

My
H. Poole Esq.

Pictou Aug 24

Dear Sir

Mr Davis left with me to day a small piece of what seemed to be a variety of Cannel coal, stating that you wished it to be analysed.

On examining it this evening with the blow-pipe, I find that it really contains very little coaly matter, and is a kind of clay Iron Stone, apparently not very rich.

In some respects it is not very unlike the Dutch black band Iron Stone, though probably poorer. It

Must contain a good deal of alkaline matter, as it fuses without much difficulty. If it be of any consequence to you to know how much iron it contains, I can analyse it as an ironstone. Perhaps if the coal bed gradually turns into ironstone, you might quit the American trade and set up an Iron work!

I feel some curiosity to know how this band appears, and if it actually takes the place of coal or merely splits the bed.

We have been making sketches of the singular halo that appeared here yesterday

I have some idea of sending
a notice of it to my old pro-
fessor James of Edinburgh and
would much like to compare
my observations with yours -

I am yours respectfully
J W Dawson

Let
H. Poole
July 27
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