

This is no longer the grade of the region, a comparatively recent movement having elevated it, and the streams are now busily engaged in the task of getting their beds down to the new grade and of widening their valleys. They are yet far from being thoroughly adjusted to the new conditions.

### Peneplains

It would seem inherently probable that the Adirondack region participated in the actions outlined, but several causes conspire to make the evidence less clear than in the other districts mentioned. In the southern and western portions of the region, however, the hilltops do, in general, rise to quite concordant levels, which are wholly independent of the rock attitude and structure, and the inference is irresistible that they rise to the level of an old and comparatively even erosion surface, quite



Fig. 8 Somewhat ideal section from north to south across the Mohawk lowland. The Cretaceous peneplain surface extended across the region from A to D. Following the uplift, the intervening region has been worn down, owing to the weak character of the limestones, Sb, and the shales, Su. The harder rocks at A, and from C to D, have resisted wear and remains at the old level. Erosion has not yet reached the horizon of the Potsdam sandstone, Cp. The wearing away of the limestones has bared the underlying Precambrian rocks from B to C, exposing the old, Precambrian erosion surface, which meets the Cretaceous peneplain at a small angle, which the large vertical exaggeration of the diagram makes altogether too prominent.

Fig. 9 shows the angle drawn to true scale, the upper line representing the CD, and the lower the BC slope.

likely a product of the same great erosion period which elsewhere developed the Cretaceous peneplain. The probability is heightened when it is seen that the prolongation of this surface southward, above the Mohawk lowland, to the plateau of southern New York, finds it in close correspondence with the upland levels there, as if the two were developments of the same great surface [fig.8]. In both districts, too, this surface is now tipped to the west.

This old peneplain is best preserved in Hamilton county, though well marked also in Herkimer and St. Lawrence. On the west and south margins of the region it is replaced by another