

AN ELEVATED BEACH AND RECENT COASTAL PLAIN NEAR PORTLAND, ME.
NOTES OF AN EXCURSION WITH A PARTY UNDER CONDUCT OF PROF.
WM. M. DAVIS, JULY, 1898. BY WM. A. MCBETH.

[Abstract.]

Evidence pointing to the existence of such beach and recent plain in southern Maine as observed in the region of Portland are a belt of sand and gravel deposits closely following the three-hundred-foot contour line around an arm of the Casco Bay depression. The belt is quite continuous through the distance traced and apparently much further, and it slopes gently down toward the inclosed valley. Exposures along streams and in gravelpits, wells, etc., show depth and character of deposits. What are apparently sandpits modify the course of some of the streams crossing the deposits. Several drumlins stand on the upper border of the belt with bluff frontages upon it, which resemble the wave-cut drumlins in Boston Harbor. Undercut cliffs of rock also front upon it with heavy water-worn talus fragments at their base. The country falls off abruptly in places from the lower edge of the belt to the basin below. The floor of this depression is covered with a light gray marine clay, the drainage channels of which are narrow and steep-sided, showing recent origin.

The deposits of sand and gravel are thought to be a beach line elevated about 300 feet above the sea. Postglacial age is indicated by the wave-cut drumlins and undisturbed conditions of deposits. The much later age of the lower plain is indicated by the immature drainage lines and slight weathering. The order of movements evidently has been sinking of the region, deposition of clays in basin and formation of beach, elevation of from three hundred to four hundred feet, redrowning of the lower levels of the basin.

WASTED ENERGY. BY PROF. J. L. CAMPBELL.

A VESUVIAN CYCLE. BY C. A. WALDO.

Ordinarily Vesuvius is in a state of mild activity. A single visit, however, does not show the periodical aspects of its manifestations. It was the fortune of the author of this note to visit Naples in the summers of 1890, 1891, 1894 and 1896, and on each of these occasions to make the