

The gypsum beds occurring in New Brunswick are comprised in the Lower Carboniferous and are both numerous and extensive. In the Tobique valley very massive deposits of impure gypsum occur, pale-green and reddish in colour, mostly fibrous, aggregating 350 feet in thickness. Along the Tobique River the presence of gypsum beds is marked by the occurrence of high cliffs of this mineral, some attaining 130 feet in height. These are usually coarsely granular, looking like rough sandstone, stained and mottled with red and green. This gypsum is too impure to be used as plaster of Paris, but it is well adapted for use as a fertilizer.—*Carboniferous*.

Hillsborough, Albert Co., N.B. .... *Geological Survey.*

225. Gypsum.

The largest deposits of gypsum known at present are those of Hillsborough in Albert county, where extensive quarries have been opened, and whence great quantities have been and are still being removed for calcination and exportation. The mineral is usually met with in very irregular masses, associated with red marls, sandstones and limestones, at or near the summit of the series, and varies much in character. Thus at Hillsborough, in the quarries now being worked, there is exposed a total head of rock of from 90 to 100 feet, of which about 70 feet, forming the upper portion, consists for the most part of "soft plaster" or true gypsum, which rests on beds of "hard plaster" or anhydrite of unknown thickness. At the same place considerable masses of a very beautiful snow-white gypsum or alabaster are also associated with the varieties named above, but comparatively little selenite is found; while at Petitcodiac, where the deposit has a breadth of about forty rods, and a total length of about one mile, the whole is fibrous and highly crystalline, and is traversed through its entire extent by a vein of nearly pure selenite, eight feet wide.

The superior quality of plaster of Paris made from Hillsborough gypsum has long been recognized. A great part of the production of the quarries of Hillsborough is exported to the United States, where it is used in the manufacture of plaster of Paris. Several quarries have been opened at different points of the deposit, having working faces from thirty to one hundred feet in height. The annual production of New Brunswick was in 1898 about 86,000 tons, valued at nearly \$122,000.

*Carboniferous.*

Hillsborough, Albert Co., N.B. .... *Albert Manufacturing Co.*

794. Gypsum.

794a. Manufactures of gypsum.

794b. Calcined.