

The drift deposits average about one hundred feet in thickness over the plains near the Belly River, and it is consequently, in general, only in the river valleys, or in the larger coulées which flow into them, that the Cretaceous rocks can be seen. The Belly Valley in this part of its course is about 300 feet deep, and averages nearly a mile in width. It therefore cuts about 200 feet into the Cretaceous rocks, and displays fine sections of these. There are in this vicinity several associated coal seams; one of these, that which has been opened by Mr. Sheran, I may, for the sake of clearness, refer to as the "main seam." It is more or less perfectly exposed at intervals along this part of the Belly for a distance of about twelve miles, or from the workings at Coal Banks to Big Island of the map. Above Coal Banks the measures are affected by a light anticlinal swell which brings up older rocks, and the outcrop runs round to the west, appearing on the river again at the mouth of the St. Mary. At the furthest point up the St. Mary, at which the coal appears (about seven miles from the mouth of the river), it shows the following section, the second column being a continuation of the first at a spot about 100 yards further down stream:—

	ft.	in.		
Rusty ironstone layer.....	0	8		
Blackish and rusty shale.....	5	0		
Coal.....	0	3		
Blackish shale	6	0		
Coal.....	0	6		
Soft carbonaceous shale.....	0	4		
Coal	0	8		
Soft, thin shale, highly carbonaceous in upper part....	0	6		
Ironstone shale.....	0	6		
Blackish shale.....	3	0		
Coal.....	0	8	Coal	1 0
Carbonaceous shale (some coal)	1	6	Shaly coal.....	0 6
Coal (partly below water).....	1	6	Coal	1 3
			Shale	0 2
			Coal	0 9
			Grey shale	4 0
			Coal	1 4
			Grey shale (to water). ..	4 0