



# THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

---

VOL. XVIII.

OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER, 1904.

No. 6

---

## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF RUGOSE CORALS FROM THE SILURIAN ROCKS OF MANITOBA.

---

By J. F. WHITEAVES.

APHYLLOSTYLUS, gen. nov.

Corallum consisting of slender, contiguous, subcylindrical corallites, that are circular or nearly circular in transverse section, and that seem to have formed part of a compound, branched, fasciculate, ascending and somewhat spreading colony, essentially as in *Pycnostylus*. Surface markings of the exterior of the corallites unknown.

The structure of the interior of the corallites consists of conspicuous transverse tabulæ, and of numerous, very minute, spiniform septa. The tabulæ, though irregular in their disposition and in their distances apart, are for the most part complete and continuous. The spiniform septa consist of both longitudinal and transverse rows of close-set, very short, straight and inwardly directed, minute spinules, not very unlike those of a Silurian Favosite, but much smaller and shorter. Where the tabulæ are comparatively far apart, the longitudinal arrangement of the rows of spinules is very obvious, and there are from four to seven spinules in each longitudinal row, between two of the tabulæ. But, in places where the tabulæ are close together, the transverse arrangement of the rows of spinules is more apparent, and there are either one or two transverse rows of spinules between two tabulæ.



The general shape of the corallites in this genus, their mode of growth and their internal tabulæ, appear to be essentially similar to those of *Pycnostylus*, but in the latter the septa are marginal, well developed, and consist of thin, continuous, longitudinal ridges.

*Pycnostylus* seems to be most nearly related to *Amplexus*, which is usually referred to the Zaphrentidæ, and it may be that *Aphylostylus* should also be included in that family.

APHYLLOSTYLUS GRACILIS, sp. nov.

Corallites slender, averaging about two or three millimetres in diameter; septal spinules very minute, scarcely visible to the naked eye.

This genus and species are based upon fragments of colonies, in six small pieces of limestone of Silurian (Upper Silurian) age, from Stonewall, about thirty-one miles west of East Selkirk, collected by Mr. J. B. Tyrrell in 1897. Each of these pieces of limestone shows both longitudinal and transverse sections of a few contiguous corallites, upon one or more of its recently broken surfaces. The internal structure of most of these corallites is well preserved, but their mode of branching is nowhere very clearly seen. Two or three similar specimens had previously been collected by the writer in 1888 from loose masses of limestone on the banks of the Fairford River, about six or seven miles below the Hudson Bay post at Fairford, Manitoba.

Ottawa, August 4th, 1904.

---



Whiteaves, Joseph Frederick. 1904. "Description of a new genus and species of Rugose Corals from the Silurian Rocks of Manitoba." *The Ottawa naturalist* 18(6), 113–114.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/28594>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/369197>

**Holding Institution**

MBLWHOI Library

**Sponsored by**

MBLWHOI Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: NOT\_IN\_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.