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DISCOVERY OF THE PREGLACIAL OUTLET OF
THE BASIN OF LAKE ERIE INTO THAT OF
LAKE ONTARIO; WITH NOTES ON THE ORIGIN
OF OUR LOWER GREAT LAKES.

The above is the title of a lengthy paper by Prof. J. W. Spencer, of King's College, Windsor, N. S., read before the American Philosophical Society in March last.

We present our readers with the more important parts of the paper concerning the Preglacial Outlet of Lake Erie and a summary of the whole.

Basin of Lake Ontario. As is well known, Lake Ontario consists of a broad, shallow (considering its size) basin, excavated on the southern margin out of the Medina shales, and having its southern shores from one to several miles from the foot of the Niagara escarpment. The Medina shales form the western margin (where not covered with drift) to a point near Oakville. From this town to a point some distance eastward of Toronto, the hard rocks are made up of the different beds of Hudson River Epoch; while the soft Utica shales occupy the middle portion, and the Trenton limestones the portion of the Province towards the eastern end of the lake.

The country at the western end of the lake consists of slopes gently rising to the foot of the Niagara escarpment. Sometimes this elevation is by terraces, and again by gentle inclines, as between the foot of the escarpment at Limehouse (on the G. T. Railway) and the lake, where the difference of altitude above the water is more than 700 feet, without any very conspicuous features.