

in North Carolina are likewise similar to those of the Sunderland of more northern areas, the amount of erosion being much more extensive than in the lower-lying and later Wicomico terrace.

WICOMICO FORMATION.

The Wicomico formation is correlated with the formation so named in Virginia and Maryland because it can be traced with unimportant breaks all the way from North Carolina across Virginia and Maryland, into the valley of the Delaware, enwrapping the older Pleistocene deposits and extending as reëntnants into the older formations. Furthermore, throughout this long distance it maintains much the same elevation with respect to sea level. Its surface has also suffered much less from erosion than the older formations, the physiographic features, therefore, presenting much the same appearance throughout the entire area. The materials likewise are on the whole less decayed.

The few plant fossils found in the Wicomico formation belong essentially to living species, although in a few instances they seem to be ancestral types that have since become differentiated into those living to-day in the sand barrens and in the upland country. The differences, however, are so slight that there is no question of the flora as a whole being referred to late Pleistocene time.

CHOWAN FORMATION.

The Chowan formation can be followed as a terrace enwrapping the Wicomico terrace across Virginia into Maryland, where it and the next lower terrace have been described as the Talbot formation. In the extreme southeastern part of Maryland not far from the ocean front a low escarpment is described¹ extending from Berlin to Newark, which may perhaps represent the separation between two subordinate or secondary terraces within the Talbot terrace. These two subordinate plains are possibly the Chowan and Pamlico plains, which are much more extensively developed to the southward and which have been traced across North Carolina into Virginia, the lower terrace gradually narrowing until it becomes an insignificant feature in southeastern Maryland.

The Chowan terrace has the same general elevation above tide as the main body of the Talbot formation farther north, its materials and surface features likewise being similar. The terrace has been but little dissected throughout the entire area, swamps and other evidences of

¹Md. Geol. Survey, Pliocene and Pleistocene, 1906, p. 75.