It is now many years since Sir William Logan described the occurrence of petroleum springs in Gaspé, and collected specimens of the oil, which are preserved in the Geological Museum. One of these, near Gaspé Bay, is described as occurring on the south side of the St. John's River about a mile and a half above Douglastown, where it may be collected by digging pits in the mud on the beach. Another locality is about 200 yards up a small fork of the Silver Brook, which falls into the Southwest Arm six or seven miles above Gaspé Basin. The oil collects in pools along the stream, and may be gathered in considerable quantities. The cavities in a greenstone dyke on Gaspé Bay were also found to be filled with petroleum, and the odor of it from the rock was perceived at a considerable distance. The dyke, which marks a fold in the stratification, runs in the direction of the petrolcum springs, and the evidences of the distribution of petroleum are thus, as Sir William Logan has remarked, visible along a line of twenty miles (Report for 1844, p. 41.) Attention has recently been drawn to these indications, and a company formed with a view of exploring this region for petroleum. Here, as well as in western Canada and the United States, the connection is evident between the springs and undulations of the strata which favor the accumulation of the petroleum.

Supplementary Note.

We have stated in the preceding paper that the different mineral combustibles have been derived from the transformations of vegetable matters, or in some cases of animal tissues analogous to these in composition. The composition of woody fibre or cellulose, in its purest state, may be represented by $C_{24}H_{20}O_{20}$, or as a compound of the elements of water with carbon: the incrusting matter of vegetable cells, to which the name of lignine has been given, contains however a less proportion of oxygen and more carbon and hydrogen than cellulose, so that the mean composition of recent woods, as deduced from numerous analyses of various kinds, may be represented by $C_{24}H_{18.4}O_{16.4}$. We may conceive of four different modes of transformation of woody fibre, all of which probably intervene to a greater or less degree in the production of mineral combustibles; and in considering