

The property has been partially developed by the opening of one or two tunnels of about 20 feet each. The following reports have been made with special reference to the locations offered. (1) Letter from George M. Dawson, Esq., Assistant Director of the Geological Survey of Canada :—

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, CANADA.

Geological and Natural History Survey,

OTTAWA, Oct. 23rd, 1883.

J. A. GEMMILL, Esq. Ottawa.

*My dear Sir,*—In answer to your enquiries in reference to the Medicine Hat Coal, I may state that two important seams occur in that locality and are well shown in natural exposures in the banks of the South Saskatchewan River for several miles. The seams are nearly horizontal, or effected by light, undulating dips only, and though the thickness and character of the coals differ somewhat in the various sections, the persistence of the coal bearing character of the horizon is such as to give every confidence in its maintaining a workable thickness for a considerable, though as yet undefined distance, both north and south of the river. The manner in which the coal is naturally exposed in the scarped banks of the river renders its extraction easy and inexpensive, and where it has been already opened it proves to have a good sound roof and floor requiring little timbers, while water scarcely occurs in the measures. The exposures in the vicinity of the areas marked on your sketch indicate that the seams are here at least as well developed as in any part of the district, and with means of transport provided it will be a locality well situated for working.

The fuel, though strictly speaking a lignite coal, has been proved by actual trial to be well suited for all ordinary purposes, and its geographical position and proximity to the Canadian Pacific Railway line gives it a very considerable advantage in the eastern markets as compared with most of the coals of the North-West.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE M. DAWSON.

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REPORT OF ROBERT WARD (CONTRACTOR FOR THE SASKATCHEWAN COAL MINES) ON THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROPERTY.

The principal seam is seven feet thick on the south-eastern corner of Section 6, and continues with that thickness down to 4 feet for a distance of 400 yards. East down the river, and west of the 7-foot seam, it becomes reduced to 3 feet 6 inches, but the average would be about 4 feet 9 inches. The quantity is unlimited—at least 6,000,000 tons to the square mile. Its quality as a steam coal is fairly satisfactory, the only objection being that it is light and it is carried through the smoke-stack before its properties are fully consumed. This can