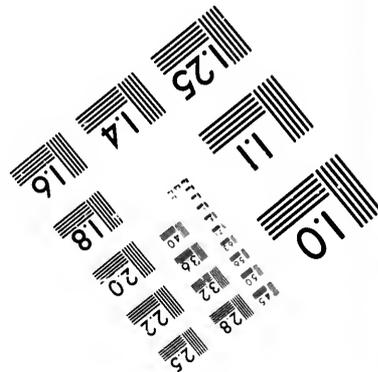
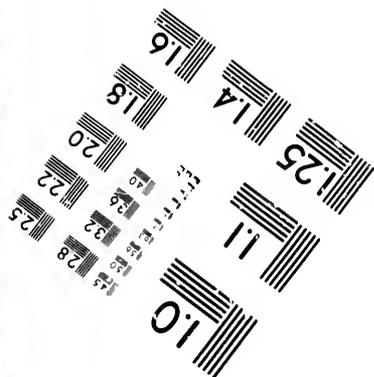
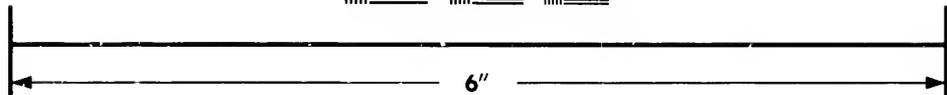
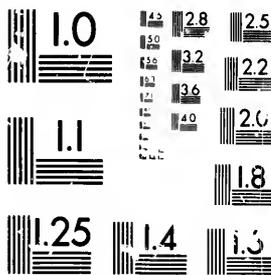
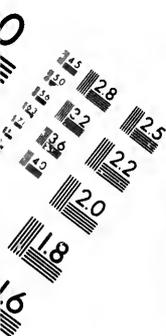


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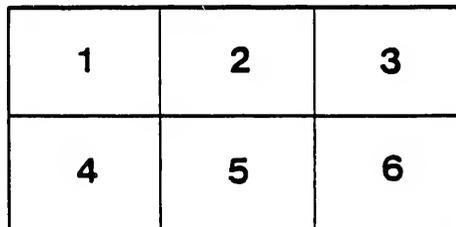
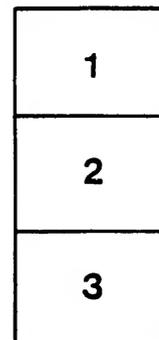
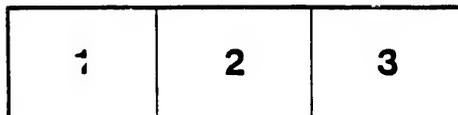
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EAST RIVER COAL MINING COMPANY.

Incorporated December 1, 1868.

522 -

President.

HON. DAVID PRICE, QUEBEC.

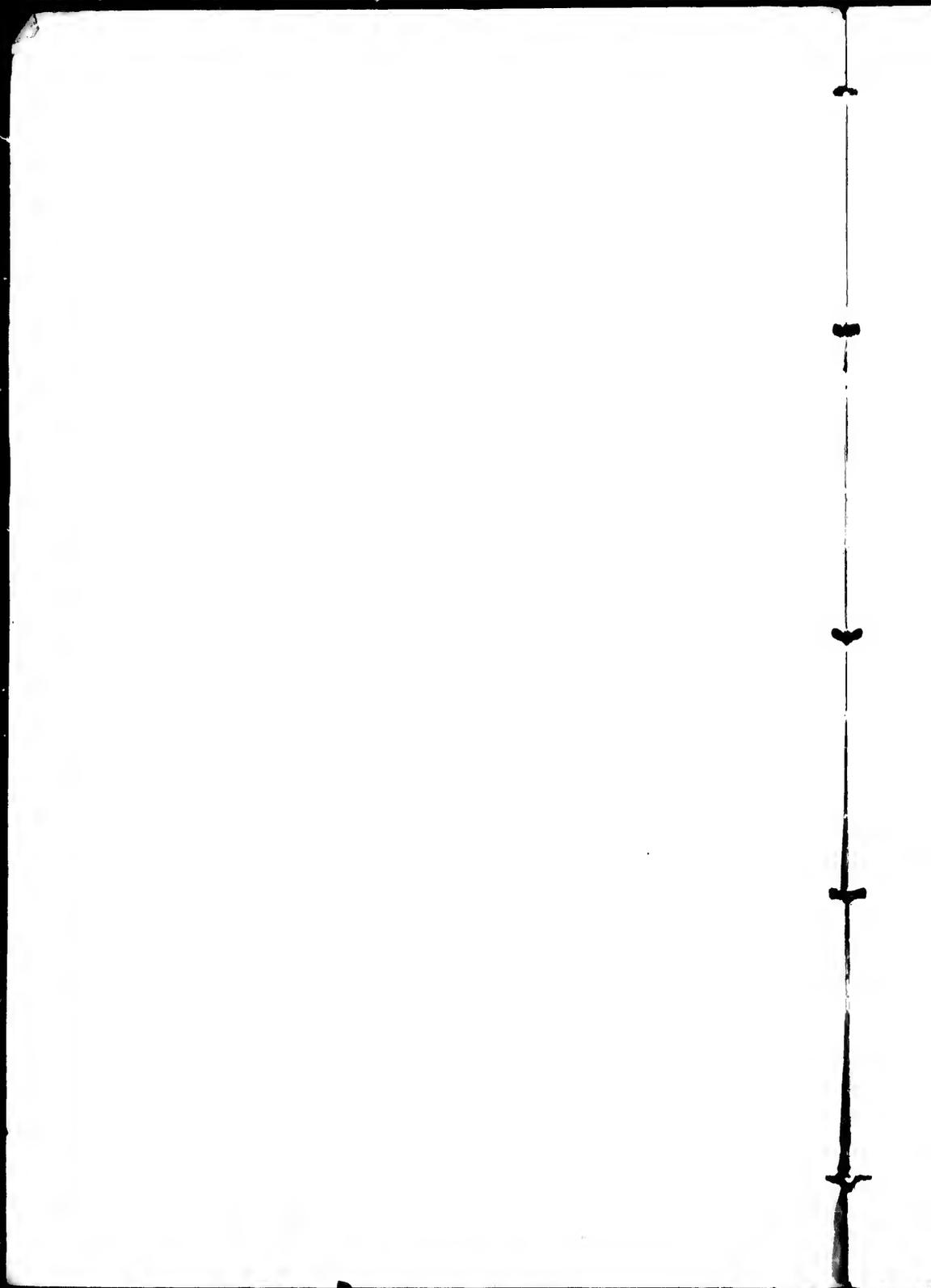
Secretary.

M. H. RICHEY, ESQ., HALIFAX.

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EAST RIVER COLLIERY.

THE Property of the East River Coal Mining Company, as appears by accompanying Reports, contains not less than 1200 acres underlaid by the seams of the Pictou Coal field, an amount of coal only surpassed by the contents of the Albion Mines. The quantity of coal is practically inexhaustible, and would be amply sufficient to supply the demand for bituminous coal in the Dominion, for many years. The quality of the upper seams, all of which have been tested and worked, is well known to the public, and is such as to give the coal a high place in the market for steam and for domestic purposes.

The cost of opening and equipping a colliery is so great—from \$200,000 to \$500,000 being generally required—that the most important point to consider in purchasing a mining property, is not so much the original price, as the amount which has subsequently to be expended before it can be made productive. If from peculiar local advantages this enormous outlay can be saved, it is self-evident that the amount saved is so much added to the cash value of the property. The fact of there being workable seams in the suburbs of New Glasgow, and near a railway station, will explain the singularly low estimate of \$24,000, which Mr. Rutherford gives as necessary for opening up the upper seams. The very small sum named by him induced the Company to draw his attention to the point, and to request him to prepare a detailed estimate of items, and the result was to lower the amount named to \$16,800.

Practical miners at New Glasgow have fully borne out Mr. RUTHERFORD's views. MR. LAWSON, a Mining Engineer of considerable experience in the Cumberland and Pictou Coal fields, who has recently opened up and worked one of the upper seams on an adjoining property, has put in a tender to open up the Stewart seam, for a sum much under that named by MR. RUTHERFORD.

The Reports of Principal DAWSON, F. R. S., one of the highest authorities on the Pictou Coal field, and of Mr. RUTHERFORD, the Government Inspector of Mines, coupled with the accompanying certificates from the proprietor of the East Riding Steamer of New Glasgow, and of the manager of the Crown Brick and Pottery Works, will show the nature

and extent of the property, and the quality of the seams which it is proposed to work.

The value of the Oil Shales on it, is referred to by Professor How, Mineralogist to the Provincial Government, in his recent report on the Mineralogy of Nova Scotia, pp. 26-34: "Large deposits of shale are met with in the East River district of Pictou County, affording a product of oil larger than is found remunerative in Scotland. Last year I observed an advertisement in a Glasgow paper, referring to a shale yielding about 30 gallons of oil to the ton, for which offers were invited. Some shale which I examined from East River, gave about 35 gallons of crude oil to the ton." "When oil was made at the Fraser Mines in 1859, the practical result was about 60 gallons crude. A seam of oil coal similar to that just described, was worked for two years about 3 miles to the east of the Albion Mines." "At some future day, therefore, great results may be expected from working this valuable mineral."

The nature and extent of these bituminous shales, would alone be sufficient to give the property a high value independently of the amount of coal which it contains, and its peculiar facilities for being cheaply and economically worked.

REPORT on the "East River" Coal Area, Pictou, Nova Scotia, by J. W. DAWSON, F. R. S., F. S. G., Professor of Natural History, McGill University.

THE area of the East River Coal Company, extends to the south-eastward from the town of New Glasgow, about three miles, with a breadth of about half a mile, and lies in the northern and central portion of the Coal basin of the East River of Pictou, on the east side of that river.

The workable seams contained in the property, consist of certain upper seams not known on the west side of the East River, together with the equivalents of the lower seams which have long been mined on the west side, though their extension on the east side of the Coal field has only recently attracted attention. In this report, I shall notice these two groups of beds separately, and shall then refer to the extent and quantity of the Coal contained in them, and the most profitable means for its extraction.

I.—UPPER COAL SEAMS.

These upper beds crop out on the west end of the area with easterly dips. One of them, the "Stewart seam," has been opened in the adjoining property of the "General Mining Association," though the works are now abandoned. It is stated to be about three feet in thickness, its coal being of excellent quality. Its dip, as ascertained by examination of the associated beds exposed in the bed of "Potters Brook," is east at an angle of 40° . The strike of the "Stewart seam" carries it into the area of the East River Company; and following its direction a shaft has been sunk in the overlying measures, which has penetrated a bed of 2 feet 9 inches thick, known as the "Richardson seam."

This may possibly be the continuation of the "Stewart seam," but is more probably an overlying bed. The "Richardson seam" is now worked on a small scale in connection with a bed of fireclay, which forms its floor. The dip at the Richardson mine is to the south-east, shewing that the measures turn somewhat rapidly to the eastward in the space between it and the old workings in the Stewart seam. Following the outcrop to the eastward, there are indications of a further bend of the measures to the east; but the coal is not seen for a mile, where a bed known as the "Foster seam" is exposed on an old adit, a short distance to the northward of the property of the Company. This bed is 4 feet 4 inches thick, and dips at a small angle to the north-east. In a short space, however, the dip of the measures changes, and a little to the northward a slope has been sunk by the Montreal and New Glasgow Company on a bed 4 feet thick, dipping south 5 degrees east, at an angle of 34° . This bed differs from the Foster seam in its character and accompaniments, and is probably an overlying seam. It has 6 inches of cannel

in its upper part, and a larger per centage of ashes than the Foster seam, which is a good Coal of uniform quality. Trial pits opened in this vicinity, both in the Montreal and New Glasgow, and East River areas, indicate that the beds have been subjected to an articular fold, producing considerable disturbance in this part of the area, and probably dividing it into two subordinate basins. Beyond this place the coal outcrops have not been traced along the northern side of the area, but on the adjoining property and near the eastern end of the area, now under consideration, a bed of Coal has been struck by Mr. Kirby. It is stated to be 4 feet thick, and dips to the south, which would carry it in a short distance into the East River area. This bed is no doubt a continuation of one of these mentioned above, probably of the upper or Lawson seam.

Returning to the south side of the area at its western end, the strike of the "Stewart" seam would carry its outcrop to the southward, and it does not appear on this property for some distance to the eastward.

On the eastward end of the area, however, the outcrop of the upper seams again crosses the boundary of the area, and one of the beds 4 feet 4 inches thick has been opened, under the name of the "George McKay" seam, and a considerable quantity of excellent coal has been extracted from it. It has a high reputation as a steam coal, which, as will appear in the sequel, is borne out by its composition. It dips north 60° east at an angle of 12° to 15° . From this place the extension of the bed has been traced about 1104 feet, and a shaft has been sunk upon it by the "German Company." At the time of my visit, this shaft had penetrated three small seams of coal, and I was subsequently informed that it had also passed through a bed corresponding in size and quality with the Lawson seam before reaching the McKay bed, which would thus appear to be the Foster seam.

The McKay bed would appear to be the lowest bed of the upper series, with the exception of a seam of 9 inches in thickness; but at a distance of 400 yards to the rise of the measures, corresponding to a virtual thickness of about 300 feet, there occurs a bed of oil coal, 7 feet thick, of which 4 feet have been found to yield at the rate of 60 gallons per ton, and the remaining three at the rate of 40 gallons per ton.

II.—LOWER SEAMS.

The equivalents of the "main seam" and other beds of the Albion Mines, occur on this property at a depth of about 1000 feet below the upper beds above mentioned; on the northern side of the area, and near its boundary, one of these beds has been opened in a trial pit, which was full of water at the time of my visit, but I was informed that it had exposed a bed of Coal six feet thick, S. 20° W. at an angle of 60° . This opening cannot, however, be considered sufficient to test this portion of the property, as the lower seams must, if one may judge from their dimensions elsewhere, be much more extensive than the above statement would indicate.

Explorations are now being made by Mr. Lawson, on the adjoining property of the Montreal and New Glasgow Company, which will probably more fully expose these beds.

On the north side of the area, the lower beds have not yet been removed, but the characteristic black shales which overlie them appear in several places, and they could, no doubt, be easily reached by a shaft sunk in the south-eastern part of the proper γ . From my knowledge of other parts of the Pietou Coal field, I have no hesitation in affirming that these lower beds underlie the greater part of the area, and though they have not been proved, yet their ascertained value both to the west and east of the area, renders it certain that their amount of coal must greatly exceed that of the upper series above mentioned.

III.—AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF COAL.

It is not at present determined how many workable beds occur in the upper series; but it is certain that there are at least two: (1) The Kirby or Lawson seam, worked on the slope of the Montreal and New Glasgow Company, and which may be identical with the Richardson seam and with one of the beds on the shaft of the German Company. (2) The Foster seam, which I regard as identical with the George McKay, and possibly with the "Stewart" seam.

Samples of these Coals gave on assay, the following results:

Name of Coal.	Volatile matter.	Coke.	Fixed carbon.	Ash.	Color of ash.
1. Kirby or Lawson, } coal... ..	25.4	74.6	50	24.6	whitish.
4 feet thick. } cannel... ..	34.8	65.2	47.6	17.6	reddish.
2. George McKay, } 1 sample	31.4	68.6	63.6	5	grey.
4 ft. 4 in. } 2 "	31.2	68.8	62.6	6.2	grey.
3. Foster Coal, }	29	71	53.4	17.6	reddish grey.
4 ft. 4 in. }					

Of the above coals, that of the George McKay seam is decidedly the most valuable, whether for gas or steam purposes. In the small amount of earthy matter contained in it, it compares favourably with any coal hitherto shipped from the Pietou mines.

The coal of the Foster mine, in general quality, resembles that of the George McKay, but contains much more earthy matter. If as above conjectured, these two exposures belong to one and the same bed, then the quality of the coal must improve in its extension eastward.

The Kirby or Lawson coal affords a large amount of ashes; but the layer of cannel at the top is very valuable as a gas coal, and affords a good coke.

I had no opportunity of obtaining samples of the lower coals on this property. The nearest exposure to the opening already referred to on the north side of the area, is that of the Montreal and Pietou Company on the west side of the river, where the beds are stated to contain 37 ft. 6 in. in thickness of good coal in four beds. The nearest exposure to the

eastward is that of the McKay area, where the thickness is believed to be sixteen feet in two beds.

With regard to the actual quantity of coal on the area, the facts are not sufficiently well ascertained to enable a definite calculation to be made. I consider it palpable, however, that the upper seams will be found to extend over about one square mile of the area, and that after making all reasonable deductions, they may afford about 1,000,000 tons of coal at a very moderate expense for extraction and transportation. The lower seams must extend over nearly the whole extent of the property, and must be capable of yielding several times the above quantity.

IV.—LOCATION OF MINES.

At present no colliery is in operation on the property, though a slope has been opened on the George McKay seam, and coal extracted for country use. The present exposures would indicate that it might be expedient to commence operations by opening the upper seams. This might be done either by opening the Stewart seam on the west end of the property where the vicinity of the town of New Glasgow and of the Provincial railway offers great advantages, or by entering the George McKay seam, where it is at present worked, or in that vicinity, this part of the property being that which at present offers the best prospect of a large extent of good coal, though more distant from the means of shipment. In either case trials should be made by surface pits, and by boring to ascertain the precise locality where all conditions are most favourable. Such explorations would also, in all probability, ascertain the existence of a second workable bed in connexion with the Stewart seam, and would also likely trace the extension of the George McKay bed nearer to the railway, than the site of the present working.

Should it be determined to open the lower seams, these might readily be entered from their outcrop on the north side of the area near New Glasgow, or they might be reached at no great depth on the north-eastern part of the area. The former place would be more convenient in relation to means of shipment. The latter would afford the best prospect of a large extension of the beds without disturbance.

The relative quality of the coal in these places has not yet been ascertained, but the probabilities are in favour of its superiority in the last mentioned.

Explorations to determine the points above indicated, could, if judiciously conducted, be made without great expense, as the outcrops of the seams are known in a number of places, and there is nothing to prevent the immediate opening of the upper seams on a very moderate scale of expenditure.

I have attached to this report a small plan, shewing the exposures of the outcrops, and the probable extension of the beds.

J. W. DAWSON.

MONTREAL, September 22, 1868.

HALIFAX, N. S., July 25th, 1868.

Sir,—The following report is the result of my examination of the Coal areas, known as the East River and Geo. McKay properties, in the County of Pictou. They are situated on the east side of East River, the town of New Glasgow and the Nova Scotia Railway being on the western extremity of the first named area. The McKay area adjoins the East River area at the eastern end, and running in the same course, the two together have a continuous range upwards of three miles in length, and half a mile in breadth.

The eastern portion of the Pictou coal field has only of late years received such attention as has tended to develop its configuration, for although the existence of some of the seams was known several years ago, they were only partially worked for the use of the neighbourhood.

The discovery, however, by Mr. Haliburton and others of a northern crop of a seam on both the west and east sides of the East River, agreeing in so many respects with the main seam of the Albion Mines, as to leave little doubt of its identity, and of other seams at the eastern extremity of the McKay area, has thrown considerable light upon this district, and much enhanced its value; inasmuch as both the northern and the southern crop of that seam, having now been opened on the east side of the river, the usual basin shape of carboniferous deposits is evident, and the position of the over and underlying seams may be assigned with less hazard of error.

Guided in my opinion of the value of these properties by such information as I have been able to obtain, and by the observations which I have personally made, I will briefly state the result of my examination of the different openings on and near the areas in question.

On the East River property three seams have been opened—the Stewart, the Richardson, and the Foster seams. The former was worked several years ago by the predecessors of the General Mining Association, and is reputed to be of excellent quality, and 3 feet 9 inches thick. A crop of this seam is in Potter's brook, a short distance south of the southern boundary of the area, where it has a dip to the east; this crop runs into the western end of the area and then trends eastward, embracing a considerable tract of coal, probably not less than 150 acres, between the crop and the south boundary.

The Richardson seam lies conformably with the Stewart, and has been opened by a shaft near the crop. Its thickness is 2 feet 9 inches, and as it is therefore not likely to be mined for some time for the general trade, it has been leased to a Pottery Company, whose works are on the property.

The Foster seam has also been sunk to by a shaft situated about 1110 yards to the east of the Richardson shaft, and near the northern boundary of the area. The seam has at this point a dip to the west, and is evidently on an eastern crop, the course of the strata having been traced to the south-west of the shaft, with a trending in that direction. The direction of this dip of the seam, considered in connection with the Stewart and Richardson seams at the west end of the area, conclusively, shows that

these seams are an upper series in relation to the Main seam; the area covered by them is in consequence of less extent than that underlaid by that seam. From this circumstance, however, it is probable that they will not in the centre of the basin lie at a great depth, and they may therefore, be reached with a moderate outlay.

Those upper seams appear to be peculiar to this district of the Picton coal field, inasmuch as they have not yet been found on the western side of the river; an additional value of some importance is thus attached to this particular locality.

In connection with the area, it is important to state that in view of the preceding circumstances as to the position of the seams, it is evident that a large extent of it, probably three-fourths, will be underlaid by the main seam. As the northern crop of this seam is on the area, it gives a facility of opening, which need not be attended with much cost.

On the McKay area, a seam has been opened near the eastern boundary, the thickness of which is over four (4) feet. The relation of this seam with those on the East River area, is not yet sufficiently clear to warrant an assignment of position with respect to them. It is evidently one of the upper series, and may probably in the course of exploration or of working, be certified as one of the seams on that area.

Some trial pits near this opening indicate a trending of the crop of this seam in a southerly direction; this will add considerably to the extent to which the area is at present assumed to be underlaid by it. It is the only seam that has been opened on the McKay area; other seams have, however, been opened on the adjoining property to the south-east, which are of a workable size, and of excellent quality. Their position is also such, that it may be fairly inferred they will be found on the area.

The preceding includes the chief points of interest in connection with the entire property, as to the value of which I may state that I am very favorably impressed. It is peculiarly well situated, both with respect to its geological position, and its commercial facilities, and I doubt not, that as explorations are extended, they will be confirmatory of my opinion of the value of the property.

I may add in conclusion, that the proposition of the present proprietors to open the Stewart seam, which from its vicinity to the town of New Glasgow and the Nova Scotia Railway, would command a ready sale, is I consider worthy of adoption; and the estimated cost of opening and placing it in effective working order for the sum of £6000, will be found amply sufficient. This estimate may appear small as compared with the ordinary cost of erecting a mining establishment, but as the proximity of New Glasgow will prevent the necessity of providing workmen's houses, and as only a short line of railway will be required to connect the works with the Nova Scotia Railway, as compared with other mines in the district, the outlay for these purposes, which is generally a very large one, is avoided.

I am, Sir, your obedt. servant,

JOHN RUTHERFORD.

To W. B. LAMBE, Esq., Montreal.

Estimate of Cost for opening the Stewart Seam on the "East River" area.

Main slope, 150 yds. including timber, rails, sleepers, &c., for double track	\$2500.00
Additional slope or shaft for ventilation	2000.00
25 H. P. Engine, with two Boilers, Drums, &c.....	3000.00
House for do. and sundry masonry	750.00
Pumps and pumping apparatus	700.00
80 Tubs at \$25 each	2000.00
Wire ropes, chains, &c.....	150.00
Heapstead and Screens.....	700.00
Shops, office, and other erections.....	2000.00
Sundry materials, rails, sleepers, iron, timber, tools..	3000.00
	<hr/>
	\$16,800.00

JOHN RUTHERFORD.

NEW GLASGOW, June 15, 1868.

Sir,—In reply to your enquiry as to the quality of the Coal used by me in the following works, I have to state as follows :

We have principally used the coal from the Montreal and New Glasgow Company's seam of coal, near Coal brook, and the Marsh coal from the McBean property.

Both these coals seem to come from the same seam, as they are precisely similar in regard to heating power, ash, &c., though there is less ash in the latter than in the former. The coals surprised me by their unusual heating power, which from my not making allowance for it, damaged our furnace at first. We got the oven up to full heat (60°) in 15½ hours by slow fire, and by 3½ hours close fire to about 98°. I have used the best English and Welsh coals in Staffordshire and Somersetshire Potteries, and with them it would require from 24 to 28 hours to attain 60°. The coal burns to a light ash, and has very little iron or clinker in it. It is far superior to the "Albion Mines," and is a better coal than the Middle River coal, and is unsurpassed as a steam coal. I have never seen its heating powers equalled by any South Wales coal. It should make a first class steam coal. It is too hot for our purpose. Had we used it as we would English coal, the whole furnace would have been destroyed.

Yours respectfully,

P. McNICOL,
Burner.

To E. C. DAWSON, Esq.,
Manager of the
Crown Brick and Pottery Co.,
New Glasgow.

CROWN BRICK AND POTTERY WORKS,
New Glasgow, 16th June, 1868.

My dear Haliburton,—

I have made the enquiries you wish about the McKay Coal, and enclose our burner's report. I believe also from the reports I have heard, that it is the best steam coal yet found in the Province. Hoping the report is satisfactory,

I am,

Yours truly,

EDWARD C. DAWSON.

R. G. HALIBURTON, Esq., Halifax.

WE, the undersigned, do hereby certify that we have used the Coal from the sea known as the Geo. McKay seam, situated near New Glasgow, and now owned by Messrs. McKay, Lindsay and others in the Steamer "East Riding," from the 1st June to this date, and found the coal superior to any other we have used. It will give more steam and gets it up quicker. It gives less clinker and almost 30 per cent. less ash, keeps the bars clean, and is superior in every respect for steam purposes to any other coal we have as yet used.

JOHN R. CARMICHAEL, *Owner.*

JAS. J. MCKAY, *Captain.*

ROBERT RUSSELL, *Engineer.*

ROBERT MCCANN, *Fireman.*

New Glasgow, July 16th, 1867.

