

the largest being Lake L'Achigan in the township of Kilkenny. Four rivers also cross it, namely the North River, the River L'Achigan, the Saint Esprit and the Lac Ouareau River.

The landscape of this Laurentian country is of a pronounced type which, while lacking on one hand the grandeur and sublimity of high mountain regions and on the other the tranquil beauty of the well cultivated lowlands, has a certain rugged beauty of its own, especially when clothed with the brightly coloured foliage of autumn.

The area is about equally divided between the rocks of the Laurentian system and intrusions of anorthosite which break through these.

The Laurentian consists of red and gray orthoclase gneisses, presenting great variations both in structure and composition, with which are associated crystalline limestones, quartzites and amphibolites. These rocks often occur in the form of bands or beds alternating with one another, but in some places the banding is replaced by a more or less distinct foliation due to a parallel arrangement of the individual grains of the various constituents which go to make up the rock. Both structures are often found in the same rock, and when thus occurring together they coincide in direction. In order that a purely objective attitude may be preserved, the term band, rather than bed, is employed in the present report, the latter term being usually associated with the idea of a sedimentary origin, which, however probable, for certain parts at least, of the present district, cannot be considered by any means as demonstrated for the system as a whole.

Two divisions.

In many other parts of the Laurentian, two divisions can be recognized in the system, namely, an upper series characterized by the presence of crystalline limestones, quartzites and gneisses, having the chemical composition of ordinary sediments as well as a preponderating banded structure, which is called the Grenville series, from a township of that name in the County of Argenteuil where it is well developed, and a lower series of gneisses much more monotonous and uniform in character, in which are no limestones, &c., and which possess a foliated rather than a banded structure. This latter series is known as the Fundamental Gneiss, and in many cases closely resembles igneous rocks.

Grenville series.

In the area at present under discussion the two series cannot be so clearly distinguished. Certain parts of the area can be recognized as belonging to the Grenville series, as, for instance, the extreme easterly portion lying to the south of Rawdon and the westerly portion in the St. Sauveur district. Other portions, as much of the St. Jérôme

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