

that still another such area exists near the mouth of the Shiktohawk. In the State of Maine, the three groups of strata described are still more clearly represented, for while there, as in the province, the slates are the most commonly occurring rocks, comprising all the country drained by the upper St. John, as well as large areas about Presquile and Houlton, we have, in the Fish River Lakes, and again at Ashland, beds of limestone, abounding in fossils which are nearly parallel with those of Mount Wissick, while finally, in the valley of the Aroostook and covering large areas, are conglomerates and sandstones, which are the evident continuation of those of the Siegas River, presenting precisely similar characters and associations, and carrying the same fossils. In northern Maine, however, there are with these undoubted Silurian strata, great masses of volcanic rock, felsites, quartz-porphyrries and amygdaloids, as well as fine silicious slates and purple micaceous and gneissic sandstones, the relations of which are not yet fully known. Beds of Devonian (Oriskany) age also occur, as they do both in New Brunswick and in the Gaspé peninsula, but are much less widely distributed than has been previously supposed. Finally, the slates are at a few points unconformably covered by bright red sandstones and conglomerates similar to those of the Tobique valley in New Brunswick, and the Bonaventure district of Quebec, which are referable to the Lower Carboniferous formation.

Thus the succession of events indicated by the rocks in the early history of the region under discussion would appear to be as follows. The great period of upheaval, mountain-making and metamorphism which brought Archaean time to a close, having served to determine and to some extent to limit the great St. Lawrence or Acadian basin, by lifting above the sea the ridges which still border it,—the Laurentides north of the St. Lawrence valley, ridges of similar rock along the New England coast, some of our own southern hills and similarly some of those of Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and Newfoundland—we find in the Cambrian and Cambro-Silurian periods which succeed,