

At the conclusion of his most interesting paper, Mr. Wheeler was loudly applauded. As given above, it is much curtailed from the original, many historical references having to be omitted for want of space.

ON THE SEQUENCE OF THE GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS ABOUT OTTAWA, WITH REFERENCE TO THE NATURAL GAS QUESTION.

BY HENRY M. AMI, M.A., F.G.S.

(Read February 2nd, 1888.)

In geology, as well as in other branches of physical research, it is often advisable and useful to look back for a moment and sum up the evidence and facts which naturally accumulate in the work of investigation carried on in a particular district.

Much has already been published respecting the leading geological features of Ottawa. As far back as 1851 we find that Mr. Alex. Murray, assistant-geologist to Sir Wm. Logan, at that time carried on his geological explorations in this very district.

The results which were obtained by Mr. Murray, and in subsequent years by Sir William himself, as well as by others on his staff, were embodied in the admirable Report for 1863, entitled "Geology of Canada," and the various geological formations noted were indicated on the "Geological Map of Canada" for 1866. This map gave the geographical distribution of the geological formations of the Ottawa district, with their boundaries, and with such accuracy of detail as the facts at their disposal then allowed.

In the "Canadian Naturalist and Geologist," first published and edited in Ottawa by the famous late Mr. E. Billings, that eminent writer described in classic language the various features which his hammer and mind revealed to the scientific world. His researches in palæontology are eminently well known in every portion of the globe, and are a lasting monument to the progress of science in Canada during that part of this century in which he flourished. The "Decades of the Canadian Geological Survey," and the "Palæozoic Fossils," contain innumerable descriptions of fossil species which Mr. Billings had dis-