

the Mohawk outlet of the great glacial lakes on the west. As soon as the ice retreated in the valley to a position north of Albany and the drainage of Lake Iroquois came into the Hudson valley Lake Albany properly came into existence.

The clays, and the deltas marginal to them, extend north of Albany certainly as far as the Moses kill. At this place the Hudson gorge proper widens out and the Albany clays which mantle the rock terrace marginal to the gorge are separable from the clays of the low grounds northward by reason of the partly ice-swept character of the surface apparently indicating that the northern limit of the lake was at one time formed by an ice margin over the Fort Edward district. That Lake Albany with the melting out of the ice from the Champlain valley became confluent with the glacial lake stages of that district is borne out by the extension of clays from one region to the other and by the extension of the water levels of the Lake Champlain area into the upper Hudson valley through the Wood creek pass.

The shore line of Lake Albany is most clearly shown by the altitude of the deltas of the larger streams which emptied into it. These include the old delta of the Mohawk, that of the Hoosic and the Batten kill and numerous smaller deposits southward in the Hudson valley. I would refer to Lake Albany only those deltas which appear to have been built in open water between the Batten kill and the vicinity of Rhinebeck. South of the last named point the delta-like deposits adjoining the Hudson gorge appear to have been built in front of the retreating ice sheet, and I am led to think that the surface of these proglacial deposits was mainly if not altogether above the level of Lake Albany at the time of its maximum development, the waters escaping from the flooded middle Hudson valley through the old gorge on the south as waters now escape but perhaps at a still greater depth owing to a higher stand of the land on the south.

It will be observed that the deltas on the eastern side of the Hudson valley from the Batten kill northward to the Poultney fail to coincide with any one plane. In a report of progress on the field work for 1900 I interpreted the falling off in altitude of the deltas successively northward from that of the Batten kill when compared with the highest shore lines about