

NOTES ON, AND THE PRECISE GEOLOGICAL HORIZON
OF *SIPHONOTRETA SCOTICA*, DAVIDSON.

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At the Montreal Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1883, Mr. J. F. Whiteaves, Palæontologist, &c., to the Geological Survey of Canada, read a communication or paper before the Geological Section, in which there was recorded for the first time on this continent the occurrence of a beautifully fringed, or spinose brachiopod, which, from specimens sent him, Dr. Thos. Davidson, the eminent authority on the Brachiopoda, had recognized to be referable to a form which he himself had described as *Siphonotreta Scotica*. The specimens thus referred to de Verneuil's genus *Siphonotreta* had been collected by Mr. J. W. H. Watts, of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, and that gentleman had handed them to Mr. Whiteaves and subsequently presented them to the National Museum at Ottawa where they are now exhibited in the cases. The specimens in question had been obtained from blocks of impure limestone lying near Mr. Watts' residence at Cummings' Bridge, near Ottawa, and were said to have come out of a well sunk by the same gentleman on his property. There was but little doubt, both from the lithological aspect of the rock containing the specimens of *Siphonotreta* and other fossils found on this property, and from the *facies* of the included fauna, that the measures whence they came were referable to the Utica Formation. For some time, however, a certain amount of doubt was entertained by a number of palæontologists as to the precise geological position of the interesting form under consideration; but, from recent investigations made with the special object in view of clearing this point, the writer, in conjunction with Messrs. McConnell, Hayter and other members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club has made a number of excursions during which specimens of this beautiful shell were collected.