MUSEUM BULLETIN NO. 2.

A study of the peat exposed in receding cliffs west of the Point Escuminac lighthouse, accompanied by borings to determine the depth of the deposit, convinces me that there is little if any evidence of coastal subsidence. Behind the soft peat eliff, which rises from 5 to 15 feet above the beach, the surface of the bog ascends rapidly inland, attaining nearly 30 feet altitude in the central part. It is quite apparent that the convexity of the barren at its periphery is due mainly to loss of water near the cliffs, where the water-table descends to the level of the beach. In the first quarter mile west of the lighthouse, the freshly cut cliff shows the floor of the bog-a smooth surface of decayed sandstone, gradually descending to the high tide mark. A series of borings along the foot of the peat cliffs in the next quarter nile, taken at intervals of 200 feet, show the depth of the floor of the peat bog below high tide mark, as follows: zero; zero; 6 inches; 12 inches; zero. Half a mile from the lighthouse, where the peat cliff attains its maximum height, 13 feet, a boring through the beach reached the sandy floor of the bog at a depth of less than 24 inches below high tide mark. Since the upward slope carries the surface of the bog to an altitude of fully 26 feet (as measured by hand-level and rod) above high tide mark, it is probable that the peat here is 28 feet The sounding instrument used was limited to a depth thick. of 21 feet. The 24-foot sounding reported by Chalmers may, therefore, have been entirely above high tide mark. In the half mile between this point and Herring cove, a few borings, at wider intervals, struck sand beneath the peat at depths below high tide mark, successively, of 24, 18, and 6 inches. It appears, therefore, that the Point Escuminac peat bog occupies a rather flat basin, whose floor is close to high tide mark over a wide area, yet rarely as much as two feet below that mark. In this respect it seems to agree with the peat bogs at Miscou island and Shippigan. This I am inclined to regard as significant. If there had been a subsidence of the coast of New Brunswick in very recent times, while the bog was under construction, we should expect to find the fresh-water peat extending down to greater depths; for sphagnum would have accumulated in basins whose floors, in some places, were barely above mean

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