

local moraines and the foldings and disturbances in the strata at the base of the glacial deposits are looked upon as having been produced by the pressure of the advancing masses of ice.

The effects of the erosive activity displayed by the glacial water are apparent in the giant-cauldrons, in the frequent pools, peat-bogs and circular lake-depressions, and in the long, narrow channels which extend almost parallel with one another in directions perpendicular to the southern margin of the former ice-sheet.

“While the researches between the North German plain had in view, on the one hand, to establish the chronological subdivision of the glacial deposits with the help of the fossiliferous strata, they have also been directed to explore the glacial and interglacial accumulations which bestrew the plain, and to determine the glacial system of hydrography. One of the most important results has been the proof that ridges of end-moraine extend throughout North Germany from the northern borders of Schleswig-Holstein to West and East Prussia, as well as the southern provinces of Posen and Silesia. The observation that the ground-moraine of the last era of glaciation presents the same features in front of and behind the band of end-moraines, indicates that these accumulations mark progressive stages in the retreat of the last ice-sheet, and originated during the pauses in the general movement of withdrawal. The detailed study of these hillocks and ridges of end-moraine, and the phenomena associated with them, first supplied the clue to the elucidation of the landscape features which owe their origin partly to glacial erosion, partly to glacial and fluvio-glacial deposition. By this means, also, it became possible to distinguish the different types of lakes characteristic of this extensive area of ancient glaciation.

“The glacial hydrography of the North German plain has recently had new light thrown upon it, in so far as the leading lines of ancient valleys have been brought into connection with the end-moraines of the inland ice. This has afforded an explanation of the successive origin of the great east-west valleys, each more northerly valley being younger than the next valley on the south. The ice in the last period of melting withdrew to a more northerly position, and at each pause in the withdrawal, the waters which had previously been stemmed back by the end of the ice-sheet found a new way of escape.”
(Wahnschaffe, *Zeitschr. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1898.)