

the Laurentian limestone of New Jersey, under the name of *Archacophyton Newberrianum*.¹

It is in one of the limestones, the highest of the series, rich in nodules and grains of Serpentine, that the forms described as *Eozoon Canadense* occur. It is not the object of this paper to enter into any details as to these, or any discussion of their claims to be regarded as of animal origin, but to allow the specimens exhibited to speak for themselves, referring to previous publications for a more particular account of their structure and modes of occurrence.²

Below the Grenville series we find an immense thickness of orthoclase gneiss, associated with igneous dykes and masses, without limestones or other indications of organic remains, but presenting alternations with thick bands of Hornblende schist. This is the "Ottawa gneiss" of the Geological Survey of Canada, a fundamental rock, perhaps a portion of the primitive crust of the earth, or a product of aqueo-igneous, or crenitic action, before the beginning of regular sedimentation. It is the Lower Laurentian or Archaean complex of some authors, and is quite distinct from the overlying Grenvillian, except in the occurrence of orthoclase gneisses in both.

The Eozoic group of systems will thus for the present include the Huronian and Grenvillian or Upper Laurentian, the fauna of which is characterized by the prevalence in the former of Annelida, Sponges and Protozoa, and in the latter, so far as known, of Protozoa alone, represented by peculiar and gigantic forms, as *Eozoon* and *Archæozoon*, and some smaller types (*Archæospherinæ*).

As at present known, these systems are of a character unfavorable to the preservation of organic remains—the Huronian because of its coarse and littoral character, the Grenvillian because of its great metamorphism. It may,

¹ Annals N.Y. Academy, Vol. IV., No. 4.

² See papers in the Geological Magazine for 1895, also Memoir in Publications of Peter Redpath Museum.