

might be still in a semi-plastic condition, and the lower parts of these folds might penetrate areas of uncongealed matter which would digest and remove much of their lower members. The subsequent denudation would reveal at successive depths a lessening amount of the original crust and so it is problematical if any of the original upper beds are to be seen in this area.

In the eastern area, reported on by Mr. Tyrrell, the contacts are more nearly conformable and might indicate that their original relation had not been disturbed in the subsequent alteration to which both had been subject. In the western part of the district there is a marked difference between the gneisses of the area lying north of Athapuskow lake, reaching to near the Churchill river, and those with which they come in contact in the vicinity of the valley of this stream. In going north the first rock met with after leaving the Huronian area is a granite that gradually becomes foliated and appears as if it might be newer than the Huronian. On reaching the vicinity of the Churchill river an apparently older series is noted, which in some instances is separated from the rocks to the south by wide dykes or areas of an eruptive granite of the nature of pegmatite. Beyond this zone of intrusion there are broad bands of mica schist, garnet-bearing schists and dark gneisses which are a contrast to the generally reddish granitic gneiss to the south.

Huronian.

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To the west of Lake Superior the areas which have been referred to the Huronian and of which detailed studies have been made are those on the Lake of the Woods. As the typical section could not be exactly correlated, the group described by Dr. Lawson was called by him the Keewatin, and a lower and more highly altered part, the Couchiching, but it is generally accepted that these constitute in the west rocks representative of the Huronian. The small areas of similar rocks found to the north are thus classed as of the same general series, and evidence is not wanting that many of the beds composing their mass have a clastic origin.

In the eastern part, as will be seen from Mr. Tyrrell's report, clastic rocks, such as quartzites and conglomerates, are associated with basic eruptives and greenstones whose origin is volcanic. Parts of the areas to the west are described in the present report and the same character is found as in the rocks to the east, or in the Nelson valley.