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eastern point of this belt extends as far as the Bar Settlement, where it is covered by the Lower Carboniferous. At Upper Rawdon it has a width of five miles and a half on the Beaver Bank road, between George Wallace's and the Gore; at Central Rawdon, of four miles between South Rawdon post office and Woodville; it extends west a short distance beyond Upper Newport and Ardoise Hill, where it is covered by Lower Carboniferous gypsum and limestone. These rocks are lithologically the same as those of the upper graphitic slate group of the Lower Cambrian; like them they rest conformably, along their southern limits, on the lower quartzite rocks, and are undoubtedly of the same age. Certain forms from the slate of the Northup mine, Central Rawdon, believed to be of organic origin, have led some to suppose that they were newer; but a large number of specimens collected here by Mr. Fletcher in 1890, and last summer by the writer, have been found on microscopic examination by Mr. T. C. Weston to be merely dolomitic concretions.

The Rawdon slate belt is plicated in a synclinal and anticlinal fold. The latter passes a short distance north of Central Rawdon, and at Upper Newport brings up along its apex a narrow ridge of the lower quartzite group with numerous quartz veins, some of which (one mile west of Upper Newport post office) were prospected and found to be auriferous. Quartz veins of great width and length, cutting these up-tilted slates at a right angle, are very numerous, and those worked so successfully a few years ago at Central Rawdon and found to contain such rich pockets belong to the group of true fissure veins. No doubt these veins were formed by segregation out of the adjacent auriferous slates, but it is not probable that gold is as uniformly distributed through the whole thickness of these slates as it is through the "whin" series, and moreover, as no structural indication is yet known as a guide to the location of the auriferous cross veins, these slates will never be as tempting a field as the "whin" series, where systematic prospecting along anticlinals directed by experienced mining engineers well acquainted with the peculiar structure of the Nova Scotia gold districts is likely to be successful. These Rawdon slates are, on the east, north and west sides, unconformably covered by the Lower Carboniferous rocks.

The following table, compiled from the annual reports of the Department of Mines of Nova Scotia, gives the yield of gold from each of the five districts examined last season, for the five years ending 31st December, 1891:—

| District.                 | When first worked. | Tons crushed. | Yield of gold per ton. | Total yield of gold. |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| South Uniacke*            | 1889               | 462           | 10.48                  | 4,842                |
| Mount Uniacke.....        | 1866               | 7,573         | 0.46                   | 3,503                |
| Renfrew.....              | 1861               | 5,960         | 0.89                   | 5,309                |
| Central and East Rawdon.. | 1884               | 11,389        | 0.79                   | 9,058                |
| Total.....                |                    | 25,384        | 0.90                   | 22,712               |

\* Yield from October, 1889, to November, 1892.

The above averages of yield of gold per ton are certainly very satisfactory when it is remembered that, in most mines properly equipped and economically worked, a yield of 5 to 15 dwt. of gold per ton ought to pay.

The West Gore Antimony mine, operated from 1884 to 1890, was, when visited, filled with water, consequently very little can be said about it. The principal ore is stibnite, sulphuret of antimony or gray antimony, with a little kermesite or red antimony and traces of native antimony. It occurs in a quartz fissure vein cutting the slates at right angles, in apparently the same manner as the gold-bearing veins of Central Rawdon. Dr. Gilpin, in the report of the Department of Mines of Nova Scotia for 1884, makes the following remarks: "During the past year a valuable mine of antimony ore has been opened out at Rawdon, Hants county. Two shafts, about 120 feet apart, have been sunk about 175 feet, and levels driven, and 600 tons of No. 1 ore raised. The vein which is of gray antimony ore, is from four to eighteen inches in width, cutting talcose slates. There is little impurity present beyond small amounts of quartz and calcspar. An analysis by Mr. M. H. Smith showed the ore to be almost of chemical purity, having little beyond mere traces of foreign material. This discovery has led to prospecting for other deposits of the ore, and it is probable that a large district here will be found to yield it. Similar ore has been reported from Upper Stewiacke, Melrose and Tralfgar." The amount of ore annually exported since the opening of the mine is taken from the reports of the Department of Mines of Nova Scotia as follows:—

| Year.     | Tons. |
|-----------|-------|
| 1884..... | 600   |
| 1885..... | 758   |
| 1886..... | 645   |
| 1887..... | 400   |
| 1888..... | 308   |
| 1889..... | 55    |
| 1890..... | 26    |

A saline mineral spring was noticed half a mile east of Renfrew, at the contact of the Lower Carboniferous and the Lower Cambrian.

One month was spent during the summer revising the work in some localities in Guysboro' and Halifax counties in order to study a few unsettled points, locate more precisely certain anticlinals and have the maps, which are now being engraved, of that portion of the province, which has been under examination for the past ten years, as complete as possible and up to date.

I was ably assisted, as in previous years, by Messrs. Archie Cameron and J. McG. Cruickshank for five months; and by Mr. F. C. Liberge, C. E., for seven and a half months.

The expenditure on the season's explorations, including the salaries of all assistants, was \$1,550.00.