

of light; the atmosphere moist, but exceedingly pure, even to the extent of our explorations, and a uniform temperature of about 45° Fahrenheit. The only organic remains so far discovered were those of the *Vulpes Vulgaris* or common fox, *Castor Fiber* (Lin) or Beaver, *Lutra Vulgaris* (Lin) or Otter, and a few drift shells. From the purity of atmosphere in the entire cave, the opinion formed from that fact is, that any accumulating carbonic acid is absorbed by water in some part of the unexplored portion of the cave, and it is not unlikely that parts already visited are only an entrance to vast labyrinths yet to be explored.

In the consideration of this cave, two points of enquiry are suggested: first, what proofs have we of subsidence and elevation of great portions of the earth's surface; and secondly, what facts can be adduced to substantiate the eroding action of water. In the formation of this *British North American Continent* there is nothing particular in either of these respects, nothing more in fact than has been observed in the shaping of continents of *transatlantic notoriety*. Stratified rocks were undoubtedly deposited originally as sediments under water, and owing to the organic remains which they contain the inference drawn is that they were deposited at the sea bottom. Such was exactly the case with the very strata on which this city rests and when that foundation was formed the "Great Silurian Age" flourished. Marvellous then must have been the condition of life, when there were few mountain tops elevated above the level of the vast ocean which covered this continent. As we gather shells, barnacles, starfishes and such like at the sea shore in our summer rambles, so we examine for the remains of molusks, radiates, crinoids, &c., &c., which flourished in the Silurian period of the world's history, in the strata of this neighborhood. From a consideration of these facts one of two things must have taken place, either *the land must have gone up or the sea must have gone down*. Of the latter we have so far no well defined instance, whereas of the former ample and wide-spread evidence exists, such as observed on the *Pacific coast* of South America, where, within