

sarily have to be post-Cretaceous in age. The fact that the valleys have survived to the present probably favours the assumption that they were formed during the period immediately preceding the Pleistocene, possibly, as suggested by Spencer, during a pre-Glacial uplift of the plateau.

*Overdeepening of the Timiskaming Trench.*

It was concluded in the previous discussion of the age of the line valleys that they were pre-Glacial in their origin. From this, it would follow presumably that they had been carved out, in the main, by the normal process of stream erosion. Valleys formed in this way, however, have graded bottoms, whereas the Timiskaming trench is apparently cut off by a rock barrier in the lower part of its course.

The Timiskaming trench proper extends from the north end of lake Timiskaming to the village of Mattawa, Ontario, a distance of about 100 miles, and is occupied by lake Timiskaming in only its upper part. Between the lower end of lake Timiskaming and Mattawa there is an interval about 35 miles in length, in which numerous rapids occur, the first of which, known as the Long Sault, is 6 miles in length, and connects lake Timiskaming with a long stretch of almost currentless water, about 16 miles long, called Seven League lake. Between Seven League lake and Mattawa there are three abrupt descents in the water course known as Mountain, Les Erable, and Cave rapids respectively. Of the lakes occupying the depression, Timiskaming has a surface elevation of approximately 580 feet above sea-level, and a maximum depth of 400 feet,<sup>1</sup> while Seven League lake has a surface elevation of approximately 530 feet and a maximum depth of 397 feet<sup>2</sup>—that is the bottom of lake Timiskaming has an elevation of 110 and the bottom of Seven League lake an elevation of 137 feet above sea-level. These elevations are probably considerably higher than the actual elevation of the rock bottom of the trench, however, for it has been partly filled both by post-Glacial lacustrine clay and by glacial drift. The obstruction which separates lake Timiskaming from Seven League lake and over which the Long Sault rapids<sup>3</sup> descend is composed of glacial drift so that the trench in reality maintains its great depth continuously from lake Timiskaming to Seven League lake. The barrier below Seven League lake, on the other hand, apparently consists of solid rock, the river descending "through a narrow channel, obstructed by rocky reefs and islets."<sup>4</sup> Since the elevation of the bedrock surface at Mountain rapids is about 425 feet

<sup>1</sup> Barlow, A. E., Geol. Surv., Can., Ann. Rept., vol. X, pt. 1, 1897, p. 165.

<sup>2</sup> Guérin, Thos., Ann. Rept., Minister of Public Works, Canada, 1884-85, pp. 106-107.

<sup>3</sup> Rep. of Prog., Ottawa River Storage, Dept. of Pub. Works, 1909-10, p. 85.

<sup>4</sup> Barlow, A. E., Geol. Surv., Can., Ann. Rept., vol. X, pt. 1, 1897, p. 170.