It is not certain whether it has ceased or is yet in progress, though the latter is very probable. The streams are working their way down toward the new grade, but have made comparatively slight progress in the task.

### Main axis of elevation

The highest elevations in northern New York occur along a line which, commencing at the national boundary on the north, runs south along the line between Clinton and Franklin counties, till it reaches the district of the high peaks in northwest Essex. Here it offsets sharply to the west, into southern Franklin and northern Hamilton counties, then turns again toward the south and runs down through Hamilton, in this part of its course trending about s. 20° w. instead of nearly due south, as at first.[1] In this change of trend a rude parallelism with the folded rocks to the eastward is to be noted, these also swerving toward the west in passing into New York from the Vermont side. This probably implies an interrelationship between the two, at least in so far as the original location of this main axis is concerned.

Along the Hamilton county portion of this main axis are found the greater number of, and the larger of, the monadnocks which protrude above the Cretaceous base level south of the mid-region. They are so numerous that, were this area alone concerned, the Cretaceous base level would be difficult of recognition. Parallel with the eastern edge of this uplift is a rather deep and wide valley, eastward from which the region is much more dissected, and with considerably lower hill altitudes. The features strongly suggest that the eastern face here is along a line of fault.

The abundance of monadnocks in this district would indicate that, during the period of Cretaceous base leveling, the main divide of the southern district must have been hereabout, just as it is now, since the rocks are not more resistant here than elsewhere. They must therefore owe their preservation to favorable position.

Among the high Adirondacks in Essex and Franklin counties the country is still more rugged and uneven than in Hamilton, so

[1] On a small scale these features are well shown on the "Map of New York showing the Surface Configuration and Watersheds," recently published by the State Museum.