

associated those of birds, such as geese and sea-gulls. Numerous mollusca and crustacea, many species of rhizopods, with the remains of land and sea plants, will there find a resting place.

Supposing that these beds were examined at some future period under conditions, when the glacial epoch had disappeared from the surrounding area, it would be difficult to realise that they were contemporaneous with the beds formed under the Greenland ice cape in the same parallel of latitude and on the opposite shore of a channel not twenty miles across.

In the one case, enormous thicknesses of till with ice-scratched stones have in all probability been deposited; in the other, fluvio-marine beds containing a comparatively rich assemblage of marine and land forms, with river rolled pebbles, would be brought to light.

In the face of these facts is it incredible to suppose that the inter-glacial periods of Great Britain are due not so much to "oscillations of temperature" as to alterations in the amount of moisture in the atmosphere, and the position of the land-mass regarded as a condenser?

It is evident that the glaciation of Greenland and the west shore of Baffin's Bay and Ellesmere Land is not a result altogether of degrees of heat and cold, or in other words, temperature, but equally the result of geographical position which causes these regions to act as mighty condensers, throwing down in the form of snow the heated vapour of the south, and so effectually eliminating the moisture from the air that a tract of country like Grinnell Land lying still further to the north and subjected to an equally rigorous climate, is comparatively exempt from glaciation.—*From the Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society.*

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOCUST.—At its last session Congress appropriated \$10,000 for the completion of the investigation of the Rocky Mountain locust by the United States Entomological Commission. The work during the coming season will be carried on in Colorado and the Western Territories, particularly Utah and Eastern Idaho, where the locust abounds each summer, doing more or less damage. Parties will also be sent into Montana, the main breeding place of the destructive swarms periodically visiting the Western Mississippi States.—*American Naturalist*, May, 1879.