

Beekmantown, and that they should either be placed with that formation or else considered as distinct from either and given a separate name, "as Fort Cassin, or Philipsburg formation, or any other appropriate name."<sup>1</sup> This seems to the writer not only an eminently proper, but really a necessary procedure. The thickness and importance of this group, consisting of the upper 220 feet of division D and the whole of E, is such as definitely to warrant its separate mapping in the Champlain region, and the writer proposes the name "Cassin formation" for it, to make Whitfield's suggestion more precise and definite. The question as to whether the rocks involved are to be classed with the Chazy or with the Beekmantown, or with neither, is not at issue in the giving of the name, the point made being simply that we have here several hundred feet of limestone of definite lithologic and paleontologic character, whose definiteness and importance would seem to warrant its separate recognition and mapping as a substage. In the type section, at Beekmantown, the rocks of this upper horizon are not exposed. The matter will be reverted to on a subsequent page in considering the subdivisions of the Chazy limestone.

When the Beekmantown formation is followed to the south and around into the Mohawk valley, it is found to be much thinner than in the Champlain region, and the upper portion, that which has been separated above as the Cassin formation, is wholly wanting. Prosser has carefully measured a number of sections in this region, but measurements of the full thickness can rarely be made because the formation is seldom cut through to its base, and because it overlaps on the Precambrian, thus not presenting its full thickness close to the Precambrian border. At Little Falls the formation is 456 feet thick. The deep wells at Ilion and Utica, a few miles farther west and at a somewhat greater distance from the Precambrian edge, show a somewhat, but not greatly increased thickness. Eastward from Little Falls the sections in the valley do not get down to the base of the formation, except at Spraker, where Prosser measured a thickness of 500 feet, with the summit not exposed, but the thickness does not vary greatly apparently, though showing some diminution east of

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<sup>1</sup>Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. Bul. 3:27-28.