

REPORT.

*Department of Crown Lands,
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dec. 2, 1872.*

TO ROBERT L. WEATHERBE, ESQ.

SIR:—I beg to submit the following statement relative to your Coal property at Bridgeport, in the Island of Cape Breton.

The country lying South and East of Sydney Harbor and North of Cow Bay, in which the area in question is situated, is regarded as the richest Coal region in North America.

After having for some years studied the geology of Nova Scotia, I spent three seasons, while connected with the Government department of Mines, examining this Coal basin in company with Professors Lyman and Lesley, two of the most eminent Coal geologists in America. These gentlemen, as well in published reports as in conversation with me, have pronounced this region as excelling all others they had examined for evenness and regularity of the strata and the absence of faults and dislocations. The Coal is of the finest character and its steam raising, gas making, manufacturing and domestic qualities have been established by careful analysis, and by the practical results of the numerous extensive collieries now in full operation.

The dip of the strata is at an angle of from one in six to one in ten; and a Coal seam when once entered may be worked to a great extent without any material addition to the cost of raising; nor (so well is the geology of the district understood) need there be any doubt about the most favorable point to make an opening.

An important consideration touching this district is its geographical position. It fronts on the Atlantic ocean, and is flanked