

It is situated about a mile and a half from the Norton Station, in a ravine near Coate's (now Blair's,) mill. The rocks, at the point shown to me, are limestones, and a considerable quantity of this rock has been calcined upon the spot, the remains of the kilns being still visible, although none are now in active operation. Descending into a cavity, some twenty feet long and ten deep, in the ravine above mentioned, I found thin seams of galena branching here and there through the lime-rock, but not appearing in any considerable mass. The ore is remarkably soft, uncrystallized, and probably contains a good percentage of silver. I could, however, detect no sign of a distinct lode, or lode-wall, nor do the lead veins pursue any very determined course. Some of the lime-rock is well crystallized and translucent. Lead has been removed from one or two other spots in the vicinity, but not in any considerable quantities. From present appearances, I should regard the limestone as more valuable than the lead.

From Norton I returned to Saint John, and thence, on the 14th of August to Fredericton. Thus ended my explorations, the results of which I now have the honor to lay before Your Excellency.

In the preparation of the foregoing report, I have been constantly reminded of the desirability of bringing before Your Excellency, the Government and people of New Brunswick, a clear, concise, and complete account of the present state of mining operations in the Province. It will at once be seen, that the preceding report has chiefly aimed at attaining that object, no particulars, even the most trivial, having been neglected, from the belief that in a country like this, where mining operations are in their very infancy, such details are of inestimable value to those about to engage in such pursuits. Considering the very short time employed, and the very large extent of country travelled over, it is natural that this account should be incomplete in many particulars, which a more thorough examination would have sufficed to supply. As to its accuracy, I can only say that I have spared no pains to make my own observations correct, and for other information, have appealed only to those whose knowledge and integrity I cannot doubt. Among others, I am especially indebted to Messrs. Allison, Woodward, and Matthew, of Saint John, Mr. Baldwin, of Bathurst, and Mr. Alexander Wright, of Salisbury.

There are but a few other localities of special interest in the Province, which have not as yet been alluded to in this Report. Among these I may mention, more particularly, Woodstock and the West Beach. Considering the object for which this Report is written, namely, to give as accurate an account as possible of the present mining operations in the Province, it would seem to lack completion, without some allusion to these interesting localities. Neither of them was visited by me during the present season, but, from reliable authorities, I have been able to obtain the following facts, most of which have not before been presented to the public.