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Local field note-book of Lester Ward

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 11:54:59

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1892

November 6-continued.

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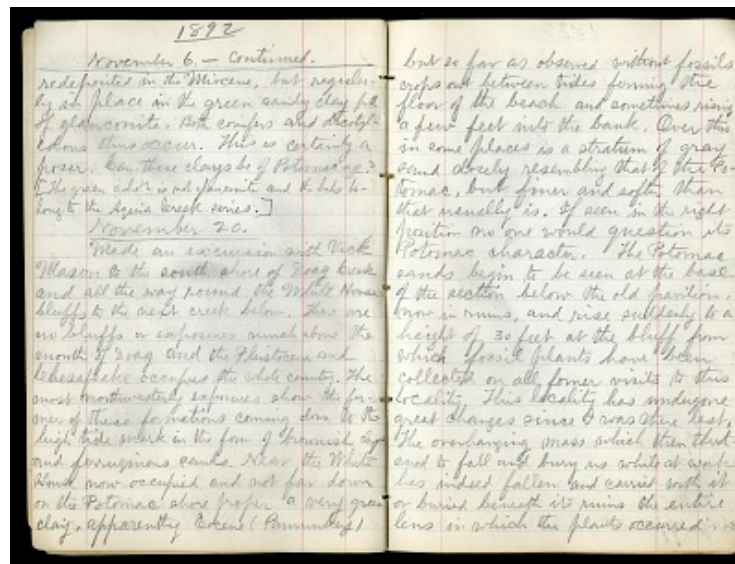
redeposited in the Miocene, but regularly in place in the green sandy clay full of glauconite. Both conifers and dicotyledons stems occur. This is certainly a poser. Can these clays be of Potomac age? [The green color is not glauconite and the bits belong to the Aqua Creek series.]

November 20.

Made an excursion with Vick Mason to the south shore of Doag Creek and all the way round the White House bluffs to the next creek below. There are no bluffs or exposures much above the mouth of Doag and the Pleistocene and Chesapeake occupies the whole country. The most northwestern exposures show the former of these formations coming down to the high tide mark in the form of brownish clays and ferruginous sands. Near the White House now occupied and not far down on the Potomac shore proper a very green clay, apparently Eocene (Pamunkey)

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but as far as observed without fossils crops out between tides forming the floor of the beach and sometimes rising a few feet into the bank. Over this in some places is a stratum of gray sand closely resembling that of the Potomac, but finer and softer than that usually is. If seen in the right position no one would question its Potomac character. The Potomac sands begin to be seen at the base of the section below the old pavilion, now in ruins, and rise suddenly to a height of 30 feet at the bluff from which fossil plants have been collected on all former visits to this locality. This locality has undergone great changes since I was there last. The overhanging mass which then threatened to fall and bury us while at work has indeed fallen and carried with it or buried beneath its ruins the entire lens in which the plants occurred.



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