

North River, P. E. Island.

Oct. 15th. 1886.

My Dear Sir —

While exploring recently on the Mill River, New-London, I observed a bed of Permian conglomerate at a place called Black Man's Island which certainly appears to be an ancient glacial moraine. It is exposed in section in the river bank 8 or 10 feet high, and several hundred feet in length. It is composed of rounded masses of red sandstone, sometimes a foot in diameter, rounded pebbles, ground sand, mixed up with sand and clay, and a few ^{drift} fragments of primary rocks — quartzites and felsites. There can be no doubt about its

true morainic character, The rounded masses of rock ground up with sand and clay and the angular masses thrown on end are unmistakable as a true glacial production. The whole, of course, is now converted into solid rock and is considerably indurated by carbonate of lime.

It is interesting to note that ^{the} Permian strata were firm hard rock when this ancient moraine was formed just as they are to-day. It occurs in the ~~very~~ upper part, if not on top of the Permian.

I am aware that there are many recorded instances of ancient drift formation; but is not this the first discovery of a true glacial moraine in the Palaeozoic?

Very truly yours

Francis Bain,

One cannot help remarking
that this ancient moraine occurs
about the line of that great break
in organic being so long recognised
between the Permian and Triassic,
and probably explains to us the
reason of the extinction of so many
species at this line.

G. Davis

Pain
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