

NOTES ON THE GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY OF THE ROCKLAND QUARRIES AND VICINITY. IN THE COUNTY OF RUSSELL, ONTARIO, CANADA.

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On the 24th of June last, the OTTAWA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB held a very successful excursion to the new Rockland quarries. These are situated about two miles to the south-east of the village of Rockland, in the Township of Clarence, in the County of Russell, Ontario, and were opened with a view of obtaining the stone required for the construction of the Soulanges canal. This locality proved to be very interesting to the geologist, from the fact that six distinct Palæozoic formations were met and examined. Mr. Archibald Stewart, government contractor and proprietor of the new Rockland quarries, and Mr. W. C. Edwards, M. P. for Russell, had extended to the Ottawa naturalists a hearty invitation, and made them welcome. Everything went off well and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Refreshments and conveyances were freely supplied by these two gentlemen, and the excursionists duly appreciating their kindness, unanimously thanked them for their hospitality.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES OF ROCKLAND.

The following are the different geological formations met with at Rockland, between the mills on the Ottawa River front, and the new quarries, some two miles distant, in descending order. These formations succeed each other in regular order, as seen in the table, with only two unconformities, the first below the glacial drift, and the second below the Potsdam formation. They occupy that zone of country lying between the escarpment at the quarries and the Ottawa River. This escarpment is similar in origin and aspect, to the bluffs and escarpments at Ottawa, and formed at one time the southern shore or cliff-margin of the Pre-glacial stream which flowed from the west in almost precisely the same channel as does the Ottawa River at present.

The Calciferous and Chazy formations form the widest belts, whilst the Trenton, Black River and Chazy formations, are the most fossiliferous in the district.