

Thos. S. McClintock

Sir

In reply to your note of July 34, I am sorry to be obliged to state that, from the facts which I have hitherto collected, the probability of valuable beds of coal being found within the Township of Fries, is very small. Two years ago, I had an opportunity of examining the banks of the Estuary of the Shubenacadie, in company with Mr. Lyell, and I have now before me a section and map reduced from his notes and my own.

From Black rock, at the mouth of the river, to Eagle's point, the bank shows sandstones, limestone & Gypsum, belonging to what is now called the Gypiferous or

Lower Carboniferous formation; and this formation (in some places overlaid by a newer red sandstone) appears to occupy the whole of the country Eastward of this part of the river towards Truro and Brookfield. The Spheniferous formation, though formerly known as "New red Sandstone", is now well ascertained to be older, and lower in geological position, than the coal measures. It is therefore scarcely possible that coal can exist in the neighbourhood of this part of the river.

Southward of Eagle's point, and opposite the mouth of Five mile River, more than a mile of the river section is occupied by dark sandstone, and shales, having the aspect and some of the characteristic fossil plants of the coal measures. Coal may exist at this place, we saw none, however, and the strata on the bank of the river

appear to be in a very broken and contorted condition. It would, however, require more time and attention than we were able to bestow on these measures, to enable me to form any decided opinion with respect to them. Southward of this part of the river, at and beyond Anthony's point, the gypsiferous formation again appears. I have not seen coal measures in any other part of the Township of Fuso.

The Township of Fuso forms a part of a band or stripe of Older Carboniferous, and other rocks, more ancient than the coal measures, extending from Cape St. George on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, to the mouth of the Avon, and separating the coal measures of Pictou, Salmon River, and Oriskany, from other coal measures at Steviacke, Mandritz, & Igonis. In a geological point of view therefore, there is much less probability of

beds of coal being found in Bury town  
in those parts of Colchester which are North-  
ward and southward of it, in London-  
derry, Burbov and Middle and Upper  
Stewache

Yours respectfully  
J. Dawson

1845  
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Wm. Lister  
& J. M. Richardson