

with especial reference to the coal-bearing in the township of Providence:—

TABLE.

Least Thickness.	Good Coal.	Yield of good Coal per Acre
5 feet.	3 feet.	4,000 tons.
7 "	4½ "	7,000 "
10 "	7½ "	12,000 "
6 "	3 "	5,000 "
12 "	9 "	15,000 "
8 "	6 "	10,000 "
6 "	4½ "	7,000 "
54 "	37½ "	60,000 "

These seven veins alone yield 60,000 tons per acre. Twelve distinct, separate beds underlying the entire valley, furnish about sixty feet of available coal,—a supply ample for as many generations, or until the day of ballooning shall bring forth a new discovery calculated to supersede the coal fire, as the old beechen back-log of times gone by has vanished into ashes.

While the center of the Northern and Lackawanna coal-field is regarded as being near Pittston—the bed of the ancient caldron once glowing with anthracite—mines were first successfully worked at Carbondale at least one thousand feet above the level of Pittston coal. About twenty-five miles* in length may be considered as the extent of this field, running northeast and southwest with the great Appalachian chain.

COAL LANDS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Between the villages of Hyde Park and Providence bristles from the road-side a clump of pines, swinging their green limbs over a low, faded cottage, once made attractive by the presence of a young and loving heiress. To the south of this cottage a few yards opens a glen, so worn by the rapid stream dashing through it after a heavy rain or sudden snow-thaw, as to make it look almost cavernous. Down this rock-rimmed ravine, where it expands into the ancient meadow of Capoose, there lived

an old gentleman in 1800, named Stephen Tripp, who owned much of the land in the notch of the mountain, about one mile above this point, called Leggett's Gap.

Upon the brink of Leggett's Creek, passing through this gap, a small grist-mill was erected in 1805 by Joseph Fellows, Sen., the remains of which are yet visible by the road-side, but as the bank upon one side of the creek rose almost vertically into a full mountain, and upon the other ascended quite as abruptly hundreds of feet, covered with the stern hemlock, neither road, team, nor grist could approach the mill with safety, and the enterprise was reluctantly abandoned.

This mountain mill-site, with a quantity of the wild land in the vicinity of the "Notch," Mr. Fellows purchased of Tripp, sixty years ago, for five gallons of whisky; Fellows stipulating in the purchase to pay expense of survey and deed. The commercial worth of whisky being one dollar per gallon, this sale realized about *five cents per acre* for lands now owned and mined by the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad Company, and worth at least five thousand dollars per acre. Some estimate of the value of coal lands at this period can be formed by the following incident. A then young man from Connecticut, who recently died in the adjoining county of Wayne, was passing along through Slocum Hollow (now Scranton), and observing a prominent cropping of coal by the road-side, asked the owner what it was, and what it was good for?

"Wal," replied the owner, who suspected it was no great credit either to his judgment or his pocket to possess such land, "they call it stone-coal, I believe, but I wish the *cussed black stuff* was off!"

THE DISCOVERY AND INTRODUCTION INTO USE OF ANTHRACITE COAL.

When lands passed from the natives to the whites, all knowledge of mineral deposits was rigidly withheld.