

REPORT
OF OBSERVATIONS ON THE
CARBONIFEROUS SYSTEM OF NEW BRUNSWICK,
IN THE
COUNTIES OF QUEEN'S, SUNBURY AND A PORTION OF YORK.

BY
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ADDRESSED TO
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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, May, 1873.

SIR,—The following Report embraces the results of observations made during the past season by Mr. George F. Matthew and myself, assisted by Mr. R. W. Ells, on portions of the Carboniferous System and older strata in central New Brunswick, and has been prepared in pursuance of instructions which I received in June last.

The first published Report on the coal formation in New Brunswick was made by Dr. A. Gesner in the year 1838. In this and the three following years he succeeded in determining its limits with some accuracy, embracing fully one-third of the entire area of the Province, and he likewise described the general lithological characters of the measures.

Ont-crops of coal had been discovered at several points; and from some of these, more particularly in the vicinity of Grand Lake, in Queen's county, it had been raised to a limited extent since 1825; but though the coal was of good quality, the seams were so thin that they offered no inducement for any extended investment of capital in their development. The proximity of the magnificent coal seams of Nova Scotia, however, encouraged the hope that other and thicker seams might be discovered at some lower level than had hitherto been reached in New Brunswick, and in 1837 it was determined to ascertain if possible, by boring, the existence or otherwise of such workable seams in the Grand Lake district. Operations conducted by a private company were accordingly instituted for the

Report by Dr.
A. Gesner, 1838.

Coal seams of
Grand Lake.

Boring opera-
tions.