

ing woodcut represents the exterior of the best specimen known to the writer, of natural size. Its maximum length is twenty millimetres and its greatest breadth sixteen.



Figure 1. Paucispiral operculum of a gasteropod, genus and species unknown, from the Guelph Formation of Ontario.

It is at present quite impossible to determine to which of the known gasteropoda from the Guelph formation in Ontario these opercula should be referred, if, indeed, they are referable to any. Judging by the shapes of the apertures of the shells into which they may have fitted, the most likely species, perhaps, are the *Holopea gracia* or *H. harmonia* of Billings, or a small and undescribed naticoid shell from Durham, which, so far as can be ascertained from a few casts of the interior, seems to be closely related to the *Holopea nux* of Lindström, from the Upper Silurian of Gothland. The resemblance of the operculum here figured to that of *Litorina* and *Natica* is very striking, and in this connection it is to be noted that Lindström places *Holopea* in the *Litorinidæ*. In the recent species of *Litorina* the operculum is invariably chitinous and extremely thin, while in *Natica* proper it is calcareous and not nearly so thin. The one here figured is so highly dolomitized that it is difficult to estimate its exact thickness, but it gives the writer the impression of being thicker than that of a recent *Litorina*. At the distance of a millimetre from the edge, its thickness, at the somewhat truncated termination of the outer volution, is between one-half and three-quarters of a millimetre, but it seems to increase rather rapidly in thickness inward.

The only other opercula known to the writer as occurring in the Palaeozoic rocks of Canada are the depressed multi-