GEOLOGICAL NOTES

I.1 a simple classification rocks may be grouped into three divisions: (1) sedimentary, (2) igneous, and (3) netamorphic. In Iowa only sedimentary rocks are found n place at the surface except in the extreme northwestern corner of the state and only the deeper drill holes encounter anything but sedimentary formations, except as boulders, etc., in the drift.

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Sedimentary rocks.—Sedimentary rocks are formed of grains worn from older rocks by the action of rain, wind, frost, ice, etc. Such materials were carried by water, glaciers or wind until deposited as beds of clay, sand, gravel, marl, loess, etc. Other deposits consist largely of corals, or of shells, such as oysters and clams. When first deposited the materials are loose and unconsolidated, but they become gradually hardened and cemented together, especially when covered by later beds, and form solid rocks, such as limestone, shale, sandstone, etc.

Igneous rocks.—Igneous rocks have come from the earth's interior in a moulton state and have forced their way between other rocks or have overflowed as lava beds at the surface. They are nearly all more or less crystalline in texture. In lowa they occur only as boulders in the glacial drifts, and have been carried here from distant points by the glaclers.

Metemorphic rocks.—Sedimentary and igneous rocks which have been changed or altered by heat, pressure or solutions or a combination of these are known as metamorphic rocks. Quartzites, schists and gneisses are examples.

amples.

Rocks of different ages.—Rocks of the types indicated above occur the world over. Those from one locality often cannot be distinguished by ordinary means from those of another, although actually there may be a great difference in age and a wide variation in the conditions of formation. One cannot say, therefore, that because a rock in Iowa has the same composition as an oil-bearing rock in Texas the Iowa rock is the same age and will yield oil.

Fossils.—Remains of animals and plants are often found in sedimentary rocks. These generally consist of portions or impressions of shells, skeletons, or leaves, and are known as fossils. A bed can frequently be recognized and its age determined by fossils. It is of great importance that all fossils be saved. The Survey will be glad to identify these for well owners or drillers.

Definition of a formation.—A rock or succession of

Definition of a formation.—A rock or succession of rocks possessing a uniformity of character throughout a considerable area is termed a formation and is given a name, such as St. Peter sandstone, etc. The impotance of identifying these is great and their identification will be considerably facilitated by the preservation of accurate

amples.

Structure.—When deposited sedimentary beds are nearly horizontal. Later they have often been moved into inclined positions, or bent into wave-like folds, the arches of which are known as unticlines and the troughs as synclines. When the beds are further disturbed they may become broken and the different parts displaced or faulted from their original position. The slope of the beds is known as the dip, and the direction in which they extend or would crop out on a horizontal surface, is known as the strike. The direction of strikes and dips are of importance in studying the occurrence of water and oil and should be recorded whenever possible. In Iowa the angles of dip are usually very small.

Well #1

WELL RECORD

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completed	6-29			, 19_89	
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NOTE: Water levels should be recorded at time of change AND at regular intervals; for example each morning before drilling starts or at the end of each 100 feet of drilling.

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