ART. XXXI.—*Note on the Occurrence of Siphonotreta Scotica*, Davidson, in the Utica Formation near Ottawa, Ontario; by J. F. WHITEAVES.

IN the spring of 1881, three specimens of a remarkable spinose brachiopod were collected by Mr. J. W. H. Watts, R.C.A., from a band of impure limestone in the Utica Slate at Cumming's Bridge, near Ottawa. These specimens, which Mr. Watts has since presented to the Museum of the Geological Survey of Canada, consist of two perfect examples of the beaked and perforated valve, which is probably the ventral, and of one detached dorsal valve in which the beak is obsolete. Over most of the central area of the sides of the valves the spines are broken off, and where this is the case the surface is marked with pitted imbricating concentric lamellæ, the pits representing the fractured bases of the spines. In each case the margins of the valves are densely fringed with a single and continuous row of fine hair-like spines, except immediately upon the beaks.

Upon examination with an ordinary simple lens it was at once apparent that these specimens are referable to DeVerneuil's genus *Siphonotreta*, and that in most respects they bear a very close resemblance to an English species, the *S. Anglica* of Professor Morris. But the spines of *S. Anglica* are distinctly stated to be annulated, whereas those of the Canadian specimens appeared perfectly smooth when viewed under an achromatic microscope with an inch and a half objective.

A few months ago the writer had occasion to send some Canadian fossil Brachiopoda to Mr. Thomas Davidson, F.R.S.,

* Loc. cit.

for examination and comparison with British species. In the parcel forwarded the three examples of the *Siphonotreta* from Cumming's Bridge were included, and in a letter received from Mr. Davidson in May last they are reported upon as follows:

"The *Siphonotreta* from near Ottawa interests me much. It is identical in shape and characters with the Upper Llandeilo species which I named *Siphonotreta Scotica*. I am very uncertain whether the Wenlock Shale species named *S. Anglica* by Morris is the same or not. Only one crushed specimen of the *S. Anglica* has been found, and its spines are annulated as described by Morris. I could see no annulations in the spines of the many specimens of *S. Scotica* found by Mrs. Gray in the Upper Llandeilo of Craighead, nor do I see any in your specimens. As there is uncertainty as to the specific identity of the highest Upper Silurian form with the Lower Silurian one, and as none have been found in all that mass of intervening strata, I prefer provisionally to retain the two names, or until other Upper Silurian species shall have been found."

S. Scotica was originally described and figured in the Geological Magazine for January, 1877, and if the Canadian specimens are specifically identical with those from Scotland, the species must have had a considerable range in time, for the Upper Llandeilo rocks are generally regarded as of about the same age as the Chazy Limestone of the State of New York, and the Utica Slate as corresponding to beds on a comparatively high horizon in the Caradoc or Bala Group. To the paleontologist, Mr. Watts' discovery will be of special interest, as this is the first time that the occurrence of a species of *Siphonotreta* in North America has been placed upon record.