

G. W. Featherstonhaugh (1780-1866), who was appointed "United States Geologist," was employed in making various surveys for the Government, and collected a large amount of material towards the construction of a better geological map of the whole country. Born in France and well acquainted with the rocks of Europe, he was able to institute a closer and more correct parallel between these rocks and their American equivalents than had previously been attempted. Another early pioneer in the geology of the United States was Lardner Vanuxem (1792-1848) whose work on the geological survey of the State of New York deserves special recognition. As one of his important services he corrected the error of taking an inclined position as any reliable indication of the relative age of rocks, and insisted on the paramount importance of identifying strata by the organic remains contained in them. Following this principle, he was able to declare that the Transition rocks of Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee were shown by their fossils to be of the same age as those at Trenton Falls in New York, and all of them equivalents of some of the Transition rocks of Europe wherein the same fossils had been found.

Later than these early leaders came the group of distinguished men who, by their researches and surveys in Pennsylvania, not only added a series of admirable maps to geological literature, but enriched the science with suggestive memoirs on mountain structure—William Barton Rogers (1804-1882), Henry Darwin Rogers (1808-1866), and J. P. Lesley (1819-1903). Most of the other States of the American Union have