

In my own researches in St. George's Bay, I took particular notice of the structure of the coal field there, in order to show where the workable seams were likely to occur, and where they were not; and upon the strength of probabilities, I laid down the position of an outcrop upon my map, which position, in consequence of having broken my leg, I could not reach. This ideal seam afterwards proved to be a substantial fact, as my friend, Professor Bell, has told you, he having since visited the spot; and he has given his testimony to the accuracy with which the seam was laid down upon the principle of structure alone. In consequence of a great fault cutting off a considerable segment of the coal trough, the extent of the coal seam or seams, will be limited; but by a calculation which I made the other day, if we suppose the plane of one seam, three feet thick, to occupy an area of 38.4 square miles—which it would, as drawn on my map—that seam would contain 54,720,000 chaldrons of coal.

Besides all the minerals of which I have spoken, there are scores of commoner substances, such as limestone, building stones, whetstones, etc., of vast importance to any country, which abound in this island; the position of all which would be indicated on our map or described in the text. Of these substances, roofing slate is one which cannot fail to become, one day, of great importance. From what I have seen, this will be chiefly found in the rocks of Cambrian age; in which case the conditions of our rocks here will have still another characteristic in common with their equivalents on the other side of the water; as it is in the same system, that the celebrated slates of Caernarvonshire are situated.

But I fear I have already trespassed too much upon your time, and will consequently cut the matter short, by expressing a hope on my part, that we may all meet again, to discuss the truth of what I have here stated, after some years more of experience. I need hardly inform you that I am no chicken now; but if I am spared but a few years more, I feel confident, first of all, that we shall have a MAP OF NEWFOUNDLAND, that I shall see its lands opened systematically for settlement, its forests utilized and become a great source of revenue, its minerals opened up and the country intersected with roads, by means of which I hope I shall be able to get a fresh cod-fish for breakfast or dinner, which is more than I can do at present.