

associated with limestone, in the valley of Shoal Harbor River. It occurs in a band of Lower Cambrian rocks similar to those holding manganese on the south shore of Conception Bay. Wad or bog manganese occurs sparingly, associated with the bog-iron ore, on the highlands west of the Exploits Valley. No ore of a valuable description was, however, met with.

Alum.

Alum one of the products derived from the decomposition of iron pyrites or rather from the action of the sulphuric acid set free thereby upon the alumina contained in the clay slates or shales, is of common occurrence amongst the more highly pyritiferous shales. On the western end of Random Island a very papyraceous black shale occurs, much impregnated with finely-disseminated pyrites. A white crust of alum in considerable quantity, frequently tinged yellow from oxide of iron, is seen coating the exposed edges. Much alum is produced from similar shales in Germany, France, England and the United States by a process of lixiviation.

BUILDING AND ORNAMENTAL MATERIAL.

Frequent reference has been made in the foregoing pages to the granites and granitoid rocks met with in such abundance at various points along the line, more especially over the high land of the Long Range Mountains. There is an infinite variety of these rocks, suitable for building, monumental and ornamental purposes. Some of the red sandstones and grits near Clode Sound would answer well for rough work. The rose-pink quartzite at this locality is a handsome rock, and might be readily dressed with the hammer into regular blocks, though it is too hard to be faced with tools. Some of the graywackes diorites, traps, &c., would afford good material for block pavements, macadamizing roads, streets, &c. The limestones of Smith's Sound, though unfit for building purposes and usually impure, would in some instances afford a good, strong lime, when burnt, for all ordinary purposes. The slates of this same locality have long been known and quarried but only in a small way. The material is of extra good quality, fully equal to the best Carnarvon slate, and should certainly be turned to better account were a little capital and judicious management brought to bear in the development of the quarries.