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ABSTRACT OF A PAPER ON THE FOSSILIFEROUS ROCKS OF ARISAIG.

By REV. DAVID HONEYMAN.

The Fossiliferous Rocks of Arisaig form a subject interesting in itself, interesting in its bearing on the Geology of Nova Scotia in particular, and on the science of Geology in general. They extend from Arisaig, which lies about fourteen miles south-west of Cape George, to Moydart, and are exposed on the shore from near Arisaig Pier to a little distance to the east of McAra's Brook, the extent of the exposure being nearly two miles, with a few interruptions.

This section is very interesting throughout, but the point of greatest interest is its western extremity, where the rocks in question meet with the carboniferous conglomerate, where they are only slightly metamorphic, and where the organisms which record the history and determine the relative age of this and similar rocks in the Province, are found in a remarkable state of preservation.

The metamorphosis of this section of rocks has resulted, probably, from the general volcanic action to which the metamorphic rocks of this period have been subjected, as well as from local and more recent volcanic action, of which there is here ample evidence.

These rocks are composed of layers of shale loose and more compact; this shale is generally argillaceous, and is often interstratified with limestone; the shale is often fossiliferous. The limestone is rich in fossils, and appears chiefly to owe to these its existence.