

The following account of the distribution of the Gaspé limestones and shales is taken from the "Geology of Canada," p. 393, 394.

"These strata dip south-west at an angle of twenty-four degrees, and are beautifully seen in the cliffs; which present a vertical naked face nearly 700 feet in height, on the north-east side of Gaspé promontory. The lowest limestones, 1, constitute the first step in the mountains encountered in passing from Cape Rosier to Grand Grève. The second hard calcareous band, 4, forms another step in the same ascent; it makes also Cape Bon Ami, from which the grey calcareous shales, 5, present a steep slope, up to the grey shaly limestones, 6. These rise in a vertical and sometimes overhanging escarpment, up to the edge of the precipice; from which the harder beds that form the summit of the above section, slope down into a valley. This valley divides the hills of the promontory into a double range, and maintains its character with some constancy further into the interior.

"From this valley, the succeeding members of the series are piled in a second escarpment, and constitute the loftier of the two ranges." The rocks of this part consist of divisions, 7 and 8.

The entire volume of these limestones is about 2000 feet. The two lower divisions (1 and 2) are most probably Silurian; about the age of the Helderberg of the New York Geologists. The upper two members (7 and 8) are nearly of the age of the Oriskany sandstone, and are, therefore, about the base of the Devonian. Divisions 4, 5, 6, may be regarded as constituting passage beds between the Upper Silurian and Devonian.

"They occupy the whole of the promontory of Cape Gaspé, which extends from the mainland for a distance of about seven miles, with a breadth of no more than seven-tenths of a mile: except at its junction with the lower band extending to Cape Rosier, where it gradually assumes a greater breadth. They skirt the north-east bank of the north-west arm of Gaspé Bay, and the left bank of Dartmouth River; constituting a range of mountains, some of whose summits, according to Bayfield, are about 1500 feet high. From Little Gaspé they are flanked by a strip of the succeeding formation, the junction of the two being seen at Little Gaspé Cove. About seventeen miles above Little Gaspé these limestones cross the north branch of the Dartmouth, upwards of two miles from the mouth of the tributary; on which a partial section, directly across the measures, presents a thickness of 1800 feet. At the bottom of this, there are interstratified layers of chert, which have not yet been observed at Cape Gaspé."