

the Crown land department to promote their views. I am also aware of persons who arrived here with the avowed purpose of going to the United States, proceeding into the interior for settlement, or remaining for labour. With some provisional exceptions, no system of emigration location similar to that in Upper and Lower Canada in 1823 and 1825 has existed here; the settlement of the province (save the discharged soldiers, pensioners and commuted pensioners) has been advancing by a solitary solvent emigration.

I am not aware that inconvenience at sea has arisen from the numerical proportion of passengers to the tonnage of vessels carrying them, under the 5th & 6th Will. 4, c. 53; but its provisions would be beneficially extended to protect emigrants from capricious and arbitrary acts of masters and other officers of vessels at sea. Such do occur in unnecessary but compulsory labour without compensation, but enforced by stoppages of water, as by law required, or by other unwarrantable means. The government agents too should be authorized by law to board the vessels, demand reports, and obtain other required information, as they are instructed to do, on the arrival of vessels in port having emigrants on board.

As one high principle of beneficial national emigration is based on providing valid employment for emigrants in the various departments of individual or collective industry in the resources of the colony of their destination, I have assiduously given my humble but earnest consideration to such local objects as would engage them with advantage, and happily this province daily develops its abundant store of almighty bounty for the useful purposes of public and private improvement. With these conditions before me, I recently sought the honour of laying before Sir John Harvey some matters arising out of my instructions, in their identity with emigrant amelioration here. No doubt his Excellency's comprehensive mind had long before, and far more deeply embraced the subjects; but I transmit them to Canada, as his Excellency has been pleased to intimate that he will forward the original papers from Fredericton, attached to his report; of which most obliging consideration I avail myself, and request your reference to the documents themselves without further remark here, beyond saying, that one is on the employment of emigrant labour on opening the canal between the Saint Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy, at the Bay Verte; the other, diversion of the labour and capital of emigrants from the United Kingdom to the prosecution of the coast and deep sea fisheries around the province. The vast value of this colonial treasure, the advantages of locating fishing stations (as adopted on the coast of Scotland) along the range of the eastern shore, are very manifest: apart from the urgency of resisting the foreign encroachments, which have so prejudicially abused what the British emigrant might enjoy; and I shall at all times feel most desirous to add my humble mite to advance the interest of the cause in which you are now engaged.

Major Head, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. Wedderburn.

No. 49.

LETTER and REPORT from Dr. Gesner, as to Mineralogical Resources of *New Brunswick*.

Sir,

AGREEABLY to instructions I had the honour to receive from his Excellency Sir John Harvey, relative to information required by Major Head on the mineralogical resources of the province, I beg leave to submit the following brief report; and regret that as I was absent on the geological survey, and did not receive the above communication until to-day, I have been unable to comply with those instructions at an earlier period.

During the last and present seasons, I have been engaged in examining the geological structure and mineral wealth of New Brunswick, under the direction of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, and from what has been already discovered, it is certain that the province contains vast supplies of the most useful and important minerals; notwithstanding they are at present but very partially explored and imperfectly developed.

Extending along the south-east side of New Brunswick, and on a line parallel to the Bay of Fundy, there is a range of mountains composed principally of granite and trap rocks. This mountainous district is skirted on both of its sides by the transition series of slates and limestone, which form almost all the islands in the Passamaquoddy Bay and the southern coast of the main land, wherein they have not been broken up and overlaid by enormous masses of trap.

In these formations, numerous strata of limestone and marble have been found, and several kinds of roofing slate and granite have been discovered at very advantageous situations for working them. The limestone is now used, and preparations are now making to open quarries of granite.

Upon this coast the ores of iron, copper, lead and manganese appear, some of them in great quantities; but the deposits of these minerals have not been sufficiently examined to enable me to give the details of their extent and the true value of the metals contained in them.

An extensive bed of iron ore had also been discovered at Woodstock, and a copper mine has been recently opened in the county of Gloucester.

The high lands have but a scanty and poor soil; but being penetrated by numerous rivers and creeks, which are skirted with intervale, even this the most barren district in the province is rendered habitable.