GENAL SPINES ATTACHED TO AMPYX (LONCHODOMAS) MCGEHEEI

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While scores of cranidia of *Ampyx McGeheei* occur crowded together in a few feet of the marly limestones of the Bromide formation at Rock Crossing of Hickory Creek in the Criner Hills, only one specimen has been secured on which the genal spines are attached.

The right spine from which the point has been broken off measures 9.5 mm. in length, while only 2 mm. of the left spine remain. The spines are 1 mm. in width at the base next to the cranidium, and they taper very gradually to a point at the distal end. A low rounded carinal ridge occurs on the top of the spine. When complete the spines extend back considerably beyond the end of the pygidium. They curve out gradually and then turn in somewhat so that the distal ends become almost parallel and the distal ends are separated by a space of about 13.25 mm.

The rostral spine on this specimen has been broken off at a point 2 mm. in front of the glabella and the broken part turned backward on the right side. The broken part of the spine is 12 mm. long, giving a total length to the spine of 14 mm. This elongate rostral spine and the two relatively long genal spines doubtless made it possible for a trilobite with so small a body to swim readily at the surface of the ocean.

The genus *Ampyx* occurs in England and Norway as well as in North America where a number of the species are from the Chazyan and older formations, two from the Trenton, and a few have been described from the Silurian. While genal spines are considered characteristic of the genus, they are short and stubby on several species, though they were extremely long on *Ampyx nudus*. However, the spines doubtless were readily separated from the cranidium, as many of the species are illustrated without them.

The species *A. McGeheei* Decker was illustrated and described, 1931, in the Journal of Paleontology Vol. 5, p. 154.

A history of the genus *Ampyx* with description of American species was given by A. W. Vogdes, 1893, American Geologist Vol. 11, p. 99-109.

Rudolf Ruedeman described and illustrated *A. hastatus*, 1901. New York State Museum Bulletin 49, p. 48, Pl. 3, figs. 1-10 and 30.

The specimen of *A. McGeheei* with genal spines attached was collected by William T. Watkins of Ardmore. Mr. Watkins has been very successful in collecting trilobites, and he has a number of beautifully preserved specimens in his collection. .

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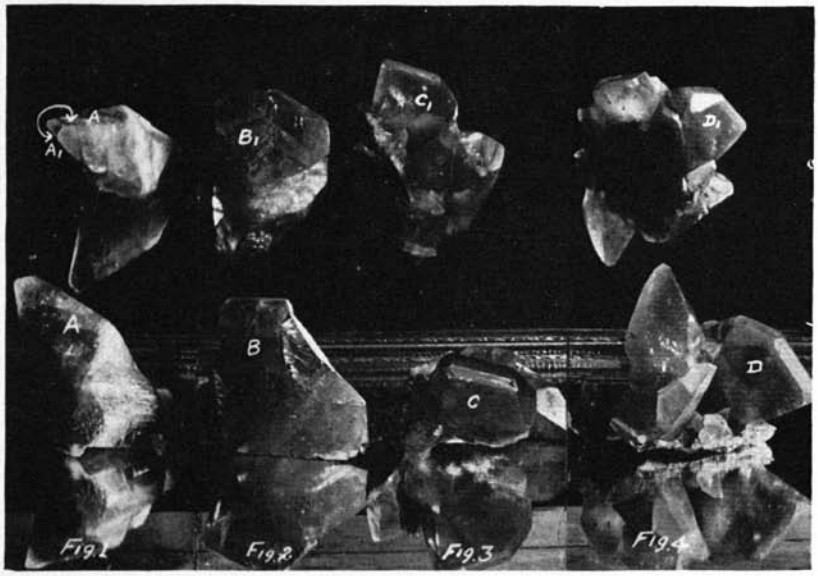

PLATE I