NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Mining industry of this Colony is yet in its infancy, but from the Mines already discovered and in course of working, as well as from the opinions of competent authorities upon the indications of deposits in various portions of the Island, there is good reason to believe that it possesses considerable mineral wealth, which is only awaiting the application of enterprise and science to give it a prominent place amongst its resources.

UNION COPPER MINE.—This Mine is situated at Tilt Cove, near Cape John, in the northern part of the Island. It was discovered by Mr. Smith Mackay, in the year 1864. Mr. Charles F. Bennett, merchant of St. Johns (a gentleman of great enterprise), and Mr. Mackay, soon after became proprietors of the Mine, and commenced the necessary preparations for its working. During the summer and autumn of 1865, they employed about fifty men, and shipped to Swansea five hundred tons ore, roughly dressed, yielding from ten to twenty per cent. yellow sulphate. During the winter and spring of the present year, the same number of men found employment at this Mine; and in August, the crew was increased to the number of eighty hands, one-fourth of whom were imported from Cornwall. In July and August, there were eleven hundred tons ore shipped, and four hundred tons removed awaiting the arrival of a vessel engaged to take it to England. The results of the former shipments have not yet been ascertained, but the assays give from 10 to 15 and 18 to 20 per cent.

There is a large deposit of Pyrites, slightly charged with copper, at Little Bay, to the northward, which has been worked for some time by capitalists in England, for the purpose of extracting the sulphur for sulphuric acid, as well as for its contents of copper. There are now about a dozen men employed in this work. Some of this ore has yielded nine and ten per cent. of copper. It is considered exceedingly rich in sulphur.

LEAD MINE AT LA MACHE, PLACENTIA BAY.—This Mine was opened seven years ago, and several cargoes good lead ore (about two thousand five hundred tons) have been shipped therefrom, almost all to the United States. This ore is said to have yielded 75 per cent. It sold at rates varying from £15 to £20 per ton. This Mine has not been worked at all during the last two or three years.

MINERAL OIL.—Mr. Bennett, above-named, has discovered within this year a Mineral Oil Spring at Port-aux-Port, the samples of which appear to indicate an article of much value. The probable degree of productiveness of the spring has yet to be learned.

MARBLE.—At Canada Harbour, in Canada Bay, there is a width of three hundred feet of pure white Marble, running westerly along the ridge of a hill some 300 feet high, dipping at an angle of about 45 degrees to the south. Mr. Bennett has opened a quarry in the north-side of this deposit, and has sent samples to London, which have been pronounced by a gentleman of first-class authority there superior for statuary purposes to the marble of Carrara. Mr. Bennett has now four men engaged in uncovering a space in the centre of the deposit. In August last he had specimens taken out at a depth of seven feet, where the bed from 16 to 18 feet wide and 30 feet in length, appeared to be of the same description. He afterwards had the brushwood, &c., removed from up the hill and along its ridge for the greater part of a mile, and then at intervals throughout this space, removed the soil down to the rock, where, at each opening, the same white Marble appeared. From this it would seem that the supply is super-abundant.

The same class of Marble also appears on the opposite side of the Bay, with a pink vein running through it.

ROOFING SLATES.—There are in the Island extensive deposits of roofing slates, which a few men with their own unaided labour are working to profitable account. The slate they produce absorbs but very little water, and is considered fully equal, if not superior, to any found in Wales. No efficient system for the opening of quarries on a large scale has yet been attempted.

Extracts from Report of ALEXANDER MURRAY, Esq., *Geological Surveyor, on the Geology of the Island.*

GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS.—The Potsdam group are found most extensively developed in Canada Bay. It chiefly consists of Slate, Sandstone, Quartzites, and Limestone. The Limestones are frequently of good quality, either for burning or building purposes, and in some parts yield a pure white Marble. By careful selection, a supply of superior Marbles might be obtained at different parts of Canada Bay, especially within Canada Harbour, and similar material may be procured from Little Coney Arm.

The calciferous formation consists chiefly of fossiliferous Limestones: the beds are frequently very black, and at other times very white, the former colour predominating towards the top, which is usually represented by a mass of black Slates. Many of the beds of this formation are of the best description for making lime, and many are admirably adapted for building stone. The black Slates at the summit may be found occasionally adapted for roofing purposes.

The serpentine group of Rocks is largely developed at the extreme north-end of the Island, between Hare Bay and the Straits of Belisle, and occupies nearly all the coast within Hare Bay, between How Harbour and Goose Cape. The upper part of the formation, designated in Canada "Sillery Sandstones," was first observed in Croque Harbour, thence along the shore towards the Fishot Islands, and on the opposite, those of Hare Bay. At Twillingate, rocks of the same series are exhibited, running south-westerly up the Bay of Exploits. The economic materials associated are the ores of Copper and Iron—Serpentine, Soapstone, and Chrome. The gold-bearing veins of Nova Scotia are supposed chiefly to belong to rocks of this age, and the gold drifts of Canada are probably derived chiefly from the same. Indications of Copper ore are very frequently observable in Newfoundland wherever these rocks come to the surface. Iron Pyrite is, which is not unfrequently of the magnetic species, is in immense profusion in these rocks. Chromic Iron belongs to this series in Canada, and probably does so also in Newfoundland, although not hitherto observed. It has still to be shown whether the precious metals exist in the quartz veins with which the formation abounds in Newfoundland, although it is said that a small specimen containing gold was discovered some time ago between Little Bay and Ming's Bight. The Serpentines are capable of receiving a high polish, and being used as an ornamental marble.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

There are no regulations respecting mining in Prince Edward Island. No minerals have been discovered and there is no stone fit for building purposes, the stone for the Province Building having been imported from Nova Scotia. A grant was made by the General Assembly to have a bore made to test their strata for Oil or Coal, both of which have been supposed to exist, but nothing has been actually done in the matter.