

whilst between Oakville and Toronto, the rocks of the latter age appear at the surface of the country.

Those members of the Silurian formation which are exposed in the region under consideration belong to the Medina, Clinton, and Niagara epochs. The best localities for making geological examinations are at Thorold, Grimsby, Hamilton, Dundas, Limehouse Station (G.T.R.) and Rockwood. Nowhere in Eastern America are there better exposures of the various rocks of this age, though in some localities, especially in the Western States, the fossils are in a better state of preservation. However, in the above localities there is a very great difference in the preservation of the fossils found, and nearly 200 species of organisms can be procured from a limited number of localities. A considerable variation of texture is observed in the rocks in the different places, and although the number of species of animal remains is considerable, yet owing to the crystalline texture of the limestones, one is rewarded with meagre returns for his day's labor.

As we will see further on, the rocks under consideration are intermediate in character between those of the State of New York to the eastward, and those of Ohio to the westward, being more calcareous than their equivalents in the former State, and more argillaceous than those in the latter.

In the study of the various rocks of the Niagara group, I have examined the microscopical structure, and have made a number of chemical analyses. At the end of the present paper there will be found a catalogue of all the species of fossils in my own collection, with some few that have been obtained by others, but of which I have not been fortunate enough to obtain specimens. This will be found to be the fullest catalogue of Canadian fossils from the Niagara group yet published.

Again, a few minerals are procurable at various localities from cavities in the Niagara limestones, as well as mineral waters from several natural springs and artificial openings, all of which will be noticed in their proper places.

As no part of the Province affords a greater variety of interest to the student of geology than the region about the western end of Lake Ontario, I will endeavour to give a full but concise account of those features and objects of attraction that will assist the geological observer and student in the pursuit of this most attractive and useful study of Nature.