

PEEDEE SAND.

Name.—The name Peedee was proposed by Edmund Ruffin¹ in 1843. It is derived from Great Peedee River, which crosses the eastern part of South Carolina from northwest to southeast. The terrane described by Ruffin under this name is essentially the same as that for which Earle Sloan² employed the name "Burches Ferry marls" in 1907. The exposure at Burches Ferry on Great Peedee River, which is Sloan's type section, is mentioned by Ruffin as one of the typical occurrences of the Peedee "bed." Ruffin's name, therefore, has priority over Sloan's. Both the lithologic and paleontologic character of this terrane are such as to indicate its equivalency with the division in North Carolina which the writer³ in 1907 designated the "Ripley" formation.

The latter term is inappropriate, however, for, as the result of recent investigations, it has been found that the Peedee is the equivalent of only the upper part of the Ripley formation of Alabama, the equivalent of the lower part of that formation being included in the Black Creek ("Bladen") formation of this report.

Definition.—Exposures of the strata of this formation occur in a belt to the east and southeast of that of the Black Creek formation. As in the case of the Black Creek formation, the widest part of the belt is in the southern counties in the Cape Fear River region, where it reaches or perhaps exceeds 37 miles. To the north of Cape Fear River it extends in a north-northeasterly direction, the most northerly known occurrence being at Greenville in Pitt County. To the south of Cape Fear River it extends into South Carolina in a southwesterly direction with approximately the same width as in the Cape Fear River region, to and beyond Great Peedee River, where it disappears beneath the overlapping Eocene beds of the Charleston basin. (See geological map, Plate XVII, in pocket.)

The counties in which outcrops have been observed are as follows: Pitt, Greene, Lenoir, Duplin, Pender, Bladen, New Hanover, Columbus, and Brunswick.

The Peedee ("Burches Ferry") sand rests with conformable relations upon the Black Creek ("Bladen") formation. The relation of its upper surface to overlying Tertiary and Quaternary deposits is everywhere one of unconformity.

¹Report of the Commencement and Progress of the Agricultural Survey of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C., 1843 (esp. pp. 7, 24-27).

²Handbook of South Carolina, issued by the State Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Immigration, 1907, chapter 5, pp. 77-145.

³Johns Hopkins University Circular, No. 7 (whole No. 199), 1907, pp. 93-99.