

talks, I will give you a fair and simple explanation of the famous theory of Evolution.

But what are *Crustaceans*? Aquatic animals covered by a crust which is composed of a series of segments or rings joined by their edges; and having more than eight feet. Of these, Lobsters and Crawfishes are examples. And what are those Trilobites? They are crustaceans in which the body is divided lengthwise by two grooves, into three lobes—the axis running along the middle, and a lateral lobe each side. The Trilobites were very ancient animals. I say “were,” because the last of them perished millions of years ago, during the progress of the Carboniferous Age. Here are the tombs of their remotest ancestors. Here lie their forms imbedded in these primordial sandstones and slates.

Let me explain about these sandstones and slates. At Potsdam, in northern New York, and throughout that vicinity, a gray sandstone lies at the surface—the same as referred to in Talk XIX. It stretches across the St. Lawrence River, and north-eastward along its valley. It encircles the Adirondack highlands. This is the Potsdam Sandstone. Westward it stretches through Canada to the Sault Ste. Marie, and along the south shore of Lake Superior to Keweenaw Point. The “Pictured Rocks” are part of it. Southward from this shore it disappears under the Trenton Limestone. It is the Potsdam Sandstone which forms the lower portion of the high cliffs along the Upper Mississippi River. It is in this sandstone that multitudes of these ancestral Trilobites lie packed away. They have had a hard time, however. They are all in pieces, and it is difficult to get sufficient pieces together to describe any one of the species. The sands from which this sandstone was formed must have beaten to and fro in shallow water, or along some beach for many years. These trilobites are but a few inches in length.

Besides Trilobites, we find in the Potsdam Sandstone, many remains of little bivalve shells called *Lin'gula*. This is a genus of Brachiopods, a low class of Molluscs. The name signifies a “little tongue,” referring to the shape. This is a remarkable