

history, but beginning slowly and early at the north and ending late at the south. In the early development of this structure the shove of the soft rocks against the crystalline shield was so valiantly withstood at the north, that there, along the southern outline of that shield, from Lake Ontario to Natashkwan, the softer rocks broke down, making, where the two lay in contact, a deep and broad fracture extending from southwest to northeast. The existence of this break or fault in the rocks was long ago signalized by Sir William Logan* and it is known today as "Logan's Fault". It is beyond doubt the determinant factor in the existence and course of the St. Lawrence river. "Logan's Fault" gave birth to the river by setting down a line of weakness along whose crushed and broken rock masses the continental waters draining to the sea could find their least obstructed passage; and thus began the oldest of all great rivers of the earth and the oldest of all rivers on the earth of which we have any definite record.



* One who has followed closely in the footsteps of Sir William Logan in his geological work in eastern Quebec may perhaps be permitted, without impropriety, to revert to the extraordinary achievements of this great Canadian, and his distinguished services to geological science.

The year after Sir William organized the Geological Survey of Canada, he began his official career by explorations in the Gaspé peninsula. Laboring in the early 40's among the picturesque sea cliffs of that inviting country, traversing its wildernesses, he determined its geological systems with their wealth of unrecorded facts and made of the Gaspé country ground that will always be of classic worth to geological science. Had he done no more, he would have served well; but he did do vastly more in the development of the mineral resources of the Dominion. A country that is rich and strong and great will not forget its obligation to such a distinguished servant. France commemorates by public memorials the services of its eminent civilians more often than it does those of its military and naval heroes. Such a memorial to Logan is wanting. There stands a rock cliff in the heart of the village of Percé, overlooked on one side by towering sea cliffs and on the other by consecrated mountains over which Logan labored in his early work, and here might well be placed a tablet commemorative of the lasting achievements of his great career.