matted vegetation, bedecked with the bright hues of wild flowers, contrasting with the fresh and green shade of the surrounding prairies, no objects in Nature afford more perfect scenes of all that is lovely and attractive. Many of these mounds are worn into semi-circular forms, with gentle sloping prairies in front, stretching down to some rippling rivulet, and then rising with easy grade to similar mounds at the distance of a mile or more. These places, numerous all over the county—paragons of rural beauty—are the favorite selections of the pioneer settlers. The log cabin is found in places which art could scarcely adorn, or cultivation add to the quality of the soil, sheltered from the wintry winds, situated upon the margin of groves, with ever-living water gurgling up in freshness and purity near its door sill. In such sequestered spots, but just invaded for the purposes of settlement, the wildness of primitive life is best seen in contrast with the coming change which will speedily transform the country into a great garden. The cultivated field, loaded with the virgin crop, is but a mere point in the extended landscape.

The geological structure of the county is worthy of special notice, since the quality and durability of the soil of any given district are determined by the composition of its rocks, and the materials washed down from its highlands. A vertical section through any of the mounds or ridges immediately east of Prescott, would exhibit the following as the descending order of superposition of the stratified deposits:

Blue Fossiliferous (shell or Trenton) Limestone, about ............ ............................. 30 feet.
"Upper Sandstone" ................................ 50 "
Lower Magnesian Limestone (of Owen)............ 250 "

Abrading forces have worn off and carried away a large proportion of the two first named superior deposits. They are found only as outliers in the numerous mounds or ridges which ornament the county. But very few hills of drift are met with, and if ever deposited in quantity, the material has