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(Concluded.)

We may also note a fact which I have long ago insisted on,¹ the regular pulsation of the continental areas, giving us alternations in each great system of formations of deep-sea and shallow-water beds, so that the successive groups of formations may be divided into triplets of shallow-water, deep-water, and shallow-water strata, alternating in each period. This law of succession applies more particularly to the formations of the continental plateaus, rather than to those of the ocean margins, and it shows that, intervening between the great movements of plication, there were subsidences of those plateaus, or elevations of the sea bottom, which allowed

¹ *Acadian Geology*, 1865.