



It appears that these strata, while they were in a soft state, were exposed to some force that moved them from their original horizontal situation.

The same sandstones and freestones, sometimes containing fossil plants, are seen at Newcastle, Chatham, Douglas Town, and on both sides of the river, as it flows from the southwest. A large fossil tree was discovered by the workmen of Thomas H. Peters, Esquire, in the digging of a cellar. The texture of the wood still remains perfect, and portions of the original plant are beautifully crystallized.

The tide in the Miramichi rises four and a half feet at common tides. The river affords a most safe and commodious harbour, averaging a mile in breadth. Although there are many pretty views on the sides of this noble stream, the scenery in general is tame, and without that bold outline that contributes so much to the beauty of more elevated districts.

I had received information of minerals having been discovered at several localities farther up the river; but those minerals, upon examination, proved to be unimportant. The coal evidently deposited in this part of the Province, is the most valuable of all its mineral resources. From the great fires that have overrun the County of Northumberland, timber will soon become scarce, and the facilities of obtaining coal in the ballast of lumber ships, will cease to exist; the coal of this County will then be duly valued, and the peat, in an advanced state of agriculture, will be extensively employed in fertilizing the soil.

At the Ferry, over the North-west branch of the river, about two miles above Newcastle, the sandstones contain iron pyrites in nodules and irregular masses; near this spot I observed an ancient Indian manufactory of arrow-heads; several spear-shaped pieces of flint and jasper were found among the broken fragments buried in the soil. These sharp