



Agassiz, first at Neufchâtel, in 1841, in a *Discours sur la Succession et le Développement des Êtres organisés*, and later in his *Principles of Zoölogy*, 1848, distinguished Paleozoic time, as that of the Reign of Fishes ("le Règne des Poissons"); Mesozoic time, as that of the Reign of Reptiles; and Cenozoic time, as that of the Reign of Mammals.

Inferior Subdivisions. — The subdivisions under the eras, — the periods, and epochs, — vary, as has been stated, in different countries. The table (Fig. 352) presents a general view of those of eastern North America, so far as the Paleozoic is concerned, — the Silurian, Devonian, and Carbonic being well represented on the continent. The rest of the series (Fig. 353) is partly from European geology, where the system is well represented.

In this Manual, American geology is in general first considered; and afterward such further illustrations are drawn from other continents as are necessary for comprehensive views and generalizations.

The subdivisions, as the table shows, are named, for the most part, from the locality or region where the rocks are well displayed. Owing to conditions explained beyond, the subdivisions of the American Paleozoic series are