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second great ridge of granitoid and gneissoid rocks trending in the same direction strikes away from the base on the westward of Bay d'Espoir, and forms the height of land between the two great valleys of the Gander and Exploits Rivers, narrowing towards the north-east and terminating in a point near the shores of Dildo Reach, Notre Dame Bay. The third and most extensive belt of Laurentian trends away northeasterly from Cape Ray, and passes between the Exploits and Humber Valleys, being split up in the latter valley, where it is overlaid by the central Carboniferous trough of the island. One branch of this latter ridge runs out towards the extremity of the peninsula separating Notre Dame from White Bay, while the other continues northward through the Northern Peninsula, or "Petit Nord" of the French, nearly to the extreme north point of the Island. This ridge is termed the Long Range Mountains, and is in reality the backbone of the entire structure of the island. One small isolated patch of the same system forms the nucleus of the Peninsula of Avalon. Surrounding this nucleus on the extreme eastern seaboard, and the shores of Conception and St. Mary's Bays, we have a set of ancient sedimentary strata consisting of:

(a) Diorites and quartzites, with jaspery bands.

(b) Slate conglomerate.

(c) Greenish, purplish, pinkish or red slates, often approaching in hardness jasper or chert. These have sometimes been called feldsite slates, or hornstone.

(d) Dark brown or bluish black slates, with thin layers of hard fine grained sandstones toward the top. This has been named the St. John's slate, or