With the author; regards

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THE OLDEST SIPHONOTRETA.

By G. F. MATTHEW, D.Sc., F.R.S.C.

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THE ancient Brachiopodous genus Siphonotreta is well known by its species occurring in the Ordovician and Silurian strata of Russia and Great Britain, and its peculiar pedicle opening has been the subject of remark. The author is not aware that this genus has hitherto been reported from any Cambrian terrain, and, therefore, the greatest interest will attach to a form recently found in the lower beds of the St. John Gronp, which is nearer to Siphonotreta than to any other known genus.

The new form is remarkable, so far as its pedicle passage is concerned, in combining the two genera Siphonotreta and Schizambon; for in its early stages it had the dorsal furrow of the latter genus, but afterwards it developed the tubular passage seen in the former.

This shell is older than any Paradoxides, being of the Protolenus Fauna,¹ and is found in strata that nearly correspond in age to the beds which at another locality carry the related genus Trematobolus. But while the new form abandoned the Schizambonal opening for its pedicle, and adopted a contracted canal for the passage of this organ similar to that of Siphonotreta, Trematobolus maintained the open fissure (or hole) through life.

Young individuals of the new form of the size of Schizambon typicalis, Walcott, are actual examples of the genus Schizambon. The history of the growth of the species from the larval forms to maturity is shown by exfoliated shells, in which the siphon stands

¹ Trans. New York Acad. Sci., vol. xiv, pp. 101-153.