Survey:—A small mass from St. Francis,

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\* Also, General Report, page 139.