

## A Newfoundland Iron Deposit.

By R. E. CHAMBERS, B.A., M.E., New Glasgow.

In Conception Bay, Newfoundland, about midway between its entrance and its head is situated Bell Island.

This island is eight miles long by two wide, and is about 35 miles by water from St. Johns. Upon its northern shore are stratified beds of hematite, which, on account of accessibility, quality, and ease of mining, are likely to come into prominence during the next few years.

### GEOLOGY.

The measures containing these beds consist of shales and hard sandstones, and are said by the government geologists of Newfoundland to be of silurian age. The underlying measures are seen on Little Bell island, Kelley's island, and upon the shore of the bay at Topsail, where the lowest beds consist of limestones reposing at a high angle upon the Huronian and Laurentian formations of Avalon peninsula.

The beds containing the iron ore are even and unbroken, and lie at an easy dip to the northward.

Beneath is a great thickness of white sandstone, while in the immediate neighborhood of the ore are several thick shaley bands of dark color.

### DIFFERENT BEDS.

There are in all five beds of ore exposed in the cliffs upon the northern side of Bell island.

Three of these extend over so small an area, and are so thin that they are not of commercial value, and for this reason will not be here again referred to.

The two lower beds are of larger size and extend over wider areas.

### THE LOWER BED.

The outcrop of this bed is seen in the cliffs on the north side of the island, its western extremity being at Ochre cove, and its eastern near Gull island head.