

The Iron and Coal Fields of Pictou are described in the Reports to Government by Sir William Logan, F.R.S., F.G.S., Alfred Selwyn, F.R.S., F.G.S., Directors of the Geological Survey of Canada.

They had been previously described and have been more recently visited and reported on for this Company, by Dr. J. W. Dawson, F.R.S., F.G.S., Principal of the University, Montreal, and by Mr. G. M. Dawson, Associate of the Royal School of Mines, London, Walter Shanly, Esq., and Edwin Gilpin Esq., M.A., F.G.S., member of the Newcastle Institute of Mining Engineers:

These reports (except Mr. Gilpin's) have been submitted to David Forbes, Esq., F.R.S., Member of the Council of the Institute of Civil Engineers, who states that this Property possesses all the elements of success.

The Iron Ore deposits, which Dr. Dawson states to be the most valuable at present known on the Eastern coast of North America, consist of—

1. Spathic iron ore, containing 42 per cent. of metallic iron, in a bed 6 to 10 feet in thickness.
2. Red Hematite, 10 to 30 feet in thickness, containing 50 per cent. of metallic iron.
3. Specular iron ore, 10 to 20 feet thick, containing 60 to 68 per cent. of metallic iron.
4. Brown Hematite, 15 to 25 feet thick, giving 62 to 65 per cent. of metallic iron.

Careful and complete assays have been made by Dr. Stevenson MacAdam, F.R.S.E., Professor of Chemistry, Edinburgh, and by Dr. T. E. Thorpe, F.R.S.E., Professor of Chemistry, and Public Analyst for the City of Glasgow. Other Analyses are to be found in the Government of Canada Official Reports.

The supply of these ores, which are remarkably *free from Sulphur and phosphorus* is practically inexhaustible. Dr. Dawson estimates the quantity of ore to be won at a depth of 200 feet only, which can scarcely be called mining, to be not less than nine millions of tons.

The quantity already *proved* is estimated at two millions of tons, or sufficient to supply three furnaces for thirty years, reckoning the requirements of each furnace at 700,000 tons of ore. These estimates are corroborated by Mr. Shanly.

The ores crop out on the surface, and are in most instances from 200 to 400 feet *above drainage level*, thus saving the cost of artificial drainage; and admitting of their being won by open-cast workings. Mr. G. M. Dawson estimates the cost of raising the ore