

"same series of rocks in the Province of Quebec occupies a belt
 "along the west side of the Quebec group, having a breadth of
 "about twenty miles, and including all undoubted sedimentary
 "and fossiliferous strata. It is the same band of rocks which
 "continuing southward into Vermont has there been called the
 "Taconic, and which Dr. Hunt wishes to classify as Upper Cam-
 "brian. We have already seen that the term Cambrian is much
 "more applicable to the Green Mountain series, and there would
 "appear to be no good reason for ceasing to regard these rocks
 "as belonging to the Silurian system. As has already been ex-
 "plained, however, it would be proper to exclude from that
 "series any non-fossiliferous rocks whose aspect is semi-crystal-
 "line, and which have been so frequently classed as metamorphic
 "Lower Silurian. These, as we have seen, it is much more
 "reasonable to class with the Cambrian rocks." (pp. 15 and 16.)
 From these quotations it will be perfectly evident that Mr.
 Selwyn's views as to the age and structure of the Quebec group
 are the same as those I have held for the last seventeen years
 and repeatedly brought before the public. It may seem a matter
 of little consequence as to where the merit of priority lies, but I
 confess I think differently, and maintain that Mr. Selwyn's recent
 paper ought to have contained some allusion to the passages
 above quoted.

But, in spite of all this, I feel bound to say that the matter is
 not ended here; that the independent student of our geology
 will neither accept Mr. Selwyn's views nor any others, unless they
 satisfactorily dispose of the difficulties which have all along beset
 this subject. Mr. Selwyn banishes Potsdam strata from the
 proximity of the Lévis rocks, and claims that his new divisions
 have "at least the advantage of simplicity." This may readily
 be admitted for what it is worth, but they do not in the slightest
 degree meet the question with which Sir W. E. Logan found
 himself face to face during the latter part of his lifetime, and
 which may thus be stated: How can this Lévis formation be
 really Lower Silurian in age when it underlies, unconformably,
 the lowest of Lower Silurian rocks, namely, the typical Potsdam
 sandstone of the St. Lawrence valley? Mr. Selwyn says, that
 the Lévis formation is Lower Silurian, and the horizontal Pots-
 dam sandstone is Lower Silurian too, and thinks that he has
 effectually disposed of the question "without invoking any of
 "the numerous almost impossibilities in physical and dynamical