

dollars—one-fourth on making the application, one-fourth in three months thereafter, and the residue at such time as shall be hereafter appointed.

A further instalment of twenty-five per cent. being required on all claims taken previously to the adoption of this minute, to be paid in three months from the date of the payment of the first instalment.

Provincial Secretary's Office.

September 21st, 1861.

SIR,—

It being very desirable that before the snow falls the country lying between the Golds Fields, or in their immediate neighbourhood, should be examined, in order to determine, if possible, the number, extent, strike and dip of the quartz veins that run through the Province, I have it in command from the Lieutenant-Governor to authorize you to employ in this service, as I further instructed, Mr. Henry Poole, and Mr. John Campbell, their remuneration not to exceed 20s. per day, with a fair allowance for travelling expenses.

I have, &c.

JOSEPH HOWE.

SAMUEL P. FAIRBANKS, Esq.,
Compt. of Crown Lands.

MR. POOLE'S REPORT.

Halifax, Nova Scotia.

31st January, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd September, 1861, informing me that "you have authority from the Government to obtain my services for the examination of the various localities on the western shores of the Province, where it may reasonably be expected to find deposits of Gold, and in order to determine if possible, the number, extent, strike, and dip of the quartz veins running through that portion of the Province, with such general information as to the mineral resources as you can obtain in the progress of your work. It is desirable, as the season is advancing, and your work may receive interruption from the weather, that you should commence as early as possible."

I now beg leave to report that I lost no time in commencing my explorations, and as the season was so far advanced, and the autumnal rains had already commenced, I was prevented from devoting as much time to many interesting localities as I should have wished to have done. I considered it was of more importance at the present time to make a general reconnaissance of the counties lying on the western shore, and to collect specimens of the rocks and minerals occurring in each district, than to attempt a detailed section of any one place, which would have taken up all my time, and not realized as useful and practical results.

During the three months of my researches I have travelled upwards of 1500 miles, as shown by the red line which marks my route on the map of Nova Scotia, which accompanies this Report. I have also collected a considerable number of mineralogical specimens, which I would recommend to be preserved in separate cases, representing Counties, for future reference, in some public building, and accessible to all parties wishing to become acquainted with the geology of this Province.

I left Halifax by stage for Lunenburg, and in travelling along the main route I observed that the slate formation of the peninsula was replaced by granite.