the diligence and learning of Dr. J. W. Dawson, of M'Gill College, Montreal. How sparse and desolate must have been those forests! No voice of animated nature was yet heard among those scattered pigmy trees. They are arborescent ferns and lycopodiums—a new idea incorporated in vegetal existence—but how prophetic of that which is to come! Nature always issues her bulletins. We stand now in an age of the world which antedates the advent of all our familiar forms, and read the announcement of the coming riches of the Carboniferous era. A stranded log of drift-wood becomes eloquent in the utterance of prophetic truth.

Another age passed which the scientific world hesitates to attach to the future or the past. Is it Devonian or Carboniferous? Throughout the West the sediments of this age gave rise to a noticeable formation which has been styled the Marshall group, because the characteristic rocks and fossils of the period may be studied at Marshall, in This is the rock so extensively worked in the Michigan. vicinity of Cleveland, and at Waverly, Ohio. It furnishes the excellent grindstones of Berea, and those known as Huron grindstones in Michigan. It is the greenish or reddish-yellow sandstone occurring in Southern Michigan, and trending northward into the bight of the coast which separates Saginaw Bay from Lake Huron. It underlies the limestone bluff at Burlington, in Iowa, and makes itself known at numerous localities throughout the northwestern In New York, it is perhaps the formation correstates. sponding to this which caps the Catskill Mountains, and has hence been styled the Catskill group. It covers a large area in Northeastern Pennsylvania. In this formation, throughout its wide extent, are found the scales and teeth of fishes, which recall the relics studied by Hugh Miller in the quarries of Cromarty, and hence we have been inclined

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