

dykes running north-east and south-west, which, by their hardness and resistance to denudation, have given its form to the island. The silver-bearing veins of Silver Islet, Spar Island, Jarvis, Victoria and McKellar's Islands, traverse alike the sandstones and the dykes, running in a course between north and west, which is, however, subject to considerable variations. The veinstones themselves likewise present some differences in character, but are, nevertheless, recognized as belonging to a common system throughout the region, consisting of calcite, with more or less quartz and barytes, and carrying, besides silver ores, sulphurets of lead, zinc, copper and iron.

The shores of Thompson's Island were carefully examined, and not less than four well-defined lodes of this kind were detected on the north-west side, three of which were distinctly recognized on the opposite side of the Island. They vary from six to twelve feet, or more, in width, and are vertical in attitude. Three of the four veins are seen in the vertical walls of diorite which rise up from the water, and the constant storms which prevailed during my visit rendered it impossible to examine them with minuteness. The fourth or most southern one is, however, near the southern extremity of the Island, and on a low point. It is divided into three parts by interposed wall-rock. These, which are respectively $3\frac{1}{2}$, 2 and 3 feet wide, occur in a breadth of about 20 feet. They are vertical in attitude, have a course N. 80° W. (mag.) and consist of calcite with