

ON THE GENERA OF THE EODISCIDAE.

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It has long been known that the name *Microdiscus*, in common use for small trilobites of Lower and Middle Cambrian age, is untenable, the genus *Microdiscus* having been founded by Emmons on a young specimen of *Cryptolithus* (*Trimucleus*). The name *Eodiscus* was suggested in manuscript by Professor Hartt when he was describing the Middle Cambrian fossils found near St. John, New Brunswick, for Dawson's *Acadian Geology*, but on the advice of Billings, he replaced it by *Microdiscus* at the time of publication. This name was, however, mentioned in Walcott's paper on the fauna of the Middle Cambrian (1884), and in 1896 Matthew used the name for a section of the genus *Microdiscus*.¹ Recently the writer proposed to raise the section name *Eodiscus* to generic rank, replacing *Microdiscus*. The type suggested was *Microdiscus schucherti* Matthew, which was the first species listed by Matthew under his section *Eodiscus*.² It seems wise, however, not to apply the term *Eodiscus* in too broad a sense, but to use it in much the same way in which Matthew did.

In reviewing the various species which have been referred to *Microdiscus*, omitting the *M. quadricostatus* of Emmons, we find three distinct types of shields. The first and most common is that typified by *Eodiscus schucherti* or *E. punctatus*, in which the glabella and axial lobe of the pygidium are both definitely defined by the dorsal furrows, and the cheeks of the cephalon and the pleural lobes of the pygidium are smooth. A second type of shield is seen in forms like *Microdiscus lobatus* or *M. dawsoni*, where the dorsal furrows are strong on both shields, and the pygidium has well defined ribs on the pleural lobes. To a part of this second section Matthew gave the name *Dawsonia*, a name which had been used in manuscript by Hartt for his *Microdiscus dawsoni*, and which had appeared in print in the Second Edition of the *Acadian Geology*, though not used as a generic name. This section name of Matthew's would also be raised to generic rank were it not for the fact that the name is no longer available, having been applied by Nicholson in 1872 to certain bodies found associated with graptolites. I therefore propose *Goniodiscus* for this section, with *Agnostus lobatus* Hall as the type.

1. Amer. Geologist, 1896, vol. 18, p. 29, and Trans. N.Y. Acad. Sci. vol. 15, p. 237, 1896.

2. Ottawa Naturalist, 1913, vol. 26, p. 139.