

Champlain was below sea level though the sea was as yet excluded by the ice. The region about Fort Edward was above sea level as will be noted from the next feature in the sequence of events.

From some cause which can only be at present postulated from the known conditions of the time and hence probably the effect of the powerful discharge of the drainage through the Hudson gorge, coming not only from the melting ice in the Champlain district but as well as from the intake from Lake Iroquois which was now in existence on the west of the Adirondacks, the waters of Lake Albany were drained off. That this withdrawal was due to a deepening of the Hudson gorge on the south rather than to a change in the attitude of the land is indicated by the fact that the shore lines of the Champlain district show no signs of a disturbance at this time. With the withdrawal of the waters over the Albany district, a divide partly of glacial materials and partly of the bed rock was revealed between the nascent glacial lake over the Fort Edward basin and in Lake Champlain valley and the region on the south, and waters began to spill over this barrier west and south of Schuylerville across those fields which were later the scene of Burgoyne's defeat. Thus Lake Vermont was born, consisting, on the south of the mountainous ridges between two of which Lake George lies, of a shallow lake over the Fort Edward district, and a constantly enlarging body of water on the north, Lake Vermont proper.

The discharge at this spillway is believed soon to have cleared out and shifted into an older channel which forms a now partly abandoned river valley just west of Schuylerville. The stream at this stage entered the Hudson gorge at Coveville with a fall over the Hudson slates at that point. At this time the Hudson gorge proper from Coveville northward to Northumberland must still have been filled with glacial gravels and the clays which may still be seen on the valley sides.

Thus was formed the Coveville stage of Lake Vermont. The water level was now about 100 feet lower than in the previous initial stage, and if the correlation worked out in this report is correct, the lake was at this time about 200 feet above the then sea level. The floor of the Hudson gorge at Coveville was