

part of both the northern and southern Highlands. In the south they are found on the top of the Quaco Hills and Shepody Mountain, nearly one thousand feet above the present sea-level; in the north they form high hills on the Beccaquimic river and about the Blue Mountains on the Tobique, though it is not probable that they ever covered the summits of the latter range or the much higher hills about the sources of the Tobique and Nepisiquit rivers. In the central basin and in the depressions among the higher hills waves, tides and currents were at work, and by their action the hills were being levelled and the depressions filled with pebble, sand and mud beds, the conglomerates, sandstones and shales which now occupy them. Here and there, where the waters were pure enough, corals were growing and shells accumulating, the former indicating that the temperature of the waters was at least sub-tropical. In the same waters were numerous fish, but mainly of types related to the sturgeon and shark, and along the shores basked frogs and reptiles of gigantic size in comparison with their modern relatives. For untold centuries this condition of things prevailed, the sediments gradually becoming thicker and thicker until they had attained a maximum of some thousands of feet. This would only be possible upon a sinking floor, and with a sinking floor sooner or later fractures must come. In the production of these fractures the Lower Carboniferous period came to a close; through the vents thus made, sometimes perhaps in single pipes or chimneys, in other cases along extended fissures, came floods of molten material from the earth's interior; in the eminences which have been referred to as occurring in Curries Mountain and elsewhere we have, now open to our study, what has been left of these old ejections. For we can hardly suppose that the whole of the materials poured out have been left undisturbed, and some of the events in the later history of the country were well calculated to remove them. Yet it does not seem probable in the case of Curries Mountain that its height was ever considerable. Its present base is too small to justify such a belief, and the relations of the sedimentary to the igneous rocks also