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ARTICLE I.

EOZOON AND OTHER LOW ORGANISMS IN LAURENTIAN ROCKS AT ST. JOHN.

BY G. F. MATTHEW, M. A., F. R. S. C.

(Read 7th October, 1890.)

One of the earlier results of the deological Survey of Canada was the discovery and description of that lowly organism, *Eozoon Canadense*, a creature so obscure in its relations, and so far removed from any modern animal with which it may be compared, that it has formed the theme of controversy for more than a decade.

Outside of the earlier observations and studies on the subject, undertaken by Sir Wm. Logan, Sir Wm. Dawson, and Dr. Hunt, very little has been done by Canadians to add to the range of our knowledge of this interesting organism.

Sir Wm. Dawson has had to maintain almost singlehanded, so far as America is concerned, the controversy in favor of the animal nature of Eozoon; while the opposition to his views has been strenuous, and has been carried on by several leading scientists both in Europe and America. So strong has been the objection taken to his explanation of the nature of Eozoon, that a large majority of the American geologists, whose opinion on this subject was sought, gave their verdict against it.

Any new observations on this subject, therefore, cannot but be of interest to all who give any attention to the historical branch of geology.

The earliest knowledge of the occurrence of Eozoon in the neighborhood of St. John was obtained many years ago, when the writer collected and forwarded to Sir Wm. Dawson, pieces of the li serpentin fragmen

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