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Passing northwestward, along the same mountainous axis, to the Queen Charlotte Islands, we find the rocks there underlying the Cretaceous Coal series to present, in the main, features not dissimilar to those of Vancouver Island. Massive limestones, generally fine-grained, grey, and often cherty, are folded together with felspathic and dioritic rocks, sometimes so much altered as to have lost the evidence as to whether they were originally fragmental or molten. In other places they are still well-marked rough agglomerates, or amygdaloids.

No characteristic fossils have been obtained from these rocks, but at the summit of this part of the series, and adhering closely to a limestone which apparently forms its upper member, occurs a great thickness of regularly-bedded blackish calcareous argillite, generally quite hard and much fractured, but holding numerous well-preserved fossils, including *Monotis subcircularis* and other characteristic forms of the so-called "Alpine Trias" of California and the 40th parallel region, which represents the Hollstadt and St. Cassian beds of Europe. The resemblance of the lower unfossiliferous rocks first described to the probably Carboniferous beds of Vancouver, leads to the belief that these may also be of the same age, while any slight unconformity between these and the Triassic may be masked by subsequent folding and disturbance.

In the extreme northwestern part of Vancouver Island Triassic rocks like those of the Queen Charlotte Islands occupy extensive but yet undefined areas, while the slaty auriferous rocks of Leach River, near Victoria, may also represent the Triassic argillites in a more altered state.*

As already mentioned, Dr. Selwyn, in his provisional classification, unites under one title the older rocks of Vancouver Island, above described, and those which form the greater part of the Cascade or Coast Ranges. The progress in the investigation of the country seems to favor the correctness of this view, and to show a blending and interlocking of such characters of difference as the typical or originally examined localities of the two series present. Tracing the rocks eastward from the shores of Vancouver Island, we find them becoming more disturbed and altered, the limestones always in the condition of marbles, and seldom or never showing organic traces, the other rocks represented chiefly by grey or green diorites, gneisses—generally hornblende—and various species of felspathic rocks, such as may well be supposed to have resulted from the more complete crystallization of the volcanic members of the series. Recurring in a number of places, and folded with these rocks, is a zone of micaceous schists or argillites.

The rocks classed as the Anderson River and Boston Bar series† in

* Reports of Progress, Geol. Survey of Canada, 1876-79, p. 46 B; 1876-77, p. 95.

† Reports of Progress, Geol. Survey of Canada, 1871-72, p. 62.