

NOVA SCOTIAN GEOLOGY.

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Truro & I. C. R.

We propose to take a trip on the Intercolonial Railway to the middle of the Cobequid Mountains.

EXPLANATION.

As we will have occasion to examine rocks *in situ* similar to those which have furnished boulders for the Truro drift, I would notice an *error in my last paper*. "Quartz (syenitic)" should read "Quartz-Syenite." This is a name that has been introduced into Petrography to designate Syenite similar to that of Cleopatra's Needle. This was wont to be regarded as Typical Syenite, and Syenite was then considered to consist of the three minerals, Quartz, Feldspar and Hornblende. We have many rocks in the Cobequids and Drift Boulders which consist of Feldspar and Hornblende. In these cases the Feldspar is common *Potash* Feldspar, or Orthoclase. These are not Syenites according to the old view as quartz is wanting. Diorites also consist of Feldspar and Hornblende. This Feldspar is *Soda* Feldspar or Oligoclase. Here was a practical difficulty in nomenclature. The rocks in question were not Syenites, neither were they Diorites, which name is to be given to them. Dana has suggested the distinctive names, Syenite for the rock composed of common Feldspar and Hornblende, Quartz-Syenite for the rock containing quartz.

2. Diorites (granitoid) are thus distinguished from Diorites which are *macroscopically homogeneous* and require the Microscope and Polariscope to reveal their mineral constitution. The granitoid diorites *may be* metamorphic rock, the others igneous and intrusive.

Now for our trip on the I. C. R.

From Truro onward to Folly River Bridge we traverse the Triassic and Pleistocene formations. The former are seen exposed by numerous sections in railway cuttings. We have done very