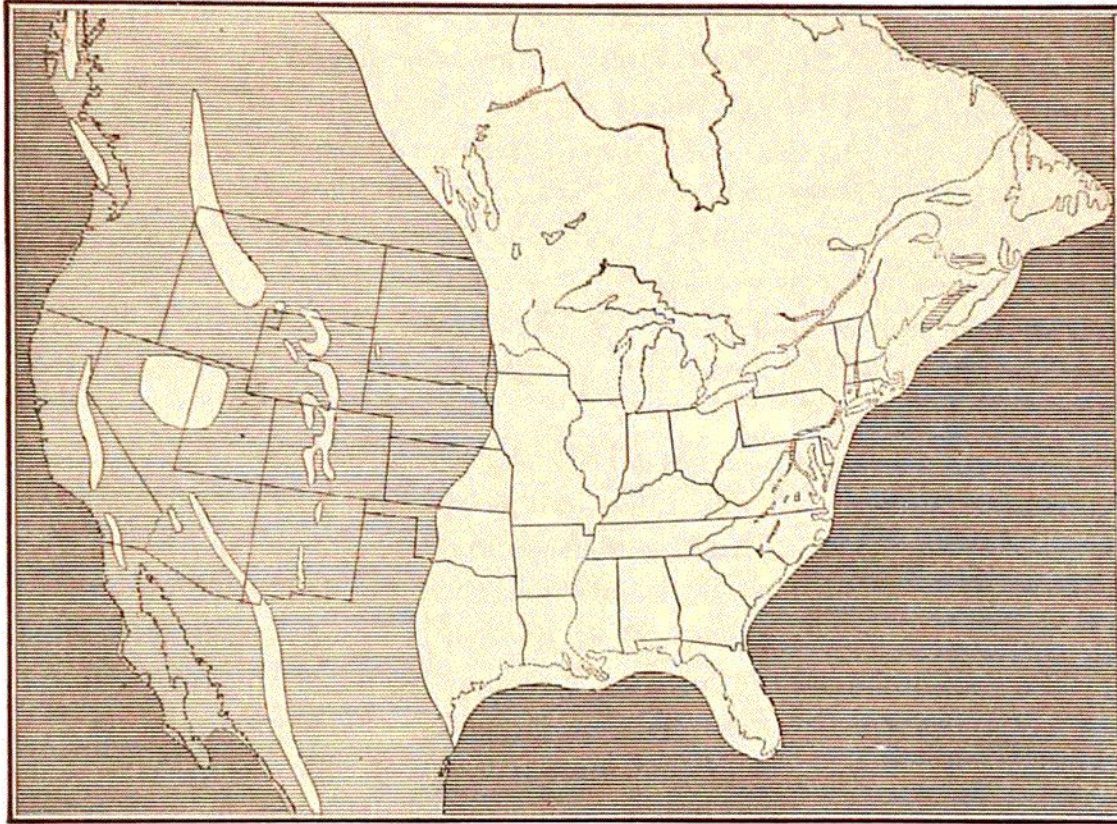


Nearly all the western half of the continent was still a sea of varying depth, with perhaps its widespread sand flats. Only one large dry-land addition to the western part of the continental area is known to have taken place; it occupied, as shown by King, a portion of the Great Basin, over what is now eastern and central Nevada, having the meridian of $117\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. near its western limit. The western semi-continent was yet to be supplied with thick rock-formations and with its grander mountains; and veins of gold, silver, and other metals were to be formed, and coal-beds to be accumulated, before finally the emergence of "the Great West" from the waters was completed.

1155.



Map of North America after the Appalachian Revolution.

Disappearance of life. — The disappearance of life at the close of Paleozoic time was so general and extensive that no Carboniferous species is known to occur among the fossils of succeeding beds, not only in America and Europe, but also over the rest of the world. The fact is learned better from Europe than from America; for in Europe remains of marine life occur in beds representing the early part of the following period, while in America, the first marine fossil known from the Atlantic border is of the Cretaceous period. A large part of the old tribes of the sea and land continues on, species having survived through the time of catastrophe; and yet their species did not find burial among later fossils. Many underwent modifications and appear later under new forms, and thereby as new species. The Cycads and Yews were among the tribes of plants which were continued and increased to a later culmination. Some of the Corals of the Paleozoic belong to the