

vision of the Cyrenidæ, *C. Albertensis* may have to be placed in a new genus, but at present it cannot be satisfactorily separated from *Cyrena*. Unfortunately, the pallial line is not visible in the only specimen of that species that the writer has seen.

The genus *Cyrena* was constituted by Lamarck in 1818 for the reception of a number of fresh or brackish water bivalves, with ovately subtrigonal or nearly circular shells and a greenish epidermis, which differ from *Unio* in their porcellaneous or non-nacreous test, and comparatively short lateral hinge teeth. Dr. Paul Fischer, in his *Manuel de Conchyliologie*, says that there are about 80 recent species of *Cyrena*, which live in (the warmer parts of) Asia, America and Oceania. On this continent living Cyrenas are not found north of the Southern States.

In a fossil state, species of *Cyrena*, as that genus is now understood, are said to range from the Jurassic period up to the present time, and to culminate in the Eocene. The fossil species of Cyrenidæ, however, are found much farther to the northward than the living ones have been, the former occurring also in Northern Europe, including the British Islands, and in Canada. Including the one now described, four species of Cyrenidæ have so far been recognized as occurring in the Laramie and Belly River formations of Alberta and Assiniboia. These are *Corbicula occidentalis* and *C. cytheriformis* of Meek and Hayden, *Corbicula obliqua* (nobis), and *Cyrena Albertensis*.

Ottawa, Feb. 5, 1903.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IV.

- Fig. 1.—*Cyrena Albertensis*. Outline of left valve of the specimen described.
- Fig. 1A.—,, ,, Dorsal view of the same specimen, slightly restored, to show the amount of convexity of the two valves when closed,