

ently auriferous, leads us to hope that, upon further development of this island, and a more systematic search for the precious metal, gold discoveries of more importance may result therefrom. This hope is strengthened by the fact that the Pre-Cambrian, Cambrian and Cambro-Silurian formations, (the same which hold most of the gold of the Globe) are so largely developed here, and in an unusually disturbed, altered and mineralized condition. It has not, I think, been definitely decided as yet whether the Nova Scotian gold-bearing rocks are of Pre-Cambrian (Huronian) or Lower Cambrian age; but it is pretty certain, whichever they may eventually prove to be, their equivalents are to be found on the eastern seaboard of Newfoundland.

SILVER.

Many years since, a deposit of galena, in a gangue of greenish and pinkish flourspar, was discovered at a place called Lawn, situated on the extremity of that long, narrow peninsula separating Placentia from Fortune Bays. Mining operations were commenced here by a local company, and under the management of a Cornish mining captain. In following the lode at one point near the shore, they struck a small vugh or cavity, filled with what appeared to the miners to be a dirty sand or gravel. It was shovelled out and thrown on one side, where it became washed by the rain-water, when several lumps and strings of dark-colored metal appeared, which proved to be native silver, mixed with other ores unknown to the miners. Specimens were saved and brought to the notice of chemists, who pronounced them to be chloride of silver (horn silver), native silver, and ruby silver, or rather what would appear more to resemble proustite (light red silver ore). As soon as the miners became cognizant of the value of the ore it is said they appropriated most of it and sold it to jewellers and others of St. John's and St. Pierre. That there is some truth in the latter part of the story, would appear, from the fact that I have been shown specimens in one of those shops, purporting to have come from the locality in question. From some cause I am not sufficiently acquainted with, the mine was abandoned after a short while. It may be that the galena, for which it was worked, proved very sparsely disseminated through the gangue, or the fact that they did not succeed in finding a second vugh containing those rich silver ores. I understand,