

NOTES ON THE LAND & FRESHWATER MOLLUSCA OF MANITOBA.

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Although Manitoba is a country which has of late occasioned much talk and discussion, it is but comparatively a few years since it was the undisputed home of the Indian, the Buffalo, and the Hudson's Bay Company. What little was then known as to its great agricultural capabilities and its natural products had principally been collected by survey-parties sent out for the purpose of selecting the best route across the continent for the Canadian Pacific Railway, consequently it is but slight wonder that very little should be known concerning so comparatively unimportant a branch of natural history as the mollusca.

Having found occasion to visit Manitoba several times during the last two years, and having always endeavoured to obtain as large a series as possible of its mollusca, it is now my intention to make a few remarks upon the results of my collecting; and in so doing it is impossible for me to acknowledge too fully my great indebtedness to Mr. J. W. Taylor who has been most kind in identifying all my specimens. So little having hitherto been published upon the subject, I have thought it well to make my notes as complete as possible by incorporating with them some additional information gained from two other sources. One of these is a collection of the shells of Manitoba and the region around the Lake of the Woods formed by Dr. G. M. Dawson of the Geological Survey of Canada, and now exhibited in the Peter Redpath Museum at Montreal; the other source consists of two lists of shells collected in the country between Winnipeg and York Factory, by Dr. Robert Bell, also of the Survey, identified by Mr. J. F. Whiteaves, and published in the Annual Reports.*

* App. III. (pp. 61 and 62) to Mr. Bell's Report of 1878—79; also App. IV. (pp. 75 and 76) to Mr. Bell's Report of 1879—80.