

this dingy color as well as by its characteristic fossil.

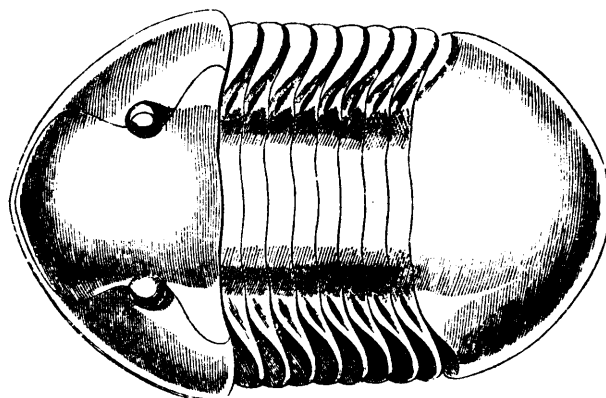
In the *Black River* formation, the next in order, we have a more varied fauna. All forms of then existing life, the sea being somewhat shallower, are there found—dwellers by the troubled shore as well as those of the silent deep. Corals are exceedingly plentiful, vast masses or beds of compact stone being entirely coralline in their structure. A ridge belonging to this age occurs near Point Claire, whence the stone used in building the Victoria Bridge was obtained. Thus was the construction of this masterpiece begun in the far distant past. Its first foundations were laid in the depths of this ancient ocean, by no human architects—by the ancestors of the coral island builders.

Going forward in our history, we come to the period of more interest to us than all others. It has been named the *Trenton*, from Trenton Falls, New

not been so accessible, our architects, like those of most large cities on this continent, would have been content with the less seemly product of the clay-pit and of the forest. During this age, as far as this little spot is concerned, animal life had reached its climax; for never was nor has it been so varied or abundant. A strange appearance must this ocean bed have presented. Made up entirely of what had been parts of living creatures, even to the fine mud filling up the interstices, every inch of ground or rather bottom was occupied.

"China's millions," crowding and elbowing each other, had acres of room compared with these dwellers in ocean. Myriads of various kinds of *crinoids*, lily-form animals, fixed by long stems, swayed to and fro with the tide, like a field of grain when agitated by summer breezes. With their petal-like tentacles or ciliæ, in constant motion, they caused a current of water to flow to-

wards their mouths, from which they selected the food particles upon which they subsisted. Here and there, lurking among these stems, might be seen *Trilobites*, distant relatives or posterity of those of the footprints. Out on a ceaseless foraging expedition, a tyrant was he over the smaller fry; yet, withal, a great coward; ever and anon darting backward when startled



(Fig. 7.) Trilobite, — *Asaphus Platycephalus*.

York, where its rocks were first studied. To this formation and to what took place in the next we owe the beauty of our city. On that ocean bed were strewn, layer upon layer, shells, *crinoid* stems, the exuviae of many forms of animals in countless myriads. These, time, pressure, and gentle heat, have hardened in the beautiful crystalline limestone of which our stately mansions and public institutions are built. Had it

by a real or imaginary enemy; when hard pressed curling up like an armadillo, and presenting only his mail to the foe, he was safe from all danger. In other places, huge *Orthoceratites*, an ancient kind of Cuttlefish, took up their stations. With their maze of long arms, swaying in every direction, they were ready to entrap any unwary prey that should come within their reach; lords were they, then, of creation, rul-