

from the United States to the mine will not only be much shorter, but the voyage will also be less dangerous both early and late in the season. At present the natural facilities for shipping are as good as at any other of the mines in Cape Breton, and they will be much better as soon as the canal above mentioned is finished.

The wharf is arranged for the loading of three vessels at once; and these arrangements are of the most approved kind. The wharf is constructed in a very substantial manner. There are two warehouses near the harbor, one store, several dwelling houses and a blacksmith's shop. The store is well filled with goods of all kinds; iron, steel, ropes, castings (car wheels) and other mining supplies are found in quantities larger than are usually met with on mines. The dwelling houses are well finished; clap-boarded and with stone foundations. The store has a very good cellar built of freestone, which can be obtained on the property, close to the railroad; limestone and sand are also found, so that buildings can be put up with comparative cheapness.

The railroad has no double track. Horses draw the loaded cars from the adit or shaft within about half a mile of the wharf; where brakemen take charge of the cars, convey them down to the shoots and unload them, to be taken up again by the horses which follow the cars. Although these arrangements answer very well in the meantime, yet there is much loss of time arising from them, and a change should be made. The full cars should pull up the empty ones, which can be done with very little expense. The rail is of strap-iron nailed upon scantling.\*

The mine proper consists of the mineral rights of 640 acres.† This square mile embraces about all which is at present considered as coal-field; but to secure any further discoveries, either of coal beds or bituminous shale, a right of search has been taken out, which eventually will enlarge the mineral right to 1,280 acres. One hundred and seventy acres are held in fee-simple.

Three seams of coal have been discovered on the property; one is two, one four and the other six feet wide. The second alone is now worked, the last, the six feet seam, will be reached by an

---

\*Now changed to T-rails, 35 pounds to the yard.

† Since this Report was written the area has been increased to three square miles or 1920 acres.