

After crossing the Ardoise Hills above mentioned, I left these older rocks, and entered upon strata which constitute, as I shall show in the sequel (ch. 25), a lower carboniferous formation, containing subordinate beds of gypsum and marine limestone. These rocks I examined on the banks of the Avon, in the neighbourhood of Windsor, and in the cliffs at Horton Bluff. I then passed by Kentville and Cornwallis, skirting the western shores of the Basin of Mines. Into this basin, or inner estuary, the tides of the Bay of Fundy pour twice every day a vast body of water through a narrow strait, converting every small streamlet into the appearance of a large tidal river. The tides are said to rise in some places seventy feet perpendicular, and to be the highest in the world. They often come up at first with a lofty wave called the Bore, of which I saw a fine example in the largest river of Nova Scotia, the Shubenacadie, where the waters seemed to be rushing down a much steeper slope than the St. Lawrence at its rapids. They roared too as loudly over their rocky bed, but could not compete in beauty; for instead of the transparent green waters and white foam of the St. Lawrence, they resembled a current of red mud in violent motion.

The waters of the Bay of Fundy become charged with this red sediment, by undermining cliffs of red sandstone and soft red marl; and in places where they overflow the alluvial plains, they throw down red mud wherever the velocity of the current is suspended at the turn of the tide. Many extensive and level flats of rich land have been thus formed naturally, and many thousand acres of the same have