

of any system. There is always a great limestone formation from the middle to the upper part of the system—not always extending to the top of it—and this is generally quite conspicuous, in consequence of its solidity and prominence and great usefulness. The great central limestone mass of a system may be traced through all the windings of its outcrop, by a line of quarries and cliffs and rocky ridges. If you can say where this conspicuous central limestone belt is located, you can at once understand that the older strata of the system must lie on the side from which the limestone dips, and the newer strata must lie on the side toward which the limestone dips. Now, the great limestone mass of the Devonian is the Corniferous Limestone. Throughout the west, the overlying Hamilton formation is also a limestone, though mostly shaly at the east. The limestone mass, therefore, from Ohio westward, is Corniferous-Hamilton. Some of the points where the Devonian limestone mass rises conspicuously are the following: Syracuse, Leroy, Caledonia, Buffalo, Ingersoll, London, Sandusky, Kelly's Island, Columbus, Monroe, Alpena, Mackinac, Petoskey, Rock Island, Iowa City, Louisville. At all these points we find a limestone of nearly the same age, containing generally an abundance of marine fossils. The corals are very conspicuous, and at the Falls of the Ohio, and the head of Little Traverse Bay, appear to have been gathered together in literal reefs. The former locality and its vicinity has been a favorite collecting ground for many years, and geologists are still, almost weekly discovering new species. The latter locality is close by the new and favorite summer resorts known as Bay View or Petoskey and Charlevoix.

At Petoskey and vicinity occur those exquisite coral masses which are so extensively polished and sold to summer tourists. The masses range from the size of a hickory nut to that of a man's head; but the most common are of the size of the fist. They are shaped somewhat like cakes made in "patty pans." The upper surface is covered with six-sided cells about a quarter of an inch in diameter. A delicately crenulated wall runs around each cell. In the middle of the cell appears to