ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE UNUSUAL TABULATE CORAL ANTHOLITES SPECIOSUS DAVIS IN THE DEVONIAN OF NEW YORK

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William J. Davis, 1887 (pl. 78, figs. 1-2), figured an unusual tabulate coral Antholites speciosus from the Beechwood Limestone of Kentucky. This species, although having no tabulae, is classified with the tabulate corals. The corallum consists of a series of hollow, cone-shaped corallites always surrounding a crinoid stem or calyx. The walls of the corallites have large, quadrangular mural pores in vertical rows separated by low septal ridges. The species was described by Greene (1900, p. 40, figs. 14-16), under the name Michelinia bridghami from the same horizon in quarries near Charlestown, Indiana. It was subsequently found in the Dock Street Clay member of the Four Mile Dam Formation of the Traverse group of Michigan by Stumm (1950, p. 208, pl. 2, figs. 1-6), and described under the name Antholites bridghami, and in the coral zone of the Hungry Hollow Formation of southwestern Ontario (pl. 3, fig. 3) under the name of Antholites speciosus. Careful examination of the type specimens shows that the two are conspecific. Up to the present time the species appeared to be confined to rocks of Centerfield age.

In the Raymond R. Hibbard collection bought by the University of Michigan, two specimens of Antholites speciosus were found mixed in with two lots of specimens labeled Pleurodictyum styleporia. The mud filled calyces made separation of the two impossible. Subsequent cleaning revealed the true nature of the specimens. Both specimens are from the Wanakah Shale, one from the Pleurodictyum beds about 30 feet above the Centerfield Limestone, and the other from the Strophodonta demissa bed of the Wanakah Shale about 80 feet above the Centerfield Limestone. This discovery considerably extends both the stratigraphic and geographic range of the species.

REFERENCES

DAVIS, W. J., 1887, Kentucky Fossil Corals, Kentucky Geol. Survey, Frankfort, Kentucky.

TEXT-FIG. 1—A, surface of holotype, Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, no. 8746, Beechwood Limestone, near Louisville, Kentucky; B, another view of same specimen showing crinoid stem; C, small specimen with crinoid stem in center, hypotype no. 38206, University of Michigan, Museum of Paleontology, Wanakah Shale, Pleurodictyum bed, Avery's Creek at Mt. Vernon, Erie Co., New York; D, large specimen, hypotype, University of Michigan, Museum of Paleontology, no. 48521, from Wanakah Shale Strophodonta demissa bed at Smoke Creek near Berg Road, 1½ miles south of Reserve, Erie County, New York. All figures X1.