

coast. It may contain extensive coal seams more valuable than those of Bay St. George. The whole of this coal-bearing region is most easy of access from the head of White Bay. One day, its solitudes will re-echo the scream of the locomotive; a busy, mining population will bring its hidden treasures to the sunlight, and perhaps transform it into the Lancashire of Newfoundland. It is but a short distance from the copper-bearing region in which the now celebrated copper mine of Tilt Cove is situated, which has just been purchased by an English Company for £150,000 sterling. This metalliferous zone is believed to run through the centre of the Island, and is of great extent. Copper and nickel have been found at various points, although only the coast has been examined, the interior being yet unknown. There are indications of magnetic iron and iron-stone along the northern and eastern shore. It is of vast importance, therefore, that, at a short distance from these mineral treasures, this coal-bearing region is found. St. George's Bay, too, as I shall show presently, contains magnetic iron, and Port-au-Port, which is close at hand, lead, copper, and possibly petroleum. A country which possesses all these advantages has every element of prosperity, and with a fertile soil and a healthy climate, requires only the presence and industry of man to rise into greatness. Coal in proximity to minerals renders a prosperous future certain. When we take into account, besides, the position of these coal-bearing regions, their treasures are enhanced in value. St. George's Bay is on the highway between Britain and Canada, and passing steamers can coal here much more readily than at Cape Breton. Wood fuel is every year becoming scarcer and dearer in every town on the Atlantic border; hence the vast importance of those stores of fuel which nature has laid up in Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and Newfoundland. Should the Canadian Pacific Railway have its eastern terminus at St. John's, it will be of vast consequence that it should pass through a coal region in St. George's Bay, from which supplies can be obtained, as from the coal beds of Vancouver's Island, at the other extremity of the line. Let us now glance at the agricultural capabilities of Bay St. George. More than a quarter of a century ago, the Surveyor General of the day paid a professional visit to this part of the Island, with a view of reporting on its resources. He estimated that it was capable of supporting in comfort, from one to two hundred thousand inhabitants, from the produce of the soil alone,