

thus newly defined, during the slumbers of the Silurian sense of the name, quickly passed in American geologic literature into an astonishing breadth of meaning and usage as wide as the continent itself and was stretched to embrace deposits laid down before, during and after the peculiar drift deposits from which in the Vermont report of 1861 the Champlain clays were accurately discriminated as the result of a definite process acting at a subsequent time. Whatever confusion may be attributed to the application of the term Champlain to the postglacial marine deposits of the northeastern part of America by the Vermont geologists it is clear that the original account did not contemplate the inclusion under this term of practically all the Postpliocene stratified sands and clays in other parts of the continent. This most extended use of the term is found most clearly set forth in the third edition of Dana's *Manual of Geology* of 1880.

The advances made in the past two decades in the separation of the glacial drift into distinct epochs of ice advance and the introduction of such a term as Wisconsin for the last series of ice sheet deposits has tended among other causes to leave the term Champlain as employed in Dana's *Manual* a synonym for an ill assorted and broken up collection of facts, there remaining only for its exclusive use the original marine beds of the Champlain and St Lawrence valleys and their equivalents elsewhere, for which the term was originally proposed by the Vermont geologists. In this restricted sense for which a name is and ever must be needed the name would be appropriate did it not find itself confronted with a contest for survival by the resurrected Champlain group of the lower Silurian whose title to recognition according to the law of priority which should govern all scientific names is clear but whose rehabilitation must nevertheless, in view of the circumstances above detailed prove a source of confusion. In fact to continue the use of either term from now on is to involve any context in which they are introduced in some obscurity. The happiest solution of the difficulty presented by the present status in geology of the name Champlain would appear to be to allow both applications with whatever postfixes to become obsolete in geologic literature. The name of Samuel de Champlain as much as we admire his high character