

The oldest land has been that of the Gold Range, and the Carboniferous deposits laid down east and west of this barrier differ widely in character. The Carboniferous closed with a disturbance which shut the sea out from a great area east of the Gold Range, in which the red gypsiferous and saline beds of the Jurassic were formed. In the Peace River region, however, marine Triassic beds are found on both sides of the Rocky Mountains.

A great disturbance, producing the Sierra Nevada and Vancouver ranges, closed the Triassic and Jurassic period. The shore line of the Pacific of the Cretaceous in British Columbia lay east of the Coast Range, and the sea communicated by the Peace River region with the Cretaceous Mediterranean of the great plains. The Coast Range and the Rocky Mountains are probably in great part due to a post-Cretaceous disturbance, though the last-named range existed before the Cretaceous period in the Peace River region.

No Eocene deposits have been found in the province. The Miocene of the interior plateau is probably homologous with King's Pah-Ute lake of the 40th parallel Miocene. In the Pliocene the country appears to have stood higher above the sea-level than at present, and during this time the fiords of the coast were probably worn out.

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ABSTRACT OF NOTES BY PRINCIPAL DAWSON ON FOSSIL PLANTS COLLECTED BY MR. SELWYN, F.R.S., IN THE LIGNITE TERTIARY FORMATION, AT ROCHES PERCÉES, SOURIS RIVER, MANITOBA.—The Lignite Tertiary Group of Manitoba and elsewhere in the Western Plains, rests immediately on the Upper Cretaceous, and holds extensive deposits of valuable Lignite, associated with shale and sandstone containing numerous remains of plants. This flora resembles very closely in its aspect that of the Miocene Tertiary of Europe, but its stratigraphical position and animal fossils seem to indicate that its actual age is greater than this. Various attempts have been made to subdivide it, and to separate portions of different ages; but, so far, there is reason to suspect that the subdivisions are merely local, and that the whole belongs to a period of transition between the Cretaceous and Tertiary ages.

Mr. Selwyn's specimens are remarkable for their good state of preservation, being enclosed in a hard arenaceous and ferruginous