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NOTES ON THE COAL FIELD OF PICTOU.

BY H. POOLE, Esq.

Superintendent of the Fraser Mine.

(Communicated to the Natural History Society by Principal Dawson.)

[The facts contained in the following communication, may be regarded as supplementary to those noticed in my Acadian Geology, and in a paper by Mr. Poole and myself, published in the proceedings of the Geological Society. The coal measures of the Albion mines, dipping to the N. E., at an angle of about 18° contain the great main seam, 36 feet in thickness, and 157 feet below this the deep seam, a bed of inferior but still great thickness. To the north-west these coal measures are apparently cut off by a great bed of conglomerate dipping north, beyond which occur other coal measures, also with northerly dip. For reasons stated in the publications above mentioned, I regard the great conglomerate of New Glasgow above referred to, not as a recurrence of the Lower Carboniferous conglomerate, but as a bed of the date of the coal formation, a contemporaneous shingle beach, which shut off the Albion Mines coal area, and occasioned its exceptional character. In connection with these facts and views, Mr. Poole's observations bear on the following points; (1). The character of the coal measures below the deep seam, previously little known. (2). The sudden bending of the outcrops of the coal seams to the southward, west of the Albion Mines, so that they assume northerly dips for some distance, though they appear to return to a N. E. dip further to the westward. (3). The occurrence of a narrow and abrupt synclinal immediately to the N. E. of the Albion Mines, succeeded by an anticlinal, near the axis of which in this locality is the outcrop of the great conglomerate. (4). The results of explorations made in the measures north of the conglomerate, confirming apparently the difference of these in character, from the great coal measures south of the conglomerate. (5.) The frequent occurrence, as at the Joggins, of scales of fishes, bivalve shells, *Cypris* and *Spirorbis* in connection with the beds of "Oil Shale," and coal. I have added a notice of these fossils to Mr. Poole's paper. J. w. D.]

The operations of the Fraser Oil Coal Company were carried on during the past year in a seam of coal and bituminous shale