

Tracadie, in the eastern part of Gloucester county, and the fine Roman Catholic churches of Caraquet and Tracadie, as well as several other fine buildings, were constructed from stone obtained in their vicinity. Many of the beds are quite free from pyrites, and are equal in quality to the fine stone obtained in the south-eastern part of the province.

*Limestone* occurs throughout the greater part of the Silurian system. It is especially abundant in the vicinity of Elm Tree River and Belledune, and is quarried to some extent for burning. The local demand, however, is not great, and the distance from a profitable market such as to interfere with its regular production. The marble in the vicinity of Petite Roche and Elm Tree would be a valuable stone were it not so shattered, probably by the intrusion of the trap dykes of this locality. It is, however, frequently burned for lime. The alteration of the limestone to marble is only local, and the deposits are not likely to prove of value, save for calcination. The ordinary limestone of this vicinity was extensively quarried, and used in the building of the bridges along the line of the Intercolonial railway.

*Granites*.—The rock in the vicinity of Bathurst is of equally good quality, with much of that in the southern portion of the province as a building stone, and has been largely employed in the construction of many of the immense bridges along the line of the Intercolonial railway. Several quarries have been opened in the vicinity of the Nipisiguit River, but except for use on the railroad, no attempt has been made to work them. The expense of shipment is against its successful working as compared with the quarries on the St. John River and in Charlotte county. A limited out-crop of this rock occurs on the Benjamin River about four miles from its mouth, and has been locally used for mill-stones.

*Slates*.—Some of the bands of slate along the lower part of the Tête à Gauche River seem to be fairly adapted for the manufacture of roofing slates, but the expense of opening quarries would be great, and the demand so limited that their economic value may be considered as small.

*Peat*.—The extensive beds of peat in the vicinity of Point Escuminac are often of good quality, and when properly prepared this material burns well. The proximity of the Pictou coal fields, and the cheapness of coal, is at present such as not to warrant the expenditure of capital in the preparation and manufacture of peat fuel, though for local purposes it might possibly be advantageously employed.