

ward at the brink of the gorge is now 200 feet. The surfaces rise northwestward to an elevation of about 350 feet near Schenectady. Between Schenectady and Albany the surface is mantled with extensive dunes of fine sand whose elevation rises to 400 feet, causing a postglacial elevation of the surface in this district by accumulation at the expense of the elevation of the deposit farther west near Schenectady. The Mohawk river now flows on the north of this delta. As will be noted in the account of the region north of the river the delta appears not to have been deposited in that district for the reason that it was covered by ice at the time the delta was building.

The present course of the Mohawk from Schenectady eastward is in a rock gorge separated, along the northern border of the town of Niskayuna, from the delta plain by till-covered ground rising above the delta level. At Alplaus<sup>1</sup> the Ballston channel extends to the north and east. The history of this network of drainage lines including the Ballston channel, and the Round lake drainage, has not been fully investigated. It seems clear however that the Mohawk delta began to make when the retreat of the ice sheet opened a passageway along the area covered by this deposit, and that the waters coming through the Mohawk valley pursued this course while the delta was building. At a later time when the ice melted away from the northern border of Niskayuna it left a tract at a lower level than the surface of the delta on the south and the river naturally began to flow along the course it now pursues below Schenectady.

It is difficult to fix any definite water level by the present elevation of the Mohawk delta. Certainly its lower clayey border near the Hudson river was under water during the stage of deposition. Presumably its upper stretches were not under water except in floods.

From a comparison of the neighboring evidences of shore lines indicated by small deltas and the upper limit of clays, I have hesitated to place the average water level above 320 feet.

**Summary of the Newburg and related stages.** Though the western border of the glacier which lay in the middle Hudson valley between Albany and Newburg has not been definitely

<sup>1</sup>This is the present corrupted spelling of the place originally called Aalplaatz—a good place for eels.