

Private

Copy



Geological Survey
Pictou N.S. 4th Oct 1869.

James Rimrose Esq
Dear Sir

I have not been able until this moment to fulfil my promise that I would state my views with regard to your iron property on Fetherlands Brook Maxwellton Township this County Examined by me in the course of my survey of this region. The vein of iron ore referred to herein is that upon the land of Neil McHaren opened under the direction of Mr. Copeland of Merigonish.

At the time of my first visit 1 Oct 1868 the Explorations would only enable me to see the presence of a considerable mass of iron ore in the bank of the brook, which one you have informed me has been assayed by Dr. J. W. Dawson F.R.S. of Montreal, who was I believe satisfied that it was a carbonate of iron with so little impurity that it was, if present in quantity, valuable as a steel or an iron ore. I shall therefore say no more of the quality of the ore which seems on the south side of the brook to be of uniform character - but proceed with my views with regard to its mode of occurrence &c.

Mr. Copeland's late Explorations have stripped a mass of ore which I consider to be a bed (in contra distinction to a "vein") dipping with the rocks near about N. 2° E. < about 82° or striking N. 88° W. toward the Marshy Hope Road.

The enclosing rocks are the Red sandstones and Argills arenaceous red shales and greenish drab sandstones of the "Millstone grit" formation of Dr. Dawson's subdivisions of the Carboniferous of Nova Scotia.

So far as I am aware no such deposit has ever been found in similar rocks in this Country and hence nothing except actual proof by pits and analyses of samples of the bed from different points along its course will enable us to judge of its regularity in size or quality.

My opinion of the probability with regard to its regularity is that it will (in absence of faults) be traceable for a considerable distance and that its size (from 10 to 11 feet thick) will not vary greatly. I have advised Mr. Copeland as to the best method of prospecting the locality by pits 200 to 300 feet apart, drifting below the surface, should his pits not strike directly upon the seam. These operations should be carried forward at once before the winter sets in and three or four pits ought to prove the bed to your western boundary line. With regard to the quality of the ore at different points along the seam no one can give you any opinion of the least value. It may improve or it may by increase of the lime content turn into a mere ferruginous limestone such as that bed seen on your property about 200 yards up the brook. I would especially urge your careful

attention to the necessity of examining the ore carefully at different points along the bed as I find that those pieces which I procured from the pit furthest to the West contain a much larger quantity of lime than those from the bank of the brook.

My reasons for supposing the Deposit to be a regular "bed" are

- 1st Its dip with the Enclosing Rocks
- 2nd I think from the appearance of stratification in the Deposit, that it is more likely to have been deposited as a bed than as a vein.
- 3rd From the appearance of the Walls of the Deposit. It is true that the hanging Wall at the brook is slickensided, but the Country near is much broken by faults and it is most probable that one of these happened to run with the strike of the seam at this point.

I think that with small expense very satisfactory proof of the extent and quality of this bed may be got and should by all means recommend you to open it. If the ore continues of uniform character it will be of very considerable value both as an ore for mixing with the other iron ores of the region and as a steel ore and the thickness of the bed 10 feet if regular is amply sufficient for economical mining

Jansin
+ happens. 5-1 Edward Hartley

Report
to the
Honorable
Members
of the
House of
Representatives

attention to the necessity of examining the
one carefully at different points along the line
as found that there were several specimens
from the part further west than the
marked larger quantity of them than those from
the bank of the river.

My reasons for supposing the Report to be
regular are
1st. No dip into the Geological Books
2nd. The fact from the appearance of stratification
in the Report that it is more likely to have been
deposited as a bed than as a vein.

3rd. From the appearance of the beds of the
Report. It is true that the hanging wall
of the rock is shaly, but the country
near is much broken by faults and it is most
probable that one of these has occurred to connect
the strike of the seam at this point.

I think that with small expenses very satisfactory
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turn out uniform character it will be of great
value both as an ore for mining
with the other iron ore of the region and as
a steel ore and the thickness of the bed is
if regular is amply sufficient for commercial
mining.

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Edmund Hartley
+ Reports