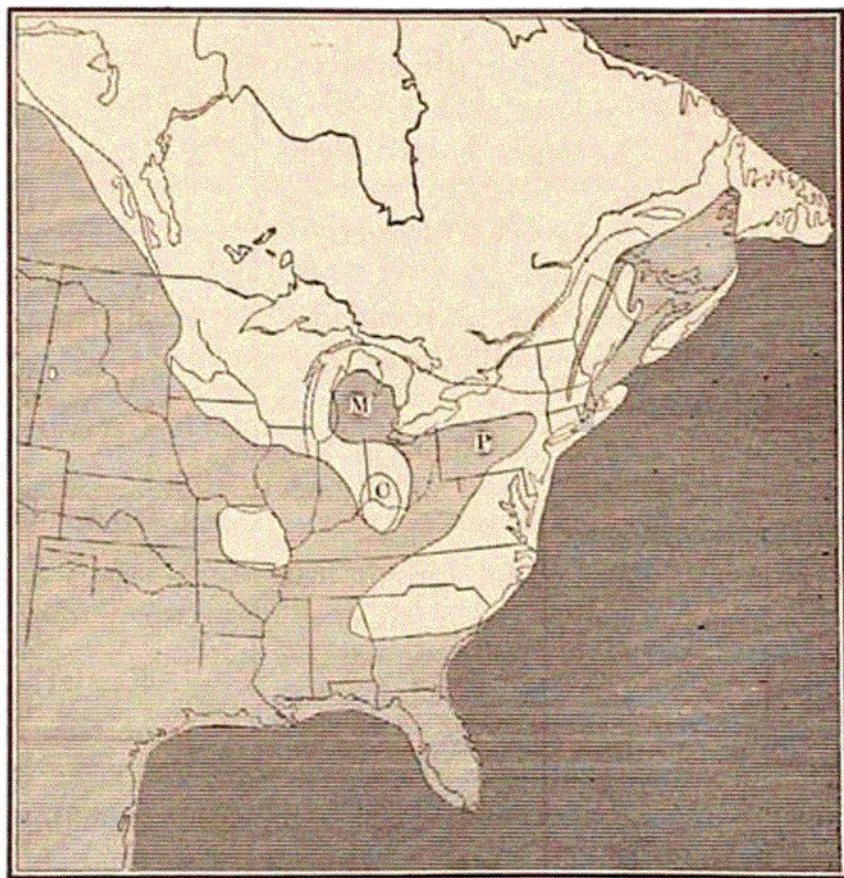


## NORTH AMERICA.

## TOPOGRAPHY.

The topography of the continent at the commencement of this era is approximately represented on the accompanying map, Fig. 990, on which the dotted lines over the surface, marking river courses, outlines of lakes, etc., are to be taken only as indicating positions. The chief change since the commencement of the Upper Silurian (page 536) is in the eastern portion — or that of the Eastern Interior or Great Northeast Bay, which, at the opening of the coal era, was a complete bay in outline, reaching northeastward to the

990.



Map of part of North America at the commencement of the Carbonic era.

boundary of northeast Pennsylvania. It was in fact a double-headed bay, a branch passing northwestward from the Pennsylvania portion or bay (*P*), over Michigan, and making thereby a Michigan Bay (*M*). The Cincinnati Island (*C*) became part of the mainland, while the Tennessee was submerged. In addition, the Connecticut valley trough and the St. Lawrence valley trough were probably above the reach of salt water, or, at least, were not subsiding troughs, for no Carboniferous rocks occur within them; they were probably the courses of fresh-water streams. But the Gaspé-Worcester trough must have been an open channel, southward to Worcester at least, and the Acadian trough, from western Newfoundland to Narragansett Bay, was a still larger