

ARGENTIFEROUS GALENA.

Several localities are mentioned in the report of 1870-71 as affording galena in small quantity. Of these, the only one that has been examined for silver is that on Hammond River, at Wanamake's, which has been found to yield a fair proportion.

A new locality, which was opened in 1878, is on the west side of Musquash Harbor, in Laurentian syenites. Here veins, of eight inches to one foot, of white quartz carry yellow sulphuret of copper and galena. The latter has been assayed by Dr. Harrington, and found to yield a little over \$14 to the ton. (See report of 1877-78, p. 529.) The extreme hardness of the country rock and the smallness of the vein are against the profitable working of this location.

BITUMINOUS COAL.

No new developments have been made in this department since the report of 1872-73. The amount annually raised varies but little, and no attempts have yet been made to carry on the mining in any more systematic manner.

ANTHRACITE.

Within the last four years considerable money has been spent in developing the seam of anthracite which occurs in the Devonian rocks of Belas Basin, Lepreau. Four shafts had been sunk up to 1878, the greatest depth then reached being 140 feet, but the character of the coal did not seem to improve sufficiently to warrant the investment of any further capital. A similar deposit occurs at Clinch's post office, Musquash, in rocks of the same age and character, but this is of no value. The large percentage of ash—36 per cent.—is strongly against the reported good quality of the mineral as a combustible, while its irregular distribution and impure character are also strong obstacles to its successful development. A large part of what has been called coal is nothing but carbonaceous shale, and this constitutes the bulk of the seam, the thickness of the harder or anthracite band being only a few inches.

ALBERTITE.

With the exception of the deposit of this mineral at the Albert Mines, no body of albertite has as yet been found in quantity sufficient for working. Since the report of 1876-77 on this deposit, explorations have been carried on at several places. Borings were made at Elgin corner and Mapleton with the diamond drill in the Albert shale, but