

miles wide, yet unexplored. The comparison made in the report of the Geological Survey of Canada, of some of the strata in this section, with sandstones immediately overlying the conglomerate below New Glasgow, is not borne out by Prof. Dawson's researches, he being inclined from fossil evidence, as shown by his paper on the transition of the Carboniferous into Permian, read last year before the Geological Society of London, to consider the latter an extension of the upper part of the Middle or Productive coal measures. From the facts gathered relative to the structure of the Pictou Coal field, these measures as suggested by the Geological Survey report, are probably lower than those containing the Albion Main and Deep seams. The fact however of the extension of the Bear Creek synclinal across this district, and that the amount of dislocation caused by the McLeod fault is not of serious moment, are important considerations. The reverse or southerly dips and the presence of coal, point out the existence of seams of the Albion or Lower group at this point, and the width between the two faults would allow of a development, little if at all, inferior to that attained by the seams of the middle or Albion synclinal.

The question then arises why explorations have not been made commensurate with the size of this district, and the importance of ascertaining the presence of workable coal seams. A considerable part of this space between the southern and McLeod fault is owned by a company which naturally is not at present solicitous about its contents, as their valuable working areas in other parts of the field afford it full occupation. The dull state of our Coal trade is also an evident reason why the attempt proposed a short time ago to employ the diamond drill in that part of the district held by other parties was not carried out.

There is, however, as far as our present knowledge extends, no reason to doubt that this will eventually prove a very valuable addition to the present working limits of the Pictou Coal Field, and that its extent is ample enough to afford room for the investment of capital in several large Collieries.