

Lowville limestone was deposited in these waters. The movement of the region was apparently pivotal, along a northwest and southeast axis which crossed at the upper end of the Champlain valley, sinking on the one side being accompanied by rise on the other. In that district this line formed the southern shore line of the Chazy sea and also the northern shore line of the Lowville sea. The thinness and the intermittent character of the Lowville formation, along the present line of the Mohawk valley, would indicate either that the Lowville shore line was not far away to the north, and that the subsidence was only trifling, or else that, after the deposition of the material, an uplift occurred and considerable wear took place. So far as the slender evidence goes, the former would seem to have been the case, since the unconformity at the base of the Lowville is much more pronounced than that at its summit, in fact there is little sign of wear at the latter horizon; while the not infrequent occurrence of alternating Lowville and Black River conditions would seem to bind the two formations rather closely together. It is therefore thought probable that the Lowville sea extended but little north of the Mohawk line and hence encroached little or not at all on the Adirondack region from the south.

On the west side of the region the formation has much increased thickness and apparently for many miles rests directly on the old, Precambrian floor. Its thickness would argue that it must formerly have extended in several miles over the western Adirondack border, and farther than any of the preceding seas had done.

During Lowville time therefore the bulk of the Adirondack region was a land area, with wide extent to the north and east beyond the present boundaries of the district, with its southern shore line rudely corresponding to the present Precambrian border on that side, and its western edge alone somewhat submerged.

The Black River limestone follows the Lowville on the south and west, with no sign of a structural break between the two. In the Mohawk valley the formation is thin and sometimes absent. In some cases its nonappearance is definitely due to the fact that the Lowville deposits had not completely filled the slight depressions in the Beekmantown floor on which they were laid down,