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PALAEOZOIC FOSSILS IN THE DRIFT.—*F. W. Sardeson.*

So far as I have been able to learn, very few Palæozoic fossils have ever been found in the Drift formation of Minnesota, excepting in the scattered patches of Trenton shales and limestone that are seen occasionally more or less mixed with the drift material, but are merely torn up and left near their original position.

But more than four years ago I picked up in Prospect park, St. Paul, two fossils that are evidently not from the Trenton, a honeycomb coral and a brachiopod.

In 1889, two more were found by Professor Hall, in the Drift at Dresser Junction, Wis., a honeycomb coral and a gastropod.

Also Principal Childs sent for identification a number of fossils from the drift at and near Morris, Minn., last August.

Again, in the early part of the present winter some more were found. I happened one day to be going through a railroad cut near Kegan's lake (Minneapolis) and noticed some pebbles like the fossiliferous ones from Morris, Minn. There was a crinoid stem on one of them. Later brachiopods, and other forms were found. All the Drift exposures from Parker station to Cedar lake (four miles) were searched, and this same limestone was found everywhere, and was often fossiliferous. The stone itself is white and gray, very hard and compact, and occurs as rounded pebbles, slabs and even boulders, very much scattered throughout the Drift.

For convenience in comparing the fossils I have made out the following list:

NAMES OF FOSSILS	St. Paul	Minneapolis	Morris	Dresser J
<i>Atrypa reticularis</i> .....	.....	*	*	.....
" <i>aspera</i> .....	.....	*	?	.....
<i>Brachiopod gen. et. sp. ?</i> .....	*	*	.....	.....
<i>Strophomena sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	*	.....
<i>Murchisonia major ?</i> .....	.....	.....	*	*
<i>Lamellibranch gen. et. sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	.....	.....
<i>Favosites sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	.....	*
<i>Os-racol gen. et. sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	*	.....
<i>Trilobite (fragment) gen. et. sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	.....	.....
<i>Gastropod gen. et. sp. ?</i> .....	.....	*	.....	.....
<i>Crinoid stems, etc.</i> .....	.....	.....	*	.....

These fossils seem to be Devonian.

I frequently came across bowlders of Trenton limestone, such as is quarried for building stone in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Associated with the Devonian (white) and the Silurian (yellow and blue) limestones is also rarely a fine white sandstone, which is sometimes mixed with patches of yellow limestone, and sometimes contains faint fossil marks. Among the specimens from Morris, Minn., there was one of this sandstone which contains a clear cast of one valve of a brachiopod. This is still at the University of Minnesota.

In conclusion: it seems probable that fossils occur quite generally in the drift of Minnesota. But just to what extent, is to be determined. I found over a dozen species in less than that many hours all told. And if the fossils are not so numerous as I think they are, yet this conspicuous white limestone could easily be traced wherever it exists now, and perhaps to where it rested formerly.

February 3, 1891.

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FOSSILS IN THE ST. PETER SANDSTONE.—*F. W. Sardeson.*

Last fall, during the Thanksgiving vacation at the State University, I happened to raise the question, why fossils had never been found in the Saint Peter sandstone, in and around Minneapolis? Professor Hall was of the opinion that such fossils could be found; and he also suggested the place where they were most likely to occur.

According to his advice, the next day was spent in looking through some recent cuts along the C. B. & N. R. R., about five miles below Saint Paul. And I brought back to the University, what was considered undoubtedly fossils. Another search during the holidays added other evidence. The following is a list of what has been found:

- Gastropods:— 1. *Muclurea* (?) two casts.  
 2. *Murchisonia gracilis* Hall, two moulds.  
 3. " ? *tricarinata*? Hall, two moulds (imperfect.)
- Lamellibranchs 4. *Cypricardites rectirostris* Hall, three.  
 5. " (?) ? three halves.  
 6. " (?) one half.  
 7. *Modiolopsis*? (?) four half casts.

There are others but whether they are worm burrows, crinoid stems of bryozoa, or all three, is hard to determine.