-GILPIN.

more commet. Here ccupied by re and Millbout twelve rner workmined to a the water r no mining orner for a a report by

nches.

- 6
- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0 6

four miles, ality. The , so far as I d that a few been found indifference far to seek. oping faciliients were king a haro Margaree mac's Pond, le of harbor the volume onsiderable

UNDEVELOPED COAL FIELDS OF NOVA SCOTIA-GILPIN. 147

It may be mentioned that Seat Wolf Island lying a short distance off the shore at Chimney Corner is composed of measures the same as those on the mainland, and this fact contributes to the permanence of any subaqueous extension of the coal seams. From Margaree to the northern end of Cheticamp Island there is a narrow fringe of coal measures. I am not in possession of any intormation as to the indications of the presence of coal in the Cheticamp district.

No point in the interior of the island presents coal measures, and it has been carefully examined by Mr. Fletcher. The two systems occurring there are the felsites, syenites, limestones, etc., of the Laurentian and the basal conglomerates, limestones, gypsums and associated beds of the lower part of the carboniferous.

Reports of discoveries of coal are not infrequently made from localities outside of those I have referred to, but so far as our geological information goes they are not likely to prove of value, and the test of exploration has invariably sustained this view. At St. Lawrence Bay the coal seam is a black bituminous shale holding patches of coaly matter and associated with limestone and gypsum.

At Hunter's Mountain and Ingonish irregular and impure layers of coaly matter occur in the Lower Carboniferous. On the Mabou River, East Bay, and a number of other places work has been done on carbonaceous shales, which often carry sufficient carbon to burn and give heat enough to raise steam and to be used for domestic purposes. The percentage of ash, however, is a fatal barrier to their competition with imported Anthracite coal. These beds may present greater value as sources for the manufacture of oils, etc.

Beds of graphitic shale or slate are frequently taken to indicate the vicinity of coal, or are tested with faith in the mining axiom that every mineral becomes richer the deeper it goes.

Other discoveries of coal resolve themselves into beds of black fire clay or shale carrying streaks of coaly matter, or into limited masses of coal due to some small accumulation of plant remains, and consolidated into a more or less bituminous coal, often holding a high percentage of ash.