

**Article XVI.—NOTE ON A VERY FINE EXAMPLE OF  
HELICOCERAS STEVENSONI PRESERVING  
THE OUTER CHAMBER.**

By R. P. WHITFIELD:

PLATES XXIX AND XXX.

In the volume on the Geology of the Black Hills published by the United States Department of the Interior in 1880, p. 447, and in a previous Preliminary Report on the Palæontology of the Black Hills, I published an imperfect specimen of *Helicoceras stevensoni*, the best then to be obtained. Some years later the Museum obtained by purchase a much better individual containing about four volutions, but still imperfect at both ends. Recently the Museum has purchased a large specimen of the species which retains nearly the three lower whorls and the deflected lower chamber, or chamber of habitation, which is deflected obliquely downward from the back of the lower whorl to the distance of about three inches. Then it bends sideways across and below the umbilicus and recurves upward to within an inch, on one side of the aperture, and an inch and a quarter on the other of the underside of the last regularly coiled volution.

There are no visible signs of septa beyond the half of the last regularly coiled volution; the outer half of this volution and all of the deflected part representing the chamber of habitation. On the deflected part there are no signs of what are usually called "old-age characters," such as more close arrangement of the ribs, or dying out of nodes; but the usual features are retained.

The specimen is highly interesting as being the most complete in the outer chamber of any known, although the upper coils are absent.

The specimen came from the Fort Pierre group of the Cretaceous, at Chadron, Nebraska.

**EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXIX.**

*Helicoceras stevensoni* Whitf. p. 220. View of the front side of the specimen, natural size.

**EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXX.**

*Helicoceras stevensoni* Whitf. p. 220. View of the back of the specimen described, natural size.

