

University of the State of New York

New York State Museum

JOHN M. CLARKE State Paleontologist

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REPORT OF THE STATE PALEONTOLOGIST 1903

To the Regents of the University of the State of New York

I have the honor to report herewith on the work of this department during the year commencing Oct. 1, 1902.

Operations in the field 1902-3

Stratigraphic survey of the Schoharie region. The earliest stratigraphic determinations in New York based on a careful collation of paleontologic evidence were made in the valley of the Schoharie creek and the region immediately about Schoharie Court House by two generations of the Gebhard family. The formations along the creek south of Esperance are exposed to extraordinary advantage and their richness in organic remains, combined with the eager zeal for the study of nature possessed by the Gebhards, father and son, led to the appointment of John Gebhard jr as assistant on the original geological survey because of his familiarity with the geology and the contents of the rocks in this portion of the first district, then assigned to the charge of Lieutenant Mather. The outcome of this early study of the rocks in the Schoharie valley has made itself effective in the paleontology of New York in many ways. When Professor Hall came to study the paleontology of the formations there represented, he found it imperative for him to rely chiefly for his subject-matter on the extraordinarily fine and complete Gebhard collections. The account given by him of the species of the Lower Helderberg and Oriskany faunas, which constitutes volume 3 of the *Palaeontology of New York*, was so largely derived from these collections that it was deemed wise by the museum to