

also helps to explain the rubbing away of the rocks by glaciers streaming slowly down the mountain sides, as well as the carrying of rocks from the coast of Labrador to be dropped over the sea bottom where Prince Edward Island now rises, as well as on Nova Scotian land. It also indicates how some of the minerals from the Blomidon range should be found scattered over the province in a broad band out to the Atlantic coast. In many places these masses of gravels and boulder clays were cemented into loose conglomerates, or even rock. Sometimes they filled old ravines gouged out of the solid rock by the action of glaciers which appeared to have vanished, only to be succeeded by another glacial age when only a portion of the old valley was scooped out, the later ravine to be filled in with a different gravel of another retreating glacial period. But even in this age there were times and places where forests were growing, for the huge American mastodon was at some portion of this period browsing in the woods of Cape Breton, before he lay down to die in the valley of the Middle River near Baddeck. One of his thigh bones wanting only an inch of four feet is now in the Provincial Museum at Halifax.

THE TRIASSIC.

Going another great step back in time we come to the rock which could not be rolled around and mixed up again and again, now by river action, now by sea, and now by glacier; and we find the province lying lower in the water than it is now, but practically of the same general form, although an island. The Bay of Fundy opened clear into the gulf, and the arms of the Minas Basin extended wider east and west from the Salmon River to Annapolis Basin. On its bottom was deposited the red sandstone material which was later raised up above the water and again mostly worn down by the action of stream and river and open gulf water until on the Northumberland Strait the soft deposit was washed away, leaving the red sandstone only on the elevated bank which became Prince Edward Island. It was during this time the shrinking earth crust cracked along the North Mountain range and belched forth the volcanic ash and lava forming the so-called trap of to-day. This was the last of the volcanic eruptions which convulsed the foundations of the province so often before.

THE CARBONIFEROUS.

Many milleniums before this last period the whole province was lower still in the water. The whole coast line from Cumberland to