extends along it unbroken, with the Lowville beneath. Hence the Black River sea surrounded the region on all three sides with apparently unbroken connections, much diminishing the size of the former land areas of the region, even that of Beekmantown times, which was the smallest of those that preceded it. The present outcrops of the Mohawk valley are near the old shore line, and the irregular, ridgy character of the bottom was the cause of the variations in thickness of the formation there. Had erosion cut somewhat deeper, in other words, were the exposures of the formation on a line somewhat south of the present, it would undoubtedly extend east and west unbroken. The Beekmantown pebbles in the Black River, in the Tribes Hill-Amsterdam region, reported by Vanuxem and by Prosser, are very significant as showing the near vicinity of the shore line.[1]

Trenton formation. The Trenton formation may be said to show a general uniformity in lithologic character all about the Adirondack region, though with much variation in detail from place to place. Instead of the quite pure, massive limestones of the Chazy and Lowville formations, the major portion of the Trenton is found to consist of thin bedded, black, shaly limestones, often with partings of black, calcareous shales, the entire formation being thus contaminated with a certain amount of land wash in the shape of fine mud. The limestones are usually hard and brittle, with conchoidal fracture, though becoming thin bedded and shaly, and even the heavier beds split thinly on weathering.

In all sections there is considerable gray, rather coarsely crystalline, fairly pure, very fossiliferous limestone, usually thin bedded though sometimes becoming fairly massive. While sometimes fairly persistent for considerable distances, such beds are usually lens-shaped masses of restricted lateral extent, entirely surrounded by the black calcareous muds of the ordinary character. Beds of this sort seem less local and more persistent in the Mohawk than in the Champlain valley, as has been pointed out by White, and constitute a larger portion of the formation in the former situation, indicating less local variation in the

[1] Geol. N. Y. 3d Dist. p.44; 15th An. Rep't State Geol. 1: 653.