

Coast of Nova Scotia. *Transactions Nova Scotian Institute*, vol. I., 1863, pp. 88-90.

In this paper Willis describes his discovery of the occurrence of this European species on the shores of Nova Scotia, and gives the facts then known to him as to its distribution. He found it pretty widely scattered in Nova Scotia, and inclined to the opinion that it is indigenous. This was not, however, his first announcement of his discovery, for in the proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy for 1860, p. 148, occurs a note in which it is stated that he announces the discovery of this species, along with a European Brachiopod, in Nova Scotian waters, and he had, moreover, included it in the earlier "Church Record" list described above (No. 1).

But the paper under consideration was the first of a number of papers on and references to the subject, the chief of which are those by Professor Verrill in *American Journal of Science*, Vol. IV, 1874, p. 133, and again in the same, Vol. XX. p. 251; by A. F. Gray in *Science News* for 1879; by Professor E. S. Morse in *Bulletin of the Essex Institute*, Vol. XII, 1880, pp. 171-176; and by W. F. Ganong in *American Naturalist*, Vol. XX, 1886, pp. 931-940 and Vol. XXI pp. 287-288. It cannot be said that the question as to whether this species be native or introduced is yet settled, for though the weight of evidence and opinion points to the latter conclusion, some others whose opinion in such matters is of high value, hold the contrary view. But Willis undoubtedly is entitled to the credit of being the first to announce the discovery of this species in America, though its presence in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was observed by Sir William Dawson about the same time that Willis found it near Halifax.

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In estimating John Willis' position among naturalists, and his services to science, it must be remembered that the circumstances of his early life and surroundings were not such as to develop a naturalist of broad training and sympathies. Under different circumstances, the tastes and perseverance which found vent in enthusiastic collecting and careful classifying might have