

THE SOURCES AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE GOLD-BEARING ALLUVIONS OF QUEBEC.

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The few remarks which I have to offer this evening, refer to the gold-bearing river gravels of south-eastern Quebec, in the Eastern Townships and County of Beauce. Alluvial gold has

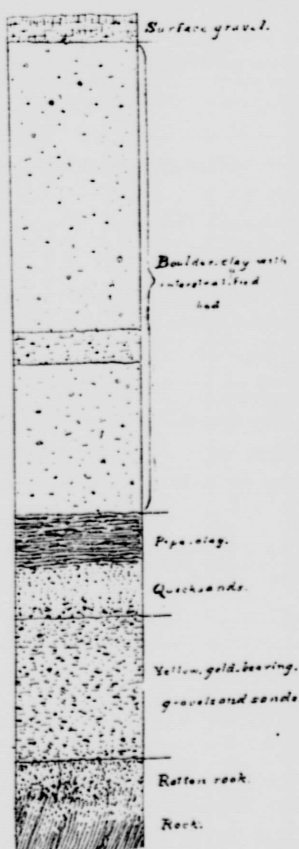


Fig. 1. General Section of the Gold-Bearing Deposits.

been found here in the valleys of the two principal rivers which drain the region, the Chaudière and the St. Francis. In the bottoms of the valleys along which these rivers and their tributaries flow, it occurs in scattered grains and nuggets in the gravels and sands and frequently in crevices in the underlying rocks. It is, however, most generally found in paying quantities in old river channels now partially or wholly filled with boulder-clay, these often being at a lower level than the present water-courses, and usually on one side or the other, though in the same valley. The general succession of the deposits in these river valleys is much the same throughout the region, and is as follows in descending order, (fig. 1) :

1. Surface gravel and sand, carrying fine gold in places.
2. Boulder-clay, including in some valleys, an interglacial deposit.
3. Stratified clay and sand, often in alternate beds ; "the pipe clay" and "quick-sands" of the miners.
4. Stratified gravels, usually rusty,

or oxidized, the materials belonging to local rocks. Gold-bearing, especially in lower strata. Gold often coarse.