

different collieries. Good wages are obtained, living is cheap and there are many advantages connected with a residence in Nova Scotia which cannot be had elsewhere.

Mr. Gilpin, Government Inspector for Mines in the Province, estimates its known productive coal fields to occupy an area of about 685 square miles. From the same authority, information is obtained as to the character of the coal—that it belongs to the bituminous division of Dana, no Anthracite having been met with as yet, and that it may be divided into cooking, cherry or free burning, and cannel coal. The different coals found and worked in the Province have been submitted to various analytical tests by competent authorities, who have pronounced the quality to be excellent; and either for gas, cooking or steam purposes, equal to any in the world. The most eastern of the Nova Scotia fields is known as the Sydney Coal Field, situate in the Island of Cape Breton. In Inverness County valuable deposits of coal occur. These lie in the productive coal measures found on the western shore of Cape Breton. In Richmond County also, coal beds are found, the extent and value of which are not yet fully known. Nor have any of these deposits been worked to any extent. In Nova Scotia proper, we have three counties whose soil is underlaid with coal, viz.: Antigonish, Pictou and Cumberland, and seams of coal occur in other parts of the country where the carboniferous system prevails. (*The Nova Scotia Immigration Society Pamphlet, page 14.*)

In the carboniferous areas there are immense deposits of pyroschist or bituminous shale, "capable" says Dawson "of yielding as much as 63 gallons of oil, or 7,500 feet of illuminating gas per ton. Owing to the great cheapness of petroleum little attention has been paid to these shales for some years, but it is likely that they will before long again be in demand." (*Ency. Brit., Vol. 17, page 602.*)

INVERNESS: This County is in the Island of Cape Breton, and extends the entire length of the northern side of the Island; it is the longest County in the Province. The population is about 30,000, and with the exception of a few hundreds of French origin, is composed entirely of people of Scottish Highland descent. Port Hood is the chief town; its business is principally trade with the farmers and fishermen who reside in the vicinity. A good deal of money is circulated in the Town by American fishermen, who resort to the harbor of Port Hood in bad weather. There is a quantity of excellent coal in this County. From Cheticamp to Judique, on the western shore of Cape Breton, there extends a narrow and broken line of coal measures, forming the edges of great basins of coal beneath the St. Lawrence Gulf. At Chimney Corner two groups of seams exist, and at Broad Cove eight seams in about 2,000 feet of strata, only one of which is worked. The extent of productive measures here is not known positively, but areas containing twenty square miles, believed to hold workable coal have been secured by various parties. The Geological Survey Report of 1874 says: "Judging from appearance this coal, which is of a bituminous kind, seems to be of excellent quality." It has been satisfactorily tested for steam and house purposes. Another small but valuable coal field exists at Mabou. At Port Hood one seam only has been definitely tested, though the presence of several others has been proved. Here the strata run parallel with the shore, and extend along it for about two miles. The seam opened has a thickness of six feet. Workings were pushed a short distance into the sea but are temporarily discontinued. The outcrop of another six foot seam is known at low water. (*Crosskill's Nova Scotia: Mineral Resources of Canada.*)