

## PROVENANCE OF CERTAIN TASMANIAN ORDOVICIAN CORALS

By

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## ABSTRACT

Registered numbers and further information of the localities from which they came are provided for Ordovician corals from Tasmania, described by Dr. Dorothy Hill.

In Volume 89 of these Proceedings, Dr. Dorothy Hill (1955) described a series of fossil corals from Tasmania. Among them were some Ordovician corals referred to as being in the collections of the National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne. The purpose of this note is to provide Museum numbers for these specimens, and to increase the stratigraphic value of the determinations by giving further details of the provenance of the specimens.

The fossils in question were collected by the writer when on a geological excursion to Western Tasmania in December, 1947, under the guidance of Professor S. Warren Carey and Mr. M. R. Banks. The writer was not then on the staff of the National Museum, and so the specimens had labels only and no Museum numbers. At some time during the interval, some of the labels were lost, so Dr. Hill recorded fossils as being from Bubb's Hill, or Queenstown, or Zeehan. Reference to correspondence shows that I forwarded to Dr. Hill fossils only from Bubb's Hill and Zeehan, so the third possibility can be ruled out. The two localities can be defined as follows:—

1. Near Hydro-Electric Commission transmission line tower 287, south of the Lyell Highway, and on the north-west flank of Bubb's Hill, Victoria Pass, Western Tasmania. Bubb's Hill is shown on the "State Map 4 M" of Tasmania published by the Surveyor General's Office, Hobart, Tasmania.
2. Smelters' limestone quarry, about one and a half miles south of Zeehan, and west of the Smelters' Works (see Gill and Banks, 1950, map, plate 2). Subsequently in this note, the fossil localities listed here are referred to simply as localities 1 and 2. The two localities are regarded as outcrops of the same formation (Loftus-Hills and Carey, 1949).

The following list comprises the registered numbers in the National Museum of Victoria, the specimens to which they refer, and the localities from which they came. The registered numbers have reference to the physical entities only, and not to the biological specimens they comprise or contain (Gill, 1953, p. 157).

P 16738 *Propora* cf. *hirsuta* Lindström. Loc. 1 or 2.

Hypotype in part, viz., part of piece of rock from which were cut the slides figured in Pl. 2, figs. 22 A, B. A type specimen is a biological and not a lithological one. It is an individual or single colony of animal or plant selected from a population as typical, and thus becomes a fixed point in taxonomy. In the present instance, a colony of *Propora* is made a hypotype. It is fragmented into a number of pieces, but each is part of the hypotype, i.e., of the coral colony concerned.

P 16739 Same. Hypotype in part. Eight fragments of same piece of rock.

P 16740 Same. Hypotype in part (tectohypotype). Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 22 A. Transverse section.

P 16741 Same. Hypotype in part (tectohypotype). Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 22 B. Vertical section.

P 16742 *Nyctopora* sp. The specimen also contains *Eofletcheria ida* Hill. Loc. 1. Figured specimen in part, viz., the piece of rock from which were cut the slides figured in Pl. 2, figs. 30 A, B.

P 16743 Same. Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 30 A. Transverse section.

P 16744 Same. Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 30 B. Vertical section.

P 16745 *Plasmoporella* sp. Loc. 1. Figured specimen in part, viz., the piece of rock from which was cut the slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 31.

P 16746 Same. Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 31.

P 16747 *Plasmoporella* sp. Loc. 1. Figured specimen in part, viz., the piece of rock from which was cut the slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 32. Dr. Hill writes, "The specimens from Bubb's Hill, may well be conspecific with the form described by Hill (1942, p. 10, Pl. 2, figs. 10 a, b) from the head of the Nelson River". The latter locality is more or less the same as loc. 1, as one branch of the Nelson River rises at Bubb's Hill. Dr. W. R. Browne, who collected the specimen described by Dr.

Hill in 1942, advises me that he obtained it from near the Lyell Highway at Bubb's Hill. Professor S. W. Carey has pointed out that although these outcrops on and near Bubb's Hill belong to the same formation, there is a fault between the hill and the highway, so that specimens from adjacent points may nevertheless be considerably apart stratigraphically. Dr. Browne has drawn attention to the fact that there is another Nelson River in Western Tasmania, just south of the Arthur River and heading near Balfour.

P 16748 Same. Slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 33.

P 16749 *Eofletcheria ida* Hill. Loc. 1 or 2. Paratype in part, viz., a piece of the specimen from which was cut the slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 35.

P 16750 Same. Paratype in part, viz., five fragments of the same piece of rock.

P 16751 Same. Paratype in part (tectoparatype), viz., slide figured in Pl. 2, fig. 33.

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