

## RÉSUMÉ.

We may shortly generalize the foregoing facts and observations.

Of the sixty four elementary substances at present known to compose the material of our original globe, phosphorus is found to be among the twenty more abundant elements, and is recognized to have been widely disseminated in all the original and ancient rock masses. With the exception of the segregations of crystallized Apatite in the Laurentian rocks, we do not find any marked local accumulation of phosphatic bases in any of the azoic formations, or intrusive rocks.

The existence of the Eozoon Canadense is still debatable, and it is problematical whether the apatite of these older metamorphosed strata is not the mineralized product of organic remains, but passing from the Laurentian epoch to the succeeding and less altered rocks we are immediately in presence of abundant evidence of organized life, and cannot fail to remark how much more frequent are the accumulations of phosphatic beds.

The function of organized life to assimilate and concentrate the disseminated phosphoric element is strikingly apparent. The natural forces which are ever restless and continual in building up the varied geological strata of succeeding epochs (attrition, deposition, cementation, ablation, etc.) may alter and vary the manner of presentation of the phosphatic deposits which we have been considering, but the silently working power of assimilation by the organized cell, would appear to triumph over the mighty disruptive and more violent operations of nature, for the latter forces fail to re-disseminate the work accomplished by the former, but rather complete the task required to secure to man the providential supplies of phosphatic deposits with which we may satisfy our present demands, and therefore these economic supplies are seen to be chiefly in the more recent geological formations.