

A NEW BED OF TRILOBITES.

BY ANDREW J. BIGNEY.

It is conceded by those who have studied the rocks of Dearborn County that there are few sections in the country that are richer in invertebrate fossils. The Richmond formation is the outcropping stratum. In many places the streams have cut into the underlying Lorraine. During the past ten years the erosive action of the streams has been much greater than during any previous period of equal length of time. This is largely due to the removal of the forests from the hills and the cultivation of these lands for various crops. An examination of almost any stream shows the deep channels revealing new formations and rich beds of fossils, with interstratified clays.

It was in such a place as this, one mile northeast of Moores Hill, that I discovered a small bed of Trilobites of the species *Calymene* (species?). The bed does not measure more than three feet by four. The rocks are about three inches in thickness. It is of compact limestone, composed entirely of the trilobites, most of which have been partly dissolved and re-crystallized. Enough of the trilobites remain to enable one to recognize them. Nowhere in this section have there been so many trilobites found in any one place. Usually they are very scattering. Twenty-five years ago many specimens were found in various parts of the county, but I have never learned of so rich a find as this. In the same stream and not far away there are a few specimens to be found. This must have been an isolated portion of the ancient sea, especially favorable for the growth and accumulation of the trilobites.

