

the town line of Whitby there is good ground, but this isolated section is inaccessible by any favorable route upon the line or south of the York road, either from the Rouge,—or from the York road east of Newcastle. Between Newcastle and Bowmanville and between Darlington and the Rouge, the country is “fluted” in a north and south direction. Broad-backed ridges, rising and widening gradually toward the front are separated by wide valleys,—and marshes but little above the elevation of the lake. These ridges and valleys run at right angles to the line required, and present a very unfavorable profile for a Railway.

My attention being directed by Mr. Samuel Green and Mr. Farewell of Whitby to an “ancient beach of Lake Ontario”—which was said to traverse the Townships east and west, I commenced an examination of a route northward of the York road. On going about two miles back from this road, the broken and undulating country of the front becomes gradually merged into a sandy and sometimes stoney plain, generally about one mile in width, and remarkably level. This plain is bounded *always* on its northern limits by a “gravel ridge” composed of water-worn limestone pebbles,—similar to those upon the present beach.

It has its characteristic head-lands and bays,—but the width of the plain admits of change of direction without objectionable curvature. This “beach” crosses the “York” road between Newton and Newcastle, and sweeping north-westward traverses Darlington, Whitby and Pickering from two to three miles north of that road and descends to it again at the Rouge. Here it follows the road to the hill at the English Church in Scarboro, where it bears away to the south, and is lost in the lake opposite “Gate’s Inn.” It re-appears again at the “Six Mile Inn” and the “Painted Post” and again bears north-westerly passing in rear of Toronto.

The line runs upon this formation nearly forty miles.

There can be little doubt that this is the corresponding formation to what is known on the south side of the lake as the “Ridge Road,” between Lockport and Rochester,—upon which the sixty mile level of the Erie Canal is placed.