

CARBONIFEROUS FOSSILS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The plants referred to in this paper are in part specimens submitted to me some years ago by the late Alexander Murray, F. G. S., Director of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland; in part specimens presented to me some time subsequently by Mr. P. Paterson, of Quebec; but principally fossils from recent collections by James P. Howley, F. G. S., now Director of the Newfoundland survey. They are mostly of familiar forms, characteristic of the coal formation as it exists in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, and especially of the lower and middle portions of it. A few are new, and some others raise interesting general questions. None of them seem referable to the lower Carboniferous or Horton series or to the upper Coal formation or Permo-Carboniferous. The strata in which they occur are similar to those of the coal formation of Cape Breton, and according to Mr. Howley contain several productive beds of coal.

The Carboniferous of St. George's bay, in western Newfoundland, may be regarded as the northeastern outcrop of the beds which dip under the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in eastern and northern Cape Breton; and it is likely that large areas of Coal Measures exist under the Gulf of St. Lawrence in the intervening space. As exhibited in St. George's bay, the Carboniferous rocks include conglomerates, sandstones, green and red shales, with bands of limestone and dolomite, and beds or masses of gypsum,