

hardly decisive to be cited as an argument for the recent elevation of the land above the sea. I have never been able, on the shores of Newfoundland, to perceive any of those level markings in the rocks, or lines and ledges of sand pebbles, so common in other countries, and indicating ancient sea beaches raised above their former level—except, indeed, in St. George's Bay, and between L'Anglois and Miquelon, I have seen but few spots where a beach of any kind exists.—Stern cliffs, whose depth below the water seems to equal or exceed their height above it, characterise nearly the whole coast. At the head of some of the Bays, however, and in nearly all the small coves and harbors, is found a bank of pebbles; and frequently happens that a brook which comes foaming down the rocks immediately behind, suddenly disappears, quietly soaking its way out to the sea beneath the bank of pebbles the waves have plied over it. The pebble beaches at Great and Little Placentia are very singular, but it would lead me into a great detail to describe them. Suffice it, therefore, to say, that Little Placentia stands on an island surrounded by a bank of pebbles, which connect it with the main land, and that Great Placentia stands on a great square flat of loose pebbles heaped up by the tides at the junction of the two arms of the harbor with the main opening. In Trepassy Harbor is another instance of an island joined to the main by a pebble beach, as also of the sea, having dammed itself out of part of its former space, which is now occupied by a fresh water pond. The pebble beaches at the head of Conception Bay are curious. A bank of pebbles runs along the shore from Topsail to Holyrood, a distance of ten miles; and on the S. E. side of each of the islands of Belle Isle, Little Belle Isle and Kelley's Island, a pebble beach stretches out into the triangular form, its apex reaching three or four hundred yards into the sea. It appears as if a N. W. current drifted past these Islands, deposited a pebble beach in the shallow water under the lee of each, and then swept up the remainder of its accumulations on the shore of the mainland beyond. I was much surprised at finding two rounded masses, as large as a man's head, of meandrina (a tropical coral) on these beaches; but conclude them to have been part of the ballast of some vessels from Bermuda or the West Indies.

In conclusion, it may be allowed me to point out the course which I would suggest for the prosecution of the survey during the summer of 1840. I should wish to employ the month of May in examining St. Mary's Bay, and the remainder of the summer in continuing the coast survey thence through the Bays of Bonavista and Notre Dame. I should hope to be able to reach the Red Indian Lake by the River Exploits, and to ascertain something respecting the probable extent of the coal field, whose borders were reached last summer at the N. E. end of the Grand Pond.

Respectfully submitted by

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