

were the shore line of the pre-Cambrian Keweenaw sea. What the eastern boundaries of this sea were, we do not now know.

but the inference, from what is known of the Archean of the Appalachian system, is that portions of the latter were above the ocean during the deposition of the Keweenaw system.

The traces we now have of this Keweenaw land point to its extension from the Lake Superior region south to Central Texas and westward to Central Northern Arizona. A glance at the map (fig. 8) shows how far apart the relatively small exposures are; but, the great similarity of the sections and their position in relation to the Upper Cambrian that rests on the eroded surface of each visible area, points to a wide spread orographic movement that raised the entire central portion of the Continent and again depressed it at the termination of the period of erosion preceding the deposition of the Upper Cambrian or Potsdam sediments of the Upper Mississippi Valley, Central Texas and Arizona.

The existence of such a land over the area mentioned, is shown by the sections we now know; and I think that, when the areas of Cambrian and Archean rocks in Missouri and also along the Southern Appalachian chain come to be studied with the view that such a land existed during the period of the deposition of the earlier deposits of the Cambrian system, evidence will be forthcoming to show its former presence over a large area. On the north it probably joined the Archean continent and thus gave a greater extension of the pre-Cambrian continent to the south that, during the early history of the Cambrian period, furnished more or less of the sediments of

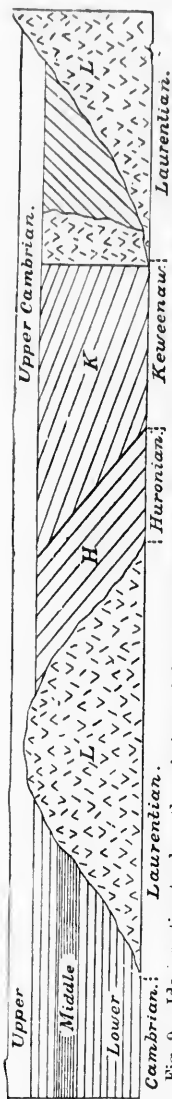


Fig. 9.—Ideal section to show the relations of the Upper Cambrian (Potsdam) strata to the old Keweenaw land. The Middle and Lower Cambrian strata are shown resting against the slope of the old Keweenaw continent, and the Upper Cambrian extending over it. The section is diagrammatic, but may give the views of the writer to the reader more clearly than the description in the text.