

ing rocks, and that their steeper sides are turned to the west. They are wholly composed of drift, in some instances made up to a large extent of boulders, and presenting the aspect of lateral moraines; in others, largely composed of gravel and sand, forming veritable kames or horsebacks. Apart from these ridges, which rise somewhat prominently above the general level of the country, and which are often of very considerable length, there are also some remarkable contrasts in the ordinary depth and distribution of the drift covering. Over certain belts, having an east and west course, the boulders, often of enormous size, are so thickly and so widely scattered that little else is seen; in other and parallel belts, on the other hand, the underlying rocks are barely covered with soil or are wholly denuded. The former feature is most common in connection with the so-called "whin" belts, and is well exhibited about Ponhook and Molega Lakes; the latter when the underlying rocks are slates. It is however over the slate belts that the best soils and farming lands are to be found, the whin and granite country being for the most part indescribably barren.

The character and distribution of the drift, partly in north and south hills and partly in east and west belts, some of which may have been terminal or frontal moraines, have been the chief determining causes in the formation of the remarkable system of lakes to which reference has already been made. Within the two counties under consideration the number of these lakes is certainly not less than one hundred, besides innumerable lakelets and ponds. Though not confined to any particular region they are most abundant, as well as of the largest size, in connection with the belts of whin and granite, Lake Ponhook, Molega Lake, the Christopher Lakes and Lake Rossignol being all situated in the former, while Pleasant Lake, Tupper Lake and others, either border or are included within areas of the latter. They are often also in groups or belts, as well illustrated in the Christopher Lakes, occupying east and west depressions. In most cases the lakes contain numerous islands which are often only piles of boulders, and scattered blocks, often of huge dimensions, help to make their navigation somewhat difficult and danger-