

markings have not been observed before either independently or in connection with these trails. Twenty-six of these oval scars are shown on the slab. Logan, Hall and other writers on such markings have generally regarded them as made by large trilobites and the undulated crossbars as caused by the oscillating ventral appendages of these animals in crawling over the long exposures of the sand beach at ebb tide. Professor Woodworth, however, believes that they were produced by a worm or large univalve mollusk and has given an account of some experiments made by himself to demonstrate that the markings must have been caused by a single rather than a multiple opposing surface, by the successive undulations of the gastropod foot rather than by the multiple impression of a trilobite's legs. We know in fact neither the remains of a trilobite nor of a gastropod mollusk in these rocks large enough to make such trails. Either may have been present and like the reptiles whose tracks are found by thousands in the Triassic sandstones of the Connecticut valley, have left no other evidence of itself. From theoretic considerations a crawling patelloid gastropod of commanding dimensions would have well fitted the marine fauna of these ancient Cambrian times.

This remarkable display of these ancient trails on the sands of the primordial beach which skirted the primitive continent, now the crystalline nucleus of the Adirondack mountains, had been known to the countryside for many years but public attention was drawn to it first by the publication referred to. A singular bit of folklore has grown up about the trails as successive generations of settlers have wondered at their nature. I have been seriously informed by a venerable village philosopher that here was the very spot where Christ, in accordance with Pentateuchal prophecy, trod on the Serpent's head, and this interpretation seemed generally accepted in some considerable portion of the community as the true meaning of the trails. The oval scars well simulate the print of the human foot lying at or across the end of the serpentine trails.

The location of so striking a display of these trails afforded us an opportunity for securing them for the museum. Accordingly an agreement was entered into with the owner, Mr Palmer, in the form