

bottom of the valley to the tops of the hills. It is obvious, therefore, that the slates are not only extensive in horizontal range, but likewise extend to a very great depth, at least on the northern portion of the property,—the rising up of whin on the southern portion of the Kileup lands cuts off the slates to the southward.

On one part of the Kileup property is situate the Slate Quarry which has been opened and worked for several years; this quarry is in the face of the hill looking towards the west. A considerable quantity of roofing slate has been taken out, and likewise slabs of eight to ten or fifteen feet in diameter. Some of the surface slates were of an inferior character, and one portion of the band is quite wavy and shaky. Some slates taken out here were likewise found to be liable to crack from not having been cut, as Mr. Thomas informed me, in the proper line of grain. But the slate improves very much in going downwards, and the roofing slate that has lately been taken out is of a very superior character. The slates are hard, compact, uniform in thickness, of good colour, and excellent quality. Several roofs recently furnished from the quarry present a neat, clean, uniform appearance, and show no indication of suffering from our severe climate. The best roofing slates have been found in the bottom of the quarry, and it is evident that in descending the slates become harder, less shaky, and of more uniform colour. The colour of the hard slates is an unobtrusive dark blue, very suitable for roofing.

In connection with the Slate Quarry there is a Slate Yard and Factory, with most of the necessary apparatus required for carrying on the business of quarrying. The quarry is kept dry by a pump driven by a ten horse steam engine, which likewise supplies power to the other machinery. The erections are situate close to the quarry, and in the north eastern corner of the property held in fee simple, on the face of the opposite hill to the westward, there is a manager's dwelling house, barns, and extensive stabling for horses.

The steam engine and pumping gear were at work during the time of my visit, but no quarrying had been done since the preceding season. In resuming operations it will be advisable to consider seriously whether a change in the method of working is not required. It is indeed possible to continue