

have been diverted inward over the then or subsequently depressed New England area; but this cold, and even the added presence of this current, would not preclude the idea of vegetation. Judging from the analogies of to-day in Switzerland, in the Rocky Mountains, and along the Lower St. Lawrence, it would be quite within the range of likelihood that northern temperate and sub-arctic and arctic plants would be found in Canada at this early time, in those places most suited to them, and just as they at this later day occur even alongside of glaciers. Though glaciers may have been near at hand, it does not behoove us to too readily draw conclusions from them as to the climate and surrounding vegetation. There are glaciers in the Rocky Mountains in British Columbia, but they are not associated there with a general arctic climate, nor has the general flora of the mountains an arctic or even sub-arctic aspect. During the deposition of the Leda clays, which took place before, or on, the close of the glacial epoch—for their relative position seems still uncertain—and contemporaneously with the encroachments of the sea far up the St. Lawrence and Ottawa valleys, the vegetation had a northern temperate aspect. The marine fauna around Montreal, near Ottawa, and elsewhere, had, it is true, a northern, almost boreal, look, implying cold sea currents; and the presence of boulders in these great river valleys would indicate that glaciers flowed through or into them at this or an earlier period, or that icebergs had then found their way as far inland as these points. The presence of cold sea currents, or of even icebergs, was not, however, associated with arctic or even sub-arctic plants. In the Leda clays we have such species as *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Potentilla Norvegica*, *P. tridentata*, *P. Canadensis*, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, *Populus balsamifera*, *Thuja occidentalis*, *Potamogeton perfoliatus* and *P. natans*—all species occurring now in the latitude of Montreal, and all but one in the latitude of Lake Ontario.

It does not, then, seem to me difficult to imagine the vast Laurentian country in Canada,—broken and rugged everywhere as it now is, and rising often to very consider-