

south along the Saskatchewan, Battle and Deer rivers. At Edmonton, in the declivities which characterise the banks of the river, there is presented to view a bed of coal which is made use of for the forge. Also, beds of coal have been observed in many places scattered within the limit of 10° latitude, but almost invariably under the same meridian. By drawing a line from the river Mackenzie to the confluence of the Red Deer river, within the Southern Saskatchewan, the position of the coal beds observed here could be determined. They have a considerable extent and will form, without doubt, some day, one of the principal sources of wealth of the Saskatchewan district, which nature has so extraordinarily favored."

"It is indisputable," said professor Macoun, "that in the region to the west of Edmonton which is bounded on the north by the Athabaskaw river, and on the south by the Red Deer river, there exists a coal field of at least 25,000 miles square; and in this vast extent, they can hope to find workable mines at depths which will seldom exceed 300 feet; and often, as in the case of the thick veins above described, most favorably situated for working by means of galleries on the surface."

Geological reports confirm these statements. Some months ago, there was great excitement about the discovery of rich deposits of coal near the River Souris, one of the tributaries of the Assiniboine, whose source is near the frontier more than 300 miles to the west of Red river. Moreover, a company has been organized to work the mine and transport the coal to Winnipeg.

Several large deposits have also been found a few miles east of the city of Emerson.

As soon as the South Western Railway will have been constructed in close proximity to River Souris, a branch thereof will immediately run to the mines, in order to convey the coal to Winnipeg and elsewhere.

TURF.

The turf deposits abound in the North-West, by which a very good fuel is produced where wood or coal is deficient. A company with a large capital has been formed to work up this industry. Operations will soon be commenced on the Julius swamp, along the Canadian Pacific Railway to the east of Selkirk.

LANDS IN THE NORTH-WEST.

SYSTEM OF SURVEYS.

The system of survey or of division of the lands in the North-West is very simple. All the lands are arranged into townships measuring six square miles each.