

Silliman's Journal, 1831, and in other publications, and have been cited in this report."

Of the work of other observers, we have, in 1827, valuable notes by Dr. J. Richardson, who accompanied one of the Franklin expeditions to the north coast of America. In 1837, Mr. J. Roy, of Toronto, presented a paper, the first of its kind, apparently, on the superficial geology of Western Canada, in which he estimated the subsidence, from the evidence of terraces, at about 1,000 feet below the present sea level. In 1840, also, Mr. Kenwood gave some very interesting facts on the geology of northern New Brunswick, discussing the distribution of the granites of that area, the extent of the great carboniferous basin, and the presence of fossiliferous sediments about the Bay of Chaleur. But perhaps the most important paper at the close of this period was that by Sir Charles Lyell, in 1843, on the recession of the Falls of Niagara, embodying the results of a careful study of the peculiar conditions there presented; a paper often quoted since by writers on the subject of denudation and the geological history of the great lakes. This was followed in the same year by the first paper of Sir William Logan on Canadian geology, in which he described the distribution of Laurentian boulders along the St. Lawrence below Montreal and the presence of marine shells in the clay in the vicinity of that city.

The papers above enumerated may, as already suggested, be regarded as constituting the first period in the history of Canadian geology.

Before proceeding to the consideration of the work of the second period, or that embraced by the work of the Geological Survey under Sir William Logan, we may briefly glance at the history of explorations carried on in the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to which provinces the regular working of the Survey was not extended till the year 1868. During the period between 1830-40, Dr. Abraham Gesner, a well known physician of Nova Scotia, and celebrated even at that date as an ardent enthusiast in the study of the science of geology, began the study of the rock formations of that province. The conclusions he arrived at, after some years' investigation of the subject, were, in 1836, presented to the public in a volume entitled "Notes on the Geology and Mineralogy of Nova Scotia," a book possessing much