

covery, however, of these seams, even if they are not likely to be worked for some years, has been a distinct advertisement for that district, and encourages the confidence the local business men and the province feel in the permanency and future extension of the trade of Cumberland County.

I do not pretend this evening to have the wand of Fortunatus, and to disclose to you vast fields of unworked coal, but briefly to refer to districts which may be found upon examination to hold coal of economic value.

The student of geology is most appreciated when he can show the public some material advantage accruing from his investigation, and his predictions are often correct and useful even when they are unpalatable.

I need not refer here to those sections in the province in which coal is now being regularly worked, but proceed to notice briefly the geological conditions which, so far as our experience goes, govern the presence of coal in Nova Scotia.

The term carboniferous is applied by geologists to a group of palaeozoic strata, which, while distinguished by holding the best deposits of coal, are also possessed of certain other notable characteristics.

Sir William Dawson stands out as the special delineator of the divisions of this system in the Maritime Provinces. He divided it into :—

Upper Coal Measures,
Productive Coal Measures,
Millstone Grit,
Limestone Series,
Lower or Basal Measure.

And these sub-divisions have been in a general way followed by other geologists.

In this province the limestone series has not presented any workable deposits of coal. It is, as you know, distinguished as an important source of limestone for fluxes, etc., as well as furnishing enormous deposits of gypsum. It is also valued by the

miner as scattered however, may be largely of Silurian deposits in the production of shales, of points the enough to much time which of in their beds have slates or

As far a few the Merigomi by no fixed These age Millstone Grit in N the study the Product be consid

In the these systems abundant abundant Mr. Fletcher his survey not present purpose, not be ge