

ous and dolomitic bands, while felspathic ashes, with a very considerable portion of chloritic slates, diorites, quartzites and red jaspery bands, besides a variety of other more or less altered strata, constitute the bulk of the series. Similar rocks occupy very extensive areas of the Northern Peninsula and the western side of the island, being especially well displayed over the country lying between Bonne Bay and the Bay of Islands, and the latter bay, Port-au-Port and St. George's Bay. Another very extensive tract in the interior, lying between the head waters of the Gander and Bay d'Est River, exhibits all the characteristics belonging to the same horizon.* This series of metamorphic deposits has obtained the name of the metalliferous zone of North America, owing to its highly mineralized character throughout its entire range. Here in Newfoundland it has been proven well deserving that title. The great Silurian series of formations are all represented here in greater or less volume. The valleys of the Exploits and Gander Rivers are chiefly underlaid by Lower Silurian slates and sandstones, &c. Middle Silurian organisms are abundant on some of the islands of Notre Dame Bay, and still more so on the Port-au-Port Peninsula, on the western side of the island. Lower, Middle and Upper Silurian strata frequently crop out along the Northern Peninsula, and on the shores of White Bay. In this latter bay, also, occurs the first appearance, so far as yet known, of the succeeding Devonian or Old Red Sandstone series. The two small projections or peninsulas of Cape Fox and Cape Rouge, and a portion of the Groais Island, near the north-east extremity of the island, are the only other points at which this latter formation exhibits itself in Newfoundland.

The Carboniferous series occupies two extensive areas of country, one bordering on the West Coast surrounding the Bay St. George, the other in the valley of the Humber River. As this series is more particularly referred to under the head of Coal, it is needless to enter into any details here.

PRECIOUS METALS—GOLD.

Rumors of the existence of gold in several parts of the island had been long circulated, but up till about ten years ago, no *bona fide* find of this noble metal, that could be thoroughly relied upon,

*The Quebec group of Sir William Logan.