

distance of twenty miles. Lastly, I had an opportunity of studying at my leisure in London the fossils collected from various localities, and I had then no longer any hesitation in announcing to the Geological Society my conviction, that the gypsiferous strata were older than the productive coal-measures, whether of the South Joggins or of Pictou. I also stated at the same time my opinion that I considered them as constituting a lower member of the Carboniferous group, containing fossil plants of the coal, with shells and corals of the carboniferous limestone.

Mr. Richard Brown, after our meeting at the Albion Mines in 1842, kindly undertook, at my request, to make a re-examination of part of Cape Breton, and the result was published in a letter, dated October 20, 1843, addressed to me,\* in which this experienced observer declared that he had been able "to confirm my views as to the relative age of the coal and gypsum," and that the gypsiferous strata of Cape Breton, agreeing in character with those of Nova Scotia, were inferior in position to the productive coal-measures of Sydney. Mr. Dawson also, soon after my visit, published several memoirs on the neighbourhood of Pictou and the northern parts of Nova Scotia, in which he adopted and extended the same views. Mr. Logan, after seeing my fossils and sections, and examining in 1844 the cliffs near Minudie, and at the South Joggins, which he had not seen on his first visit to Nova Scotia, communicated to me his opinion that the gypsum and accompanying marine limestones (in which he found several of the characteristic fossils of

\* See "Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London," No. I., p. 23.