

the West Bay, the other southerly, between the Gut of Canso and the valley of the river Inhabitants. Proceeding easterly, we find a detached range of elevated land, about ten miles in length, between St. Patrick's Channel and the Straits of Barra; and still farther, in the same direction, a lofty range, between St. Ann's Harbour and the great entrance of the Bras d'Or Lakes, which terminates in the rocky promontory of Cape Dauphin.

All the high lands in the western division, except the southern end of the range lying between the Gut of Canso and the valley of the river Inhabitants, consist of syenite, gneiss, mica slate, and other metamorphic rocks of old date. A coarse conglomerate, the basis of the carboniferous system, rests upon the flanks of many of the hills, which in some places attain an elevation of 600 feet. Between Port Hood and Margarie, the upper beds of the carboniferous system, containing some workable seams of bituminous coal, occur in the cliffs, being the eastern margin of an extensive coal field lying under the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Similar beds of coal also occur in the low country, between the Gut of Canso and St. Peter's, but they are of small economic importance. The valleys, and the low country generally, intervening between the hills above mentioned, consist chiefly of sandstones, shales, limestone, and gypsum, of the lower carboniferous system.

In the eastern division of Cape Breton there are only two ranges of hills of considerable elevation: one running parallel and near to the shore of Bras d'Or Lake, from St. Peter's to the head of the East Bay; the other from Long Island, nearly to the Straits of Barra. These hills consist chiefly of syenite, granite, and metamorphic rocks. From St. Peter's to Scatari the coast-line is generally low, with occasional bluffs of clay and gravel, and small lakes at frequent intervals, separated from the sea by barriers of sand and shingle. The land on this coast rises gradually from the sea towards the interior, presenting a swelling and undulating outline, but it nowhere reaches a greater elevation than 300 feet, except at the head of Gabarus Bay. A low but uneven tract of great extent