

wise for oil-boring—cut the mountain ranges and the valleys obliquely, and will afford, at many points not difficult of discovery, favorable spots where the sandstone covering will be of moderate thickness.

Independently of all theory, the fact of the existence of the petroleum over a large tract of country in this district is abundantly proved, not only by the appearance of the limestone rock itself which is everywhere found to be highly impregnated with oil, but by the number of places widely apart from each other, at which the oil forces itself to the surface. The most important of these have been described by Sir Wm. Logan in his published report, extracts from which will accompany the present. The locations of these and of several others which have been either observed by or reported to me, during my recent visit, are all included among the lands which have been selected and secured. Previous to my visit to this oil-bearing region, having been much occupied in investigating those of other parts of the country, I had carefully studied its nature and conditions and had thus been led to form a very favorable opinion of it. I am aware, also, from frequent conversations with various officers of the Geological Commission that it has always been regarded by them as a highly promising field of operations in oil-boring. My recent visit has amply confirmed and strengthened the favorable impressions I had thus far been led to form, and I entertain a strong conviction that it is destined to prove a great oil-producing country, and will yield a rich reward to those capitalists who will undertake its development upon an adequate scale.

The lands referred to in this report are all situated in the surveyed and settled part of this district, and are in the immediate vicinity of the magnificent harbor of Gaspé Bay and traversed for the most part by good roads.

The facilities for shipment are thus unequalled, and as Gaspé is a free port of entry the requisite machinery can be imported, and provisions and goods of all sorts procured at a cheap rate. The country is thickly settled with an in-