

Laramie with the Upper Cretaceous of Vancouver Island and the Faxoe and Maestricht beds of Europe, while he regards the Upper Laramie as equivalent to European Eocene. Except in so far as the equivalence of the Lower Laramie and Vancouver Island beds is concerned, this corresponds very nearly with the conclusions of the writer in a paper published last year*—namely, that we must either regard the Laramie as a transition Cretaceous-Eocene group, or must institute our line of separation in the Willow Creek or Middle Laramie division, which has, however, as yet afforded no fossil plants. I doubt, however, the equivalence of the Vancouver beds and the Lower Laramie, except perhaps in so far as the upper member of the former is concerned. I have also to observe that in the latest report of Mr. Lesquereux he still seems to retain in the Miocene certain formations in the West, which from their fossil plants I should be inclined to regard as Eocene.†

Two ferns occurring in these beds are remarkable as evidence of the persistence of species, and of the peculiarities of their ancient and modern distribution. *Onoclea sensibilis*, the very common sensitive fern of eastern America, is extremely abundant in the Laramie beds over a great area in the West. Mr. Starkie Gardner and Dr. Newberry have also shown that it is identical with the *Filicites Hebridicus* of Forbes, from the early Eocene beds of the Island of Mull, in Scotland. Thus we have a species once common to Europe and America, but now restricted to the latter, and which has continued to exist over all the vast ages between the Cretaceous and the present day. In the Laramie beds I have found asso-

* "Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada," vol. ii.

† While these sheets were going through the press I received a very valuable report of Mr. Lester F. Ward upon the Laramie of the United States. I have merely had time to glance at this report, but can see that the views of the author agree closely with those above expressed.