

stripped of its coating of clay and sand indicating as pointed out in the first part of this report that a powerful stream of water coursed over this path previous to the reexcavation of the Hudson gorge. This stripped floor has an elevation of about 280 feet above the sea near Quaker Springs. The stripped character of the ground is not perhaps at first easily perceived for the reason that the Hudson river slates and shales break down into clays very readily. On many of the farms in this belt the disintegrated and partly decomposed shales are directly invaded by the plow.

When water flowed over this bench the delta of the Batten kill must have extended in something like its original contour over the gorge of the Hudson and the Coveville channel near Schuylerville. The Albany clays must also have filled the Hudson gorge on the south. The occurrence of this spillway marks a new episode in the upper Hudson valley, the draining away of Lake Albany, and the beginning of the reexcavation of the Hudson gorge so far south as that had been filled by the clays of this lake. It remains to determine if possible the condition of the geography on the north of this spillway.

It should be stated that the writer was led to consider the Quaker Springs scourway as associated with the outlets of a glacial lake on the north on observing that a plane passed through certain higher water levels in the Adirondack region [see the line T-U, on pl.28] came to the level of the Hudson terrace precisely where this phenomenon of stripping was most marked. There must have been for a considerable length of time a very strong discharge of water along the ice margin and the western wall of the Adirondacks southward into the Hudson valley, following the ice edge throughout this distance so far as the ice still remained in the depressions or discharging into lakes of varying level at the ice front. The line above referred to has been drawn nearly parallel with that taken to indicate the marine limit at a later time. It will be noted that the plane nearly coincides with the top of the glacial terrace at Street Road as well with the later shore line imposed on the slopes of that marginal delta. Though what I have taken to be traces of the shores of water bodies occur along this plane of tilting northward to the international boundary in the embayments of the Cham-