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ANCIENT WATER LEVELS OF THE CHAMPLAIN AND HUDSON VALLEYS

PREFACE

Several years ago a preliminary study of the Hudson-Champlain valley excited my interest in the historic problems involved in its Quaternary geology. The contributions published at that time were recognized as a very imperfect presentation of the subject and the importance of more extended and detailed investigation was strongly felt. Therefore, as soon as an opportunity was afforded in the service of the State, the aid of an expert in Pleistocene geology was invoked to take up the inquiry in detail and carry it to a conclusion. We had the good fortune to secure the services of Prof. J. B. Woodworth of Harvard University and he has carried out this plan with thoroughness while Dr. G. K. Gilbert has kindly given the use of his notes, based on several seasons of work in the St Lawrence valley. The following report is, therefore, a summary of Professor Woodworth's results obtained from 1900 to 1903, prepared after extended consultation with Mr Gilbert. While much thorough work has been done, the area is so vast and the details so complex that the report can not be regarded as final, specially many details of evidence lie beyond the national boundary. It is, however, certain that many important observations have been made, the conclusions from which constitute a substantial addition to our knowledge of Pleistocene geology.

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