

Aided by the information since obtained from a study of the rocks in Nova Scotia, I should now use the terms "Granitoid Gneiss," and "Gneiss conglomerate," for the term "Granite," in a description of the great New Brunswick belt, which I suppose to be of the same age as the Nova Scotian series described in the following pages, and the black slates on the Nipisiquit to be of the same age as the black slates forming the known summit of the gold-bearing rocks of Nova Scotia.

With regard to the ages of the Gold-bearing and Gneissoid series, I have spoken of them, provisionally, as Lower Silurian and Laurentian. Conclusive evidence derived from fossils has not yet been obtained from the gold-bearing slates and quartzites. Since the discovery of the forms resembling the *Palaeotrochis* of Emmons, noticed in my report on the Waverley Gold District, I have sent to Mr. Billings slabs containing supposed fossils from the Sherbrooke rocks. Mr. Billings' opinion of these supposed fossils is contained in the following quotations from a letter with which he favored me on the subject:

No. 3. "Casts from beds about 1600 feet above the base."

"These have the form that would be made by an *Orthis*, almost the size of *Orthis pectinella*, Conrad. Some of the cavities have one side flat and the other convex, which would answer very well for the species cited. In one of the cavities there are several radiating ridges, corresponding to the ribs of *O. pectinella*. These appearances are not sufficient to enable me to say positively that the impressions are of organic origin, while, at the same time, they prevent one from asserting the opposite opinion, i. e., that they are *not organic*."

No. 5. "I think this is an *Eospongia*, but as it does not show any minute structure, will not say so positively."

"None of the other specimens exhibit any organic characters whatever. But No. 2 (CHIASTOLITE) appears to me to be important for the reason that it occurs in the gold-bearing beds of Australia. I showed your specimens to Mr. Selwyn, and he says the mineral has exactly the same form as that which occurs in the Australian rocks, holding the Quebec graptolites. It is always found there in the vicinity of the granitic

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5. Granite belt, 400 yards broad.  
Ferruginous Schist.
  6. Granite.  
Siliceous Schist.
  7. Granite.  
Quartzites.
  8. Granite.  
Quartzites.