

A NEW *AULOSTEGES* FROM THE LOWER PERMIAN OF QUEENSLAND.

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(Plate xxiii.)

Introduction.

In this paper a new species of *Aulosteges* from the Dilly Stage of the Queensland Permian is described as *Aulosteges acanthophorus*. It is the first time the genus has been recorded from the Permian rocks of Eastern Australia, although it is not uncommon in rocks of similar age in Western Australia.

Some time ago a comprehensive collection of fossils was made by Mr. J. H. Reid, Geological Survey of Queensland, from the Permian beds of the Springsure district. The collection was later presented by him to the University of Queensland, Brisbane. Included in this collection are two well preserved specimens of *Aulosteges*, now known as *A. acanthophorus*, and consisting of a complete shell (No. 153) and an internal cast of a brachial valve (No. 152). They were collected from "Little Gorge Creek, Springsure Anticline, Queensland". This species has since been collected from the head of Little Gorge Creek and from the Burnett River, half a mile south of Yarrol, Queensland.

I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Reid for the opportunity of describing this new and interesting species of *Aulosteges*, and to the Shell (Queensland) Development Proprietary Ltd., for information regarding the additional localities.

The Occurrence of *Aulosteges* in Australian Rocks.

The genus *Aulosteges* is restricted to rocks of Permian age and has practically a world-wide distribution. It was first recorded in Australia when Etheridge (1903, p. 22) described *A. baracoodensis* from Baracooda Pool, Arthur River, North-West Division, Western Australia (Callytharra Stage). The same author ((1906, p. 5) later described *A. baracoodensis* var. *septentrionalis*, from a locality six miles north-east of Cape Dombey, Hyland Bay, Northern Territory.

Etheridge (1914, pp. 33-34) described and figured two additional specimens of *A. baracoodensis* from twenty miles north of Barrabiddie, Minilya River district, but Whitehouse (1926, pp. 282-283) considered these particular specimens should be referred to *Taeniothaerus*. This genus was proposed by him for shells previously known as *Productus subquadratus* of Morris. Miss Hosking (1933, p. 36) is of the opinion that the specimen figured by Etheridge (1914, pl. iv, figs. 11, 13) should be referred to *Taeniothaerus subquadratus*, but the second specimen (pl. iv, fig. 12), which actually came from Mt. Marmion, must be retained in the genus *Aulosteges*. Miss Prendergast (1943, p. 27) placed both specimens as synonyms of *Taeniothaerus subquadratus*.

Miss Hosking (1931, p. 15) described and figured *A. ingens*, a large inflated species, from the Wooramel River, two miles east of Survey Station R.20 and from a locality three miles above Survey Station R.20 (Byro Stage). A series of well preserved specimens of this species, in the Australian Museum Collection (F.36213-7), were collected by Dr. H. Raggatt from a locality thirty chains below Coolkilya Pool, Minilya River (Wandagee Stage). Additional specimens were collected by Mr. H. Coley of Wandagee Station. This locality is approximately 150 miles north from the Wooramel River. A smaller species with shallow valves, *A. spinosus*, was described and figured (Hosking, 1931, p. 17) from the south bank of the Wooramel River, below Callytharra Springs (Callytharra Stage). Later, the same authority (1933, pp. 33-37) revised the