

Whiteaves, J. F. Mkz
W58

[FROM THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS, VOL. VII, MARCH, 1874.]

ON RECENT DEEP-SEA DREDGING OPERATIONS IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE.

By J. F. WHITEAVES.



DURING the summer of 1873, the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries of the Dominion of Canada very kindly placed one of the government schooners at my disposal, for dredging purposes. These investigations, which were undertaken on behalf of the Natural History Society of Montreal, had, as their primary object, an examination into the present condition of the Marine Fisheries of the Gulf, and were supplementary to similar explorations carried out by myself in the summers of 1871 and 1872. In the present paper, a short descriptive account will be attempted of some of the most interesting zoölogical specimens collected in 1873. Nearly nine weeks were spent at sea (from July 18th to September 8th); and during this time, although the weather was often unfavorable, we nevertheless got about seventy successful hauls of the dredge. The cruises were essentially four in number, but on the whole the first yielded the greatest number of novelties.

Cruise 1.—The first two weeks were devoted to an examination of the deep water in the center of the mouth of the river, between Anticosti and the Gaspé Peninsula. The most interesting specimens were obtained in from 200 to 220 fathoms, mud; and among them are the following:

FORAMINIFERA.—*Margulinina spinosa* M. Sars; a large *Triloculina* allied to *T. tricarinata*, perhaps *T. cryptella* D'Orb.; curious arenaceous forms, new to me, some of which are simple and unbranched, others widely triradiate, while a third series is irregularly cruciform, and even five and six-rayed. They are all, most likely, forms of one species; but whether they are the *Asterorhiza limicola* of Sandahl or not, I have at present no means of ascertaining.

LIBRARY
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY