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Voyages of the "Eolis"

The motor yacht, "Eolis," was built in 1909 by Mr. John B. Henderson, Jr. for the purpose of dredging mollusks in Western Atlantic waters. The "Eolis" was 50 feet in length, 11 feet in width, and drew 5 feet of water. Her home port was Washington, D.C. Seven cruises were made from 1910 to 1915, five of which were in Florida and Bahama waters. During the summers of 1910 and 1912, Mr. Henderson took the "Eolis" to Bar Harbor and Frenchman's Bay, Maine, where a small amount of dredging was done. The most outstanding cruises were made along the coast of southern Florida, principally over the Pourtalès Plateau and Hawk Channel. During the five Florida cruises, over 31,400 lots of deep-sea mollusks were collected. These were later donated to the United States National Museum. A two week's trip was taken to the Bimini Islands during the third Florida cruise, but the dredging results were rather poor. Mr. George H. Clapp and Mr. Charles T. Simpson accompanied Mr. Henderson on most of these southern cruises. Interesting extracts of the log of the "Eolis" were published by Mr. Henderson in the Nautilus (1911, 25, no. 6, pp. 71–72, no. 7, pp. 81–83).

No extensive report has been made on the "Eolis" collections and it will be many years before it is thoroughly worked, probably by numerous authors as the various families are monographed. In 1915, Henderson published an account of the "Rediscovery of Pourtales' Haliotis" (see *Johnsonia* 2, no. 21, May 1946).

In 1918, Mr. Henderson carried out successful dredging operations in Antigua and Barbados, Lesser Antilles, during the Smithsonian-University of Iowa Expedition. Hauls from 6 to 120 fathoms were made from his 27-foot launch "Eolis, Jr." A fascinating account by Mr. Henderson appears in C. C. Nutting's "Barbados-Antigua Expedition" (Univ. Iowa Studies (1) 8, no. 3, pp. 88–96 and 199–203). *Turbinella nuttingi* Henderson, a synonym of *Vasum globulum* Lamarck, is inadvertently described as new.

Since no obituary of Mr. John Brooks Henderson, Jr. has ever appeared in malacological literature, we are including a few remarks, pending a more complete account. Mr. Henderson was born in Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri, on February 18, 1870. He graduated from Harvard University in 1891 and received his law degree in 1893 from Columbian (now the George Washington) University. He was author of "American Diplomatic Questions" and "The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera."

Henderson collected mollusks in Jamaica, Haiti, Cuba, the Lesser Antilles, Hawaii, United States, Europe, Japan and China. He published 43 articles on mollusks, most of which appeared in the *Nautilus* and the *Proceedings of the U.S. National Museum*, the most outstanding being "A Monograph of the East American Scaphopod Mollusks."



Abbott, R. Tucker. 1950. "Voyages of the "Eolis"." Johnsonia 2(28), 219–220.

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