

Potsdam, near Ogdensburg, in the State of New York. This name was applied to it by the New York geologists, long before the Geological Survey of Canada was commenced.

*The Calciferous Group* :—This division was formerly known as the Calciferous Sand Rock formation, a name bestowed upon it by the New York Survey. The latter term, however, is to some extent a misnomer, since the prevailing or more characteristic strata (in the unaltered districts) are chiefly dolomitic limestones; although many contain, it is true, a considerable amount of sandy or silicious matter. A specimen from Rigaud gave to Prof. Hunt an amount of insoluble matter equal to 36·90 per cent.; and samples from near Prescott, and from the Beauharnois Canal (the latter containing casts of *Ophileta compacta*) yielded to the writer amounts varying from 27·12 to over 40 per cent. Other specimens from near Brockville and elsewhere, left, however, an insoluble residuum of less than 8 per cent.

The rocks of this group may be conveniently discussed under three heads, viz. :— Normal Deposits; Displaced and Altered strata of Eastern Canada; and Altered strata of Lake Superior.

*Normal deposits of the Calciferous Group* :— In Canada these consist principally of dark-grey dolomitic or magnesian limestones, many containing, as stated above, a certain amount of arenaceous matter. They are also interstratified very frequently with beds of grey, white, or brownish sandstone, varying in thickness from a few inches to four or five feet. The calcareous beds in many districts yield but a poor description of lime, and hence the term “bastard limestones,” often applied to them by settlers and others. Small cavities lined or filled with calc spar, or more rarely with quartz, heavy spar, or gypsum, occur in some of the beds; and these and other beds occasionally exhibit in places a coarse concretionary structure. Fossils are of rare occurrence. The most common, perhaps, is the *Ophileta compacta*, fig. 158. *Scolithus* casts (figured on an earlier page) appear also in certain strata. In Western Canada, these normal Calciferous rocks are apparently unknown west of the gneissoid belt that crosses the St. Lawrence at the Thousand Isles. They may occur, however, in a thin band along



Fig. 158.—*Ophileta compacta* (Salter)