

Government for about half the amount which he could have obtained from other tenants. To Logan also, McGill University owes much; for, in 1864, he founded and endowed the "Logan Gold Medal" for an honor course in geology and natural science, and, in 1871, gave \$19,000, which, together with \$1,000 given by his brother, the late Mr. Hart Logan, forms the endowment of the "Logan Chair of Geology."

Since resigning his position as Director of the Geological Survey, he has carried on explorations at his own expense, and, at the time of his death, arrangements had been nearly completed for putting down a bore-hole in the Eastern Townships, at a cost of \$8,000; as he thought that this would enable him to prove the truth of his views with regard to the age of the metamorphic rocks there.

Sir William was the first to give us any definite information about those wondrous old Laurentian rocks which form the backbone of our continent. He showed us that they were older than the Huronian, and that they consisted of a great series of metamorphosed sedimentary rocks, which are divisible into two unconformable groups, with a combined thickness of not less than 80,000 feet. The great beds of limestone which he found in the lower series, the plumbago, the iron ores, the metallic sulphurets, all seem to point to the existence of life in the Laurentian days; but the discovery of *Eozoon Canadense* made conjecture give place to certainty. Now we know that the world of that far-off time was not a lifeless world. Life, whatever that may be, had been joined to matter.

The first specimens of *Eozoon* were found by Dr. James Wilson, of Perth; but at the time of their discovery were regarded merely as minerals. In 1858, however, Mr. J. McMullen, of the Geological Survey, discovered other specimens, the organic origin of which so struck Sir William that in the following year—four years before their true structure and affinities were determined by Dawson and Carpenter—he even exhibited them as fossils at the meeting of the American Association.

In widely extending our knowledge of the early geological history of the earth, Sir William has done a great work; indeed this may be regarded as his greatest work. Its importance has everywhere been recognized, and the name Laurentian, which he chose for the rocks at the bottom of the geological scale in America, has crossed the Atlantic, and is now applied to the homotaxial rocks of Europe. Sir Roderick Murchison, who dedicated the fourth edition of "Siluria" to Sir William Logan, even substituted Laurentian for "Fundamental Gneiss," the name which he had given to the rocks of the West Highlands of Scotland. "I at first," says Murchison, "termed them 'Fundamental Gneiss,' and soon after, following my distinguished friend