

# ORGANIC REMAINS

OF THE

## NIAGARA GROUP AND ASSOCIATED LIMESTONES.

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BY JAMES HALL.

### I. RELATIONS OF THE NIAGARA GROUP WITH THE LECLAIRE, RACINE AND GUELPH LIMESTONES.

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IN the study of the fossils of the Niagara group and associated strata, previous to the publication of the final *Report on the Fourth Geological District*, and also to the publication of the second volume of the *Paleontology of New York*, I separated a few species found in the impure drab-colored limestone from Wayne county, New York.

The limestone containing these fossils became exposed only in the bed of the canal during its excavation; and the low country, or deeply drift-covered surface in the vicinity, did not admit of any exposure of the rock in place. The materials were thrown out of the excavation in connection with the soft marls of the Onondaga salt group, and the specimens of rock containing the fossils preserved the peculiar celliferous structure and characteristic color of the argillaceous limestone of that formation. Differing so essentially from any known beds in the Niagara group, I did not hesitate to refer them to the Onondaga salt group, since there was no evidence of any other formation in the neighborhood.\*

\*The same reference of the species had, in fact, been made during the Geological Survey, and they were thus published in the *Report on the Fourth Geological District*, in 1843.