rocks in the regions of the western lakes, of the plains of Ontario and Quebec, and of the eastern slope, are not likely to be identical in mineral character. Farther, that even in the central of these three regions we may expect differences in approaching certain parts of the older rocks. At Murray Bay, for example, on the border of the Laurentian, we find the Black River limestones in great part represented by coarse sandstones, and we find similar changes in the Chazy near Grenville. A third suggestion is, that in order to understand the eastern members of the Lower Silurian, it is necessary to be acquainted with the contemporaneous igneous ejections mixed with these rocks, and if possible to distinguish them from those of similar character so largely present in the Huronian. This I have attempted, though with only partial success, to effect for the Acadian Provinces. Another, to which Dr. Hunt has directed attention in his recent report in connection with the Survey of Pennsylvania, is the importance of inquiry as to which of the many successive movements and plications of the earth's crust occurring in palæozoic time, have most seriously affected the now so greatly plicated and disturbed rocks of the Quebec group. Still another, and one of the most important, is the study of the various kinds of alteration which these rocks have undergone. We have in eastern Canada rocks as young as the Devonian which have been sensibly affected in this way, and there can be no doubt that large areas of the Quebec group have suffered similar changes, and that on the one hand it is possible that these metamorphosed portions have been confounded with older series, or that on the other these older series have been inadvertently mixed with them.

The value to be attached to fossils is another point of much importance. Long experience has convinced me that in the Cambrian and Silurian ages this kind of evidence is the most conclusive of all; but then it must be rightly understood. As already observed, we must discriminate the animals characteristic of the cold Atlantic waters loaded with Arctic sediment, from those of the sheltered continental plateau. We must also bear in mind that oceanic and probably floating forms of low grade, like the Graptolites, have an enormous range in time, as compared, for example, with the Trilobites, and the same remark applies to some mollusks proper to sandy or muddy bottoms, like the Lingulae and their allies, as compared with other mollusca.

All these precautions must be taken in the study of these