

ing on Parliament Hill some of the more prominent 'terraces' may be clearly seen to the north forming for a considerable distance an almost unbroken line of level, stretching from east to west in the general trend of the Ottawa River. One of these occurs just above Ironsides, as many members of the Club have had occasion to notice, forming a general plateau of clay covered by a thin stratum of sand. These terraces point indubitably to a period of subsequent elevation which was characterized by oscillatory movements i. e. a period of elevation which is not constant, during which periods of quiescence intervene. Such an elevation predicates the next period with which we are to deal; but before entering upon this latter, there are important results which must be noted with regard to the "*Leda clay*" formation. Imbedded within its measures is found a goodly number of interesting organic remains. Nearly all of them are of marine origin and consist in the remains of shells, insects, animals and even plants which will together, when all examined and determined, make not far from thirty distinct species.

With scarcely a single exception all of these species of shells and animals can be dredged up alive now-a-days either in the Gulf of St. Lawrence or along the Coasts of Labrador or Newfoundland, and even as far as Norway. Their mode of preservation is not an uninteresting fact to record, as it is peculiar even in different portions of the same formation. At Green's Creek, for example, on the Lièvre River, and in other localities likewise, both above and below our city, these places are noted for the peculiar nodules which are found included in the clays. By some such process as concretionary action can the agglomeration of finely divided particles of argillaceous rock be best accounted for, principally around some nucleus whatever it may be—a pebble perhaps as in some instances. Remains of the seal, feathers, numerous remains of the caplin *Mallotus villosus* (Cuvier) occur in this manner, whilst it more often happens that the nucleus is so small as to be almost invisible. These nodules have also yielded two other kinds of fish, the Lump Sucker and a Sculpin found by Mr. Stewart recently, all these still live in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Sir William Dawson has a beautiful collection of these nodules from Green's Creek, from which he has indentified a large number of species of fossil plants, among which are