

Gesner thought he found Tertiary deposits in certain places along the coast, but as these contain marine shells, all of living species, it is evident they are of later date than he supposed, and should be referred to the Quarternary age.

Though Gesner outlined correctly in a general way the geology of the Maritime Provinces, his work cannot be accepted in all its details, as his methods were not sufficiently exact for modern requirements, and notably, in the department of Paleontology. We should, however, in estimating its value, bear in mind the difficulties he had to encounter, and the short time at his disposal for the exploration of a province mostly covered with forest, with few exposures, except on rapid streams, and along the coast, and with means of transportation imperfect and tediously slow. We should rather wonder that under these circumstances he was able to accomplish so much, and to inspire an enthusiasm for geology which has borne fruit until the present day.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

The Gesner Museum. A Corresponding Member of the Natural History Society, Henry F. Perley, C. E., writes to me to say that he remembers well the formation of the Gesner Museum, and how it expanded until it out-grew the house,* and quarters had to be taken for it in the upper story of a building on Prince William Street, near where McMillan's bookstore now is. Mr. Perley remembers, as a very little boy, attending a course of lectures given by Dr. Gesner in 1841, in a building just south of the corner of Germain and King Street ("Foster's Corner").

Dr. Gesner involved himself in considerable expense in collecting and arranging his museum, and it was sold to a company of gentlemen in St. John, who deposited it in the Mechanics' Institute (then a new building) on certain conditions and with reservation of rights to have it open to the public. Many of the owners gave in their shares to the Institute, and this institution came in time to be considered the owners. When this body was dissolved, the Gesner Museum with the collections which the Institute had added to it, was purchased by the Natural History Society of New Brunswick, and added to their museum.

* Where Dr. Gesner lived, near the corner of Coburg and Hazen Street.