

consider the primitive ranges which pervading Norway, extend over the greater part of that country into Finland, as a con-

species, but of peculiar strength. Each barrel of culm has been ascertained to burn from nine to ten barrels of lime. The bulk bed forms immense bulks and masses of culm, in which the miners have frequently been unable to retain the ordinary directions of roof and seat.

No work has been undertaken in the Munster coal district to a greater depth than 80 yards. The present work at the Dromagh colliery is at that depth. It is heavily watered, and consequently expensively wrought. The quality of the coal and culm improves as the work descends. Mr. Leader, who is the proprietor of the Dromagh colliery, has kindly communicated to me all the surveys and reports, which, from time to time, have been received from the persons who have inspected and directed the works. The peculiar proximity of the beds, and the extraordinary diversity of their contents in the Munster district make the minute examination of this coal-field of deserved interest and importance to this country. The time I trust is not remote, when the great coal-field on the left bank of the Blackwater will be found to contain mineral treasure altogether inexhaustible, and by the liberality of Parliament, and the judicious and patriotic exertions of the Directors of Inland Navigation, fully adequate to all purposes of domestic convenience, and of national utility.

The Connaught coal district stands next in order, of value, and importance, to the Leinster and Munster, and possibly may be found to deserve the first place, when its subterranean treasures shall be explored. At present nothing is known, except, that the outer edges of several beds of coal have been observed, but they have not been traced to any distance; so that their extent is by no means ascertained. The coal is of the bituminous species. This coal is particularly adapted to the purposes of iron works, foundries, &c. &c.; and the grey pig iron made at the Arigna iron works is among the very best smelted in the empire. Lough Allen, the source of the river Shannon, forms a basin in the midst of this great district, which on this account appears to be formed by nature for industry and commerce; but the navigation has been neglected, and is at present in such a state, that none but boats of trifling burden, can ply on the river, between Lough Allen, and Lanesborough. However, the Directors General of inland navigation in Ireland are at present employed in completing the Royal canal, between Coolnahay and Tarmonbarry on the river Shannon; and it is to be hoped, that they will at the same time complete a navigable communication between Lough Allen and the Shannon; and repair and improve the navigation of that river downward to Lanesborough. This would be a sufficient inducement to the proprietors of coal in the neighbourhood of Lough Allen to open their works to a considerable extent, as they could not fail of having a very large demand for their produce, whenever the navigation between the lake, and the Shannon, shall be completed.

The Ulster coal district is of trifling importance, when compared with the foregoing. It commences near Dungannon, in the county of Tyrone, and extends in a northern direction to Coal island, and in continuation to the neighbourhood of Cookstown. No beds of coal worth working have hitherto been discovered between Coal island and Cookstown, but certainly the coal strata extend there. The principal collieries are at Coal island and Dungannon. The coal of this district is bituminous. I understand that indications of coal have been observed at Drumquin, in the county of Tyrone, and also at Petigoe to the north of Lough Erne. Possibly the coal-formation may extend from the neighbourhood of Cookstown, westward to the north of Lough Erne.

Besides the foregoing principal coal-districts, there are others of less con-