

near Pictou (at Dixon's quarry), I observed polished a surface of quartzose grit of the coal measures, with distinct furrows running nearly E. and W. or E. 15° N., magnetic; while in some other places I saw them having nearly the same direction as at Halifax.

Nova Scotia is usually known to strangers by its least favourable side,—its foggy southern coast, which has, nevertheless, the merit of affording some of the best harbours in the world. We left Halifax for Windsor in a drizzling rain and fog, and were told that we should probably find fair weather on the other side of the hills. Accordingly, when we had travelled about thirty miles, and crossed a low chain called the Ardoise Hills, we found the sun shining on a region sloping towards the Bay of Fundy, where a rich vegetation clothes the rocks of red sandstone, marl, and limestone.

Great was the contrast between the climate and aspect of this fertile country, and the cold barren tracts of granite, quartzite, and clay-slate which we had passed over on our way from Halifax. The sterility of that quartziferous district had not been relieved by any beautiful features in the scenery, the plants alone affording us some points of interest and novelty, especially a species of *Kalmia* (*K. angustifolia*), now in full flower, which monopolised the ground in some wide open spaces, as heaths take exclusive possession of barren tracts in Europe. In the woods near Windsor, I saw several kinds of *Pyrola* and other flowers, differing, for the most part, from British species, but among them the *Linnæa borealis* appeared here and there, matting the ground