

Q. Have you, each season you have been there, prepared a detailed report of your work?—In some cases the work of two seasons was published in one report; that is, one season's work was allowed to run on into the next. In every year I have prepared a summary report, at any rate, and the map, which is the principal part of the work, has been carried continuously forward. The maps, I might say, were always ahead of the reports; in fact, I never write my reports until I have all the information on the maps, and in those cases one has to make maps of the country. There is an Admiralty map of the country, showing the shores and the general shape of the country, and then there is the map of Messrs. Gisborne and Hill, showing the shores and some of the roads and lakes, just such information as could be made out from the Crown Lands and other general sources of information.

*By Mr. Cameron :*

Q. Do you consider the maps of eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton important?—I consider them of more importance than the reports. I think almost everything of value could be put on the maps, and accompanied by a short report would be all that was necessary for a geological description of the country, and it is what miners really look at when they come into the country.

Q. Were maps of the island of Cape Breton published up to this time?—There was the map of Mr. Mackenzie, of Sydney, published in 1883, from information supplied to a great extent by the Geological Survey.

Q. Is there a geological map of the Island?—No; not published.

Q. Nor of any county in the Island?—Yes; of Cape Breton County, finished in 1877.

Q. What are the most important minerals of economic value on the Island?—Coal, iron, gypsum, limestone, copper, lead in small quantities, and silver. There is also gold, but it has not been worked to any great extent, although in several places there is good promise of the gold mines proving of importance. The coal mines were pretty fully reported on in the report for 1872-3 and 1874-5 by Mr. Robb.

Q. Did you notice any coal in Victoria County?—There is coal at New Campbellton, on the Great Bras D'Or.

Q. And in Richmond County also?—There is a coal field of some size bordering on the Strait of Canso, at the eastern end, including the Middle River and Cariboo Cove mines.

Q. Are there not also extensive coal fields in Inverness County?—Yes; large exposures of coal occur at Chimney Corner and from Broad Cove Marsh to the Broad Cove Mines, at Mabou and Port Hood.

Q. Any further south?—Yes; in a small basin on the River Inhabitants, near Glendale.

Q. Did you see any gold along the Middle River?—No; but I have seen gold that came from there. I never washed it out myself, because I had perfect confidence in the statement of Mr. John Campbell, one of the first explorers, who also says that it is found in the North-east East Margaree River.

Q. I suppose that gold must be washed from the mountains?—It is washed from the mountains into the adjoining brooks.

Q. There is a large extent of country there not explored?—Yes; we surveyed all the brooks in the neighbourhood, and to a certain extent indicated the rocks in which this gold may be sought for.

Q. Are not the coal fields of Inverness County very extensive?—They are not as extensive as those of Cape Breton County, which are most important; but they are very extensive, and would be very extensively worked were it not that there are no shipping harbours on that shore.

Q. There is also plaster there, is there not?—Yes; and plaster is also found in other parts of Cape Breton. One of the prominent features of the scenery of Bras D'Or Lake is its white cliffs of plaster.

Q. Did you ever notice the plaster deposits at Mabou?—Yes; they were largely worked at one time, and if there had been a good harbour they would have been worked to this day. There is an enormous deposit of plaster there.