

ing species, *Whittleseya Dawsoniana*, whose description, through the courtesy of Professor Penhallow of the University, I am enabled to include in this paper. The "fern ledges" have been, and are still, regarded by most Canadian geologists as Middle Devonian.¹ The composition of this flora is essentially that of the Pottsville of the Allegheny region, to which most of the Lancaster ferns are common. In fact, the fossil flora of the "fern ledges" appears to be representative of the Pottsville (Millstone Grit in part) of the United States. The more exact distribution of the species seems clearly to indicate, as I have elsewhere remarked,² the reference of a portion at least of the "fern ledges" to the Upper or Sewanee division of the Pottsville.

The discovery of *Whittleseya* at once in the Riversdale of Nova Scotia and in the Lancaster formation of New Brunswick not only tends to confirm the conclusion as to the approximate contemporaneity of these formations, a relation that has long been accepted by most geologists, with the exception of the late Sir William Dawson, but it is also corroborative of the correlation of both of these formations with the Pottsville.³

¹ Sir William Dawson, Fossil Plants of the Devonian and Upper Silurian formations of Canada; Geol. Surv. Canada, 1871. L. W. Bailey, Observations on the Geology of Southern New Brunswick, 1865, pp. 54-76. Hugh Fletcher, Geological Nomenclature in Nova Scotia, Trans. Nova Scotia Inst. Sci., vol. X, 1900, p. 235.

² 20th Ann. Rept. U. S. Geol. Survey, Pt. 2, 1900, p. 917.

³ The Pottsville ("Pottsville conglomerate") in the type section in the Southern Anthracite field of Eastern Pennsylvania covers the interval, including a basal transition, between the marine Lower Carboniferous and the Lower Productive Coal Measures. Its lower portion contains a flora apparently corresponding to the Ostrau-Waldenberg zone of Europe, included by many palaeontologists within the top of the Lower Carboniferous. The upper portion includes the plants of the Millstone Grit and of the Lower Coal Measures of the Old World. Mr. Kidston's reference of the St. John Flora to the Lower Coal Measures corresponds perhaps exactly to my correlation of the plant beds with the upper portion of the Pottsville, since, as he has pointed out (Proc. Roy. Phys. Soc. Edinburgh, vol. XII, 1894, p. 225), the Millstone Grit flora of Europe is essentially the same as that of the Lower Coal Measures, from which in many cases the Millstone Grit seems not to have been entirely stratigraphically distinguished.