

PERCÉ

A brief sketch of its geology

BY JOHN M. CLARKE

In seeking the solution of some problems pertaining to the distribution of the ancient faunas of New York, and the nature and extent of the old land barriers and sea channels, one follows only a blind lead if respect is had alone to such evidence as is found within our own political boundaries. In the conservation of the factors necessary to the reconstitution of these early stages in our history, nature has been kind to New York and in the quality of fulness her ancient faunas are not often excelled, but within these confines is but a part of the story; now and again a stage has been skipped here which is recorded elsewhere, or a phase is but obscurely presented in the panorama of New York events which in neighboring territories is portrayed with lucid cogency.

Much of interest lies in the time and mode of introduction into New York of the earliest faunas of the Devonian age. Here they are represented in various degrees of effectiveness and profusion, and for the most part follow with little evidence of interruption on those of the great Silurian age preceding. The pathway of movement of these faunas along the old continental border lies to the northeast and to the southwest, and the labors of our predecessors and colleagues in the latter region have thrown much light on their distribution and travels through what is now the region of the Appalachian mountains but what was then off the coast or along the water ways of the ancient continent termed *Appalachia*.

Seeking such clues to the northeast led us a few years ago into the county of Gaspé, province of Quebec, and the region just north of Gaspé bay, and likewise to the exposures about Dalhousie N. B. at the head of the Bay of Chaleurs, places where unequalled opportunity is afforded for the study of some of the New York faunas