

no stomach, no liver, no heart, no breathing organ, no head, no feet—in short, this animal is destitute of organs, except as it employs the whole body for every purpose. Whenever it seizes its food it extemporizes an arm for the work. Whenever it eats it must extemporize a mouth. Whenever it digests it must extemporize a stomach. It seizes, it eats, it digests, it breathes with the whole body. There are few animals, indeed, so utterly destitute of differentiation of the parts of the body. There is not the least division of labor. It symbolizes primeval society, in which every man does every thing that is done in the community.

Our Laurentian protozoan was as poorly furnished and as badly organized a being as this. But he possessed great advantages in point of size, and was, moreover, furnished with a stony armor—a wise provision, as one would think, for a creature that must buffet the storms which pulverized mountains, and defy the chemistry that dissolved granite. It only remains to effect the formal introduction to the reader. His name is *Eozoön Canadense*. [See Appendix, Note II.]

I said that the burial-place of this most venerable denizen of our planet was among the Laurentian rocks of Canada. Strange as it may appear, no vestige of animal organization has as yet been found among the overlying Huronian strata. It can not be doubted that life still continued upon the earth. It is possible that some of the most ancient forms of the Old World flourished during this age. Indeed, they herald the name of an Eozöon from Bohemia, and still another from the Emerald Isle. It seems certain that the latter had no contemporary and no rival for supremacy. He certainly was the first of the Fenians. But in America, so far as actual discovery goes, life touched the earth at a single point, and vanished again from view. This dawn of animal life was like the first gleam of sun-