

Department of the Interior:

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM.

— 15 —

# BULLETIN

OF THE

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM.

No. 15.

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PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

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WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1879.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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This work is the fifteenth of a series of papers intended to illustrate the collections of Natural History and Ethnology belonging to the United States, and constituting the National Museum, of which the Smithsonian Institution was placed in charge by the act of Congress of August 10, 1846.

It has been prepared at the request of the Institution, and printed by authority of the honorable Secretary of the Interior.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,

*Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.*

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Washington, April 15, 1879.*

CONTRIBUTIONS

TO THE

NATURAL HISTORY

OF

ARCTIC AMERICA,

MADE IN CONNECTION WITH

THE HOWGATE POLAR EXPEDITION, 1877-78,

BY

LUDWIG KUMLIEN,

NATURALIST OF THE EXPEDITION.



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# MOLLUSKS.

LIST OF SHELLS OBTAINED BY MR. LUDWIG KUMLIEN, NATURALIST TO THE HOWGATE EXPEDITION, 1877-78, AT POINTS IN CUMBERLAND SOUND, ARCTIC REGIONS, WEST FROM BAFFIN'S BAY.

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BY W. H. DALL.

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The locality at which the schooner Florence, conveying the party, made her winter quarters, according to Mr. Kumlien's report, was not favorable for extensive collections in any department.

The prevalence of ice in the irregularities of the sound and other circumstances, especially the abrupt and rocky character of the shores, rendered it difficult to obtain specimens of invertebrates, which in point of fact were all collected at a few small areas of beach, some of which were a long distance from winter quarters.

Nevertheless, when the difficulties are considered, the results are very creditable to Mr. Kumlien's energy and perseverance, and are not without value for the study of geographical distribution.

The number of specimens is small; but twenty-four species are represented, some of which were also obtained by a party under Lieutenant Mintzer, U. S. N., who explored for minerals in nearly the same region a year or two previous to the visit of the Florence.

As was to be expected, none of the species are new: *Modiolaria faba* Fabr., which has almost been lost sight of by naturalists, and *Glycymeris Kurriana* Dkr., a species whose validity has been much questioned, were among the most interesting forms obtained.

The species are as follows (those with an asterisk are represented by only one or two specimens, and only *Buccinum grønlandicum* was at all numerous):

- \* *Ommastrephes illecebrosa*, Lesneur.
- \* *Buccinum glaciale*, Linné.
- \* *Buccinum ciliatum*, Fabr., var. *Mölleri*, Rve.
- \* *Buccinum humphreysianum*, Bennett (probably).
- \* *Buccinum belcheri*, Rve.

*Buccinum tenebrosum*, Hancock, (typical).

*Buccinum grönländicum*, Chemn.

\* *Trophon truncatus*, Ström.

*Margarita umbilicalis*, Brod. & Sby.

*Margarita helicina*, Fabr., vars.

*Litorina grönländica*, Möreh.

*Aemæa testudinalis*, Linné.

*Aeolidia papillosa*, Linné.

\* *Dendronotus reynoldsii*, Couthouy.

*Mya truncata*, Linné.

\* *Glycymeris Kurriana*, Dkr. On mud flats.

*Saxicava arctica*, Linné.

\* *Astarte borealis*, Gray; attached to kelp.

\* *Turtonia minuta*, Fabr.; in nest of *Modiolaria*.

*Modiolaria lævigata*, Gray.

*Modiolaria discors*, Linné.

*Modiolaria (Crenella) faba*, Fabr.

*Chiton (Tonicella) marmorca*, Fabr.

*Rhynchonella psittacea*, Fischer; dead broken valves, apparently disgorged by some bird, were found on the hills at a considerable distance from the sea. They are evidently not fossil, and are probably to be found living in suitable places at low-water mark.

NOVEMBER 26, 1878.