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ARTICLE XXX.—*On the recent discoveries of Gold in Nova Scotia.* By J. W. DAWSON, LL.D., F.G.S., &c.

(*Read before the Natural History Society.*)

The discoveries of gold recently made in Nova Scotia, are of much interest both in a geological and commercial point of view; and should they exercise an influence on the destinies of that Province, comparable with that which similar discoveries have produced in California and Australia, they will not be without importance to Canada, and will probably contribute to attract attention to other mineral resources of the Lower Provinces heretofore neglected. In the present paper, I propose to record the leading geological facts connected with these discoveries, using materials collected in my former geological researches in Nova Scotia, and the facts communicated to me by friends who have visited the localities.

In a paper on the Silurian and Devonian rocks of Nova Scotia, published in Vol. V of the *Canadian Naturalist*, p. 132, et seq., I referred very shortly to a series of metamorphic rocks extending along the Atlantic coast of the Province. I stated that it has afforded no fossils; but from its apparent relation to the fossiliferous Silurian rocks further inland, and to the older slate series of