

to Newcastle. Altogether more than 400 miles of roads were surveyed during the season by odometer and chain; about 950 miles of the courses of the south-west Miramichi, the Nipsigust, the Upsalquitch and the Restigouche Rivers and their tributaries, by canoe; and numerous traverses made through the woods to examine and define the limits of the several geological formations. Mr. Ells' exploration occupied from the 3rd May to the 13th November, including journey to New Brunswick and return; expenses, \$926.74. Mr. Broad's exploration occupied from the 3rd May to the 25th November; expenses, \$517.94.

NOVA SCOTIA.

In Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, the work of the survey under Mr. H. Fletcher comprised further explorations and measurements in the Richmond and Port Hood coal fields, also surveys of roads and brooks between Whycocomagh and Mabou River, and between Cheticamp and St. Amis Harbour. The courses of the Margaree, Middle and St. Amis Rivers were also surveyed. The gold mines of Middle River occur in a series of schistose rocks, which extends far to the northward, and is probably the source of the gold previously discovered by Mr. Campbell in the sands of the Cheticamp River, Jumping Brook and other streams. This formation should therefore be carefully examined and its limits accurately defined, and of even greater importance is the accurate determination of the lines of contact of the carboniferous and pre-canibrian formations, as along these lines all the valuable deposits of iron manganese ores occur, such as those recently discovered at Forks' Lake, on the flank of the Coxheath Hills and at the head of Loch Lomond. The season's exploration in Cape Breton occupied from the 4th May to the 25th December; expenses, \$1,259.31.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Of all the explorations detailed reports will be prepared for publication in the Annual Report of Progress of the Survey. The volume for 1878-79, 375 pages, 8vo., with 29 illustrations and seven maps, has recently been distributed. It is, as usual, published in English and in French. The English edition—3,500 copies—costs \$1.15 per copy, and the French edition—500 copies—cost \$3.90 per copy. In connection with the above, the Director desires to call attention to the fact that while the cost of publishing the results of the labours of the Geological Corps and the salaries of the staff are annually increasing, no corresponding increase has been made in the annual appropriation for the work. This not only makes it impossible to respond to the constant appeals from the various Provinces for the services of the Geological Corps, but will soon render a very considerable restriction of the area of operations necessary.