

tilted position (Fig. 19). We know that it took place *before* the deposition of the next series of strata, because



Fig. 19. Disturbed condition of Eozoic Strata.

a. Eozoic strata, tilted and contorted by disturbances occurring before the deposition of the Paleozoic strata, b, c, d. e, e, e. Faults or dislocations of Eozoic and Paleozoic strata, evidently of later date than the contortions of a.

these strata were not tilted by the upheaval, but continue to present their horizontal edges against the inclined faces of the eozoic beds. Thus the precise relative period of this upheaval is fixed.

Consider the geography of the North American continent at this date. An angular ridge of land (Fig. 20) is all that



Fig. 20. The Germ of the North American Continent.  
a, a. The two branches of the continent. b, b. Islands. (The modern continent is indicated by dotted lines, the rivers by broken lines.)