

REPORT OF PROFESSOR LAWSON.

HALIFAX, 18th MAY, 1868.

Having been requested to inspect the Douglas Slate Quarry and adjoining lands, with a view to forming an opinion as to the value of the minerals contained and the practicability of working them to advantage, I now beg to submit the following Report.

I visited the locality in Douglas Gore on the 1st of May, and spent two days in examining the property. Being accompanied by Mr. Steinson, the accredited agent of the proprietor, he pointed out the boundaries and furnished other necessary information, whilst Mr. Thomas, the manager, explained the results obtained in the workings hitherto, and answered enquiries on various other points.

The distance of the slate lands from the Elmsdale railway station is estimated at 14 miles; the road is for the most part level, and good for a country road, but might be much improved by a slight expenditure judiciously applied.

The Slate Quarry properties consist of 83 acres of land, held in fee simple, which is in form of a narrow strip, running in a westerly direction, nearly parallel with the slate beds, from the old Nine Mile River road and back over the Rawdon River, where it is densely covered with timber. There is likewise an area of 135 acres (Kilcup's farm) over which a right of mining is held.

The slate bands are large and extensive, running in an easterly and westerly direction, and there is a deep valley cut through them at right angles, north and south. There being little soil on the surface, the slates are exposed all along the opposite faces of the two hills which form this valley,—one of the hills rises to a height of about 250 feet above the level of the brook, and the other hill is somewhat higher. The slate beds extend over both hills, showing continuously from the