

in the report of Mr. Chas. Robb (1869) on that region. It cannot be said to possess any economic value, as the amount is very limited.

*Gypsum of the Tobique.*

*Gypsum or Plaster* is not known to exist in the area bordering on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The only deposit of the kind in the northern portion of the province is found on the Tobique River, near the mouth of the Wapskehegan, in rocks of Lower Carboniferous age. This has already been described in previous reports by Messrs. Hind, Gesner and Robb. Within the last few years a considerable demand has sprung up for it in the vicinity of the Upper St. John, and a mill for grinding it for agricultural purposes has lately been erected on the Tobique.

*Coal.*

*Clifton.*

*Shippegan Island.*

*South-west Miramichi.*

*Probable extension of the Grand Lake bed*

*Grindstones.*

*Coal* is known to occur at various points throughout the great extent of the Carboniferous system in eastern New Brunswick. At Clifton, sixteen miles below Bathurst, a small seam of a few inches only is seen in the cliffs, and underlies the grindstone quarry at this place. It is stated by Mr. Read, owner of the quarries, to have a total thickness in places of eighteen inches, but the greater portion of this is black carbonaceous slate, and the hard or coal portion does not exceed six to eight inches. Coal of considerable thickness is also reported from the Island of Shippegan, at Pigeon Hill, but owing to the lateness of the season when visited and the unwillingness of the owners of the land to disclose its outcrop, nothing definite could be learned of its extent. Samples of the coal, however, seem to be of very good quality, and if a workable bed could be found in this locality it would be of great value from the convenience of shipping. It would be an easy matter to test this place by boring, and the prospects are such as to warrant a moderate outlay in solving the question of its occurrence.

Thin seams also are found in the vicinity of the South-West Miramichi and between this river and Shediac, but these outcrops have not yet been carefully examined. They may be, and probably are, on the extension of the seam which has been worked at Grand Lake, and if so, would show that the formation, as developed in this province, is very thin. The judicious expenditure of a few hundred dollars would prove the point, and determine whether, as the coal fields approach the productive measures of Nova Scotia, thicker and more profitable seams may not occur. The measures lie in such a horizontal attitude that superficial examinations do not yield much information on this point.

*Grindstones* and *building stones* of excellent qualities are found at various places throughout the Carboniferous area. The former are extensively quarried at Clifton, about sixteen to eighteen miles below Bathurst, whence they are exported largely to the upper provinces and to the United States. Grindstone quarries are also worked at several localities on the North-West Miramichi, as well as below the town of Newcastle. Building stone has been quarried for local purposes in the vicinity of