

DESCRIPTION OF A CANADIAN SPECIES OF
PELTOCERAS.

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The genus *Peltoceras* was constituted by Dr. Waagen for the reception of certain Jurassic Ammonites from Europe and India, that are most closely allied to *Aspidoceras* and *Perisphinctes*. A "short diagnosis" of this genus was published in November, 1871, in the fourth part of the fourth volume of the Records of the Geological Survey of India. And, under the auspices of that Survey, a much fuller description of the generic characters of *Peltoceras* was published in 1875, in the first volume of the "Jurassic Fauna of Kutch." In the latter publication Dr. Waagen makes the following remarks: "Most essential for the generic determination of the shells I place under the name of *Peltoceras* is the form of the earlier stages of growth, which is characteristic to a high degree, and varies but very little in most of the species. The strong, sharp, mostly dichotome, but sometimes also undivided, ribs, which cover the inner whorls of those Ammonites, cannot be easily mistaken, and serve well to recognize the genus, even in specimens where other characteristics are not observable. The whorls are always very little embracing, and the transversal section of the latter somewhat rectangular." The genus is divided into three sections, viz.: (1) The group of *Ammonites annularis*, Reinecke; (2) the group of *A. Eugeniei*, Raspail; and (3) the group of *A. athleta*, Phillips.

In the summer season of 1906, Mr. D. B. Dowling found a small Ammonite, which seems to the writer to belong to the genus *Peltoceras* and to the group of *P. athleta*, in rocks of mesozoic and presumably of Jurassic age, on the Red Deer River, Alberta, at the Rocky Mountain Park. This little Ammonite is not more than an inch and a quarter in its maximum diameter, and represents only the early stage of growth of the shell, but that, as Dr. Waagen states, is highly characteristic in the genus *Peltoceras*. The sutures of its septa are not preserved, but the outline of its transverse section, and its surface ornamentation, are essentially similar, in a general way, to those of the corresponding stage of growth of *P. athleta*, as figured by d'Orbigny, under the name *Ammonites athleta*, on Plates 163 and 164 of the "Atlas" to the first volume of the "Terrains Jurassiques." This Canadian *Peltoceras*, however, seems to be specifically distinct from: