

may be found useful at an early date. It is of interest to glance at their former seaward extensions. Part of Port Hood Islands and Margaree Island are composed of Middle Carboniferous, and they are the relics of a vast coal field extending for miles under the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and gradually worn away by its tides and currents. Even in historic times we have seen marks of the progress of destruction in the sweeping away of Port Hood Bar, and undermined cliffs at numerous localities.

In the district we are considering, Mr. Fletcher has divided the remaining Carboniferous strata into two groups, on which he remarks:

"Conglomerate—At or below the base of the lower Carboniferous, in several places occur strata, greatly altered by the intrusion of igneous rocks. They frequently resemble the supposed Devonian of the Isle of Madame, but are more probably for the most part Carboniferous, and underlie the Marine Limestone."

The more important and most highly altered rocks of this series, occur at Mabou, Strathlorne, South West and North East Margaree and Cheticamp. They comprise, argillaceous and arenaceous shales, and sandstones and conglomerates with diorites and tuffs. Similar but less highly altered grits, sandstones and conglomerates occur in the ridge between the Baddeck River and St. Patrick's Channel at Middle River, Mabou, Lake Ainslie, Syke Glen, etc.

One band of these measures, begins at Low Point, on the Strait of Canso, and runs to Lake Ainslie in a band about five miles wide. A branch of it running down the West River of Whyhogomah forms the Salt Mountain, and gradually widening occupies great part of the district between Lake Ainslie and the mouth of Middle River, and following the west bank of the Middle River terminates near Loch Ban.

Other isolated patches are met on both sides of Loch Ban, and between the branches of the Margaree. Another irregular band, beginning at the forks of the Margaree, on the east side of the river, follows it down to within a mile of the shore, to which it pursues a roughly parallel course until it ends on the Cheticamp River, about five miles from its mouth, and has for its

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