

*Litoceras Whiteavsi*, Hyatt. 1894. Phylogeny of an Acquired Characteristic (Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc., Vol. XXXII) p. 475.

On page 475 of the paper last cited Professor Hyatt writes as follows, in reference to his genus *Litoceras*. "The type of this genus, when it was first described, were the specimens in the Geological Museum at Ottawa identified as *Nautilus versutus* of Billings, but these appear here as *Litoceras Whiteavsi*, since there is every reason for supposing that they are not the species described by Billings under the name of *versutus*." A few lines farther on, Professor Hyatt makes the following remarks upon his *Litoceras Whiteavsi*. "Having examined the so-called originals of this species" (i.e., of *Nautilus versutus*, Billings) "so far as they exist in the Geological Museum at Ottawa, I have found that none of them came from Billings' locality, Bonne Bay, and none of them agree with Billings' description. Billings' species had ten septa to the inch; this species has the sutures about one-quarter of an inch apart, a difference shewing essential distinction." These statements are unfortunately based upon such grave misapprehensions of the facts of the case as to call imperatively for some explanation. When Professor Hyatt visited the Museum of the Survey there were, and are still, five specimens of nautiloid shells from the "Quebec Group" of Newfoundland on exhibition in one of the upright cases. One of these then had, and still has, two labels attached to it, one printed and the other written. The printed label reads,— "Newfoundland. Bonne Bay, East Arm, S.-W. side. 1861. J. R."—and the written one,— "*N. versutus*, type." Moreover, notwithstanding Prof. Hyatt's statement to the contrary, this specimen does agree with Billings' description and measurements of the type and only known specimen of *Nautilus versutus*, and it clearly has about ten septa to the inch. Of the other specimens, three are labelled as having been collected at Point Rich by Mr. James Richardson in 1861. These, in the writer's judgment, are most probably the types of *Nautilus insolens*, Billings, and apparently also of *Lito-*