

line schists, with their intermingling masses of trappean and quartz rocks, richly impregnated with the specular and magnetic oxide of iron, pass into the granite and sandstone rocks, which intervene between the ferriferous formations and the copper-bearing traps of Keweenaw Point, and it is of this very locality that the authors of the report on the geology of the district remark: "It would be difficult to select another spot along the whole coast, where the rocks of so many epochs, from the oldest to the most recent, are represented. It contains an epitome of nearly the whole geology of the district."

With the exception of these strikingly marked rocky lines of the coast, the general character of the Southern Shore of Lake Superior is devoid of any very bold features, but consists almost entirely of the same rounded elevations and terraces, with gently sloping shores, or crumbling escarpments of drift, with which we are familiar on the lower lakes; and covered every where with dense forests down to the water's edge. In no place do the surrounding hills, to be seen inland, rise to such an elevation as to present any very striking general feature in the view, although on landing and exploring the scenery lying beyond the coast line, some bold and striking features in the landscape well repay the toil; as in the magnificent cliffs of trappean rocks running in a southwesterly direction from Keweenaw point to the Montreal River, and presenting their perpendicular sides to the south-east.

In reference to this character of the Southern Shore, Mr. J. Elliot Cabot, the author of a narrative of the Tour undertaken under the direction of Professor Agassiz in 1848, remarks\* "Lake Superior is to be figured to the mind as a vast basin with a high rocky rim, scooped out of the plateau extending from the Alleghanies to the Mississippi Valley, a little to the south of the height of land. Its dimensions according to Captain Bayfield, are three hundred and sixty miles in length, one hundred and forty in breadth, and fifteen hundred in circumference. The mountainous rim is almost unbroken; its height varies from the average of about three or four hundred feet, to twelve or thirteen hundred; the slopes are gradual towards the north, and abrupt on the opposite side, so that on the north shore the cliffs rise steeply from the water, whilst on the south it is said the ascent is more gentle, the abrupt faces being inland. This difference of formation, joined to the prevalence of northerly winds, has given very different aspects to the two shores; the southern showing broad sand-beaches and remarkable hills of sand, whereas on the north

\* "Lake Superior, its Physical Character," &c., p 123.