

No. 8.

COLONIAL OFFICE to the GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

NEWFOUND-
LAND.
MINERAL
RESOURCES.

SIR, Downing Street, February 8, 1896.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant,* with some observations on a report by Mr. James P. Howley upon the mineral resources of Bell Island, Newfoundland.

2. Mr. Chamberlain desires me to thank you for your letter, and to say that as some further despatches have now been received relating to this subject and to discoveries of minerals in various other parts of the Colony, he will be much obliged if you will be so kind as to favour him with any remarks that may occur to you upon these despatches also, which are enclosed herewith,† together with the specimens of iron ore referred to. The Governor has been requested by telegraph to send home authenticated specimens of coal as soon as possible.

I am, &c.

EDWARD FAIRFIELD.

No. 9.

SIR H. MURRAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.
(Received February 26, 1896.)

Government House, St. John's, Newfoundland,
February 7, 1896.

SIR,

WITH reference to my report of the 3rd ultimo,‡ respecting the coal areas in this island, and to your telegram of this day's date, I forward by the S.S. "Ulunda" a box containing specimens of coal, which has been labelled by Mr. Howley, the head of the Geological Survey. Should it be considered by you desirable, I will send a similar parcel of coal specimens direct to the London Chamber of Commerce.

2. I also forward a small specimen of chromic iron ore, which I am told is very valuable for pigment production. It was brought me by an experienced mining agent, who is in difficulty about working it on account of the French Treaty Shore question.

3. Mr. Howley informs me "that its principal use—at least one of them—is the extraction of oxide of chromium for the manufacture of pigments, such as chrome green and yellow, which are used largely in dyeing, calico printing, glass and porcelain painting, &c. As an iron ore it is of little value owing to the small percentage of iron it contains, and the abundance of richer ores. I have mentioned this mineral in my report on the iron ores. It is found in several parts of the island."

* No. 6.

† Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 7.

‡ No. 4.