

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON SOME CANADIAN SPECIMENS OF "*LITUITES UNDATUS*."

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Since the publication of a previous paper on this subject, in the October number of this journal, additional information has been obtained in regard to some of the questions discussed in it.

In the first place, Dr. W. Y. M. Woodworth, curator of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, Mass., has kindly lent the writer the types of Hyatt's *Plectoceras obscurum*, so that it has now become possible to make a direct comparison between them and a large series of presumably authentic specimens of *Plectoceras Halli* (Foord). Such a comparison has resulted in the conviction that, although *P. obscurum* may be, and doubtless is, quite distinct from the *Inachus undatus* of Emmons, which Hyatt calls *Eurystomites undatus*, there is no appreciable difference, either in external form, in the surface markings, or in the shape and position of the siphuncle, between *P. obscurum* and *P. Halli*. The types of *P. obscurum* are three in number, one a comparatively perfect specimen from the Black River limestone at Watertown N.Y., marked 2077; and the others, two fragments from the Birdseye limestone at Watertown, each marked 2078. The specimen marked 2077 has nearly the whole of one side worn away, but the other side shows the general shape of the shell and its surface markings very well. It is about three inches and a half in its maximum diameter and consists of two entire whorls. The inner whorls, if there were any, are not preserved. Both sides of the specimen show that the whorls are at first so closely coiled that the inner half of the outer whorl is in close contact with the one that immediately precedes it, but that its outer half is free and slightly uncoiled. At the anterior end of the shell, the outer whorl is about twelve millimetres apart from that which immediately precedes it. And it would seem to be the body chamber, which occupies rather less than one-half of the outer whorl, that is free and separate. The surface markings are precisely similar to those of the fine specimens of *P. Halli* collected by Mr. Weston at Lorette. On the worn side all the septa but the last are obliterated, and the shape and position

of the siphuncle are not at all clearly shown. A label, in Hyatt's hand-writing, however, which accompanies the specimen, states that the siphuncle is "marginal and ventral" as it is known to be in *P. Halli*. The two fragments marked 2078 show neither the external form of the shell, the outline of the transverse section, nor any of the surface markings. One of these is a little more than about one-third of the outer whorl of a specimen which has been worn down in such a manner as to show a longitudinal section of the body chamber and of the last five septa, which average from five to five and a half millimetres in their greatest distance apart. The other shows scarcely anything, except that the venter is much flattened.

In the second place, *Plectoceras Halli*, which seems to be a very characteristic fossil of the Black River limestone, has now been found at two localities near Ottawa city. The first of these is Lot 4, Concession 3, Rideau front, Gloucester, where the specimen referred to in a former paper was found by Mr. Walter R. Billings. The second is Mechanicsville, on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River at La Petite Chaudière rapids, where a specimen which shows both the surface ornamentation and the position of the siphuncle remarkably well, was found by Mr. J. E. Narraway in October last.

In the third and last place, on a tablet in the Museum of the Geological Survey there are four fossils from the Black River limestone at St. Ambroise, P.Q., collected by Sir W. E. Logan in 1852, that are still labelled "*Lituites undatus*." Three of these are apparently small specimens of *Plectoceras Halli*. The fourth is clearly neither that species nor *Eurystomites* (or *Plectoceras*) *undatus*. It is unfortunately not more than an inch and a quarter in its maximum diameter and does not show the position of the siphuncle, so that it is quite uncertain to what genus it should be referred. A similar but rather larger specimen, which also does not show the position of the siphuncle, has quite recently been found by Mr. Narraway in the Black River limestone at Tetreauville. Both of these specimens are apparently gyroceraconic, with laterally compressed whorls, and their surface markings consist of thin sharp ribs, with shallowly concave spaces between

them. These ribs curve concavely and rather widely forward on each side, and narrowly and convexly forward on the venter.

It would therefore appear that in Canada the true *Inachus undatus* of Emmons, which Hyatt refers to *Eurystomites* but which may be a *Plectoceras*, has only been found near Kingston, in the Black River limestone. Also, that all the specimens from that formation in the Province of Quebec which have been called *Lituities undatus*, and similar specimens from the Black River limestone near Ottawa, are either *Plectoceras Halli* (Foord) or an at present undetermined and possibly undescribed species, whose generic relations have yet to be ascertained. And that *Plectoceras obscurum* is a synonym of *P. Halli*.

ERRATA IN PREVIOUS PAPER.

- On page 119, line 11 from bottom, for "losely" read loosely.
 ,, 120, line 9 from bottom, for "1861" read 1891.
 ,, 121, line 2 from top, for "*P. Foordi*" read *P. Halli*.
 ,, 121, line 7 from top, for "sipuncle" read siphuncle.
 ,, 121, line 8 from top, for "specimen" read species.
 ,, 121, line 9 from bottom, for "surtural" read sutural.

Ottawa, Oct. 20th, 1903.

BIRD NOTES.

CANADIAN RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus togata*).—An incident illustrating the velocity of flight of the ordinary so-called Birch Partridge of this district, occurred in the middle of September last. As I was sitting at my office desk, I was startled by a loud crash of glass close above my head, accompanied by a shower of fragments. Upon examination, I found that one of the above-named birds had flown through the window. The pane broken was of thick double diamond glass, 3 ft. 4 in. long by 1 ft. 7 in. wide. The bird had been raised by a dog, about fifty yards from the building, and had flown straight at the window, possibly thinking it was an opening through which it could escape. The velocity was so great that the bird was killed almost instantly, and the breast bone and furcula or wish-bone were crushed.

PINE GROSBEEK (*Pinicola enucleata*).—On October 30th, on a lawn at the Central Experimental Farm, I saw and watched closely for some time a small flock of about a dozen Pine Grosbeaks, which were busily engaged eating the seeds of the small



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