lake. A camel of this period has left his remains in Missouri, and it is not unlikely that his relatives quenched their thirst in the prehistoric Ontario river.

But a change came. The temperate climate was succeeded by one of cold and moisture. Snow fell in such quantities that the summer sun could not melt it. From being a paradise, the Province became a barren wilderness-destitute of all but ice. From the Laurentian Hills to the north. then much higher than now, glaciers descended on all sides. The New England States, New York, Ohio, and west and north, the country was covered with ice. as Greenland is to-day. With that resistless power, still seen in the glaciers of the Alps, the ice was ever pressing downwards. With a depth of several thousand feet over the Province of Ontario, the glacier exerted immense power on the rocks beneath. Boulders were torn off and used as emery dust to polish the rocky The débris was piled in the floor. river valleys, and far to the south a line of boulders was left to mark the old ice front. The old Ontario river. the Dundas and Laurentian streams, were filled to the brink. The only possible drainage was over the height of land by tributaries of the Ohio.

Then followed a period of warmth. The ice melted and streams ran anew. But the old channels were filled up: new ones had to be excavated in the débris. For a time the outlets were damned by ice in the Mohawk valley, and the waters accumulated between the front of the retreating glacier and the highlands to the south of the present lakes. At first ponds were formed in the old valleys, but, as the glacier withdrew, these expanded into lakes. Finally, the section of country now occupied by the southernend of Huron, Erie and Ontario, became one immense sheet of water. The natural outlet by the Hudson being still blocked by a glacier from the Adirondacks, the

waters were held at a high level. Then were formed those many beaches we recognize around the shores of Ontario. Finally, drainage was established by the Wabash valley, when the waters became sufficiently high. Lake Ontario had then reached maturity. Her grandeur was then at its height. Succeeding history is but a record of falls. The glacier melted back from the Mohawk valley, and the surplus waters rapidly disappeared. The lake would soon have been entirely drained had not the whole land sunk during the presence of the ice. Only to a small extent could the pentup waters now escape through the Hudson valley. During a resting period a new beach was formed.

About this time the level of Ontario sank below that of the Niagara escarpment at Queenston, and Erie and Ontario were sundered. The accumulating waters in Erie found their way over the precipice at Queenston, and began their wonderful excavation of the Niagara gorge.

Then came the withdrawal of the ice from the St. Lawrence valley, and a new channel was opened for the waters of Ontario. Rapid drainage ensued for a time, and Ontario began to assume her present contours. How long ago one can hardly say. The Niagara began to flow at Queenston 7,000 to 10,000 years ago, and probably not long before the St. Lawrence valley was freed from ice.

Lake Ontario is now in her old age. Little over one-third of her former depth remains. The tendency of all lakes is to wear away the barriers that contain them. In old, undisturbed regions, like the southern United States, few lakes are found. The hard, granite rocks of the upper St. Lawrence will, of course, long resist the erosive action of water. Still, the ultimate destiny of Lake Ontario is that of an inlet of the ocean--a second Mediterranean sea.