

**CATALOGUE OF THE
CRETACEOUS FOSSILS IN
THE BRIGHTON MUSEUM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649338436

Catalogue of the Cretaceous fossils in the Brighton museum by Henry Willett

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

HENRY WILLETT

**CATALOGUE OF THE
CRETACEOUS FOSSILS IN
THE BRIGHTON MUSEUM**

CATALOGUE
OF THE
CRETACEOUS FOSSILS

IN THE
BRIGHTON MUSEUM.


PRESENTED BY

HENRY WILLETT, ESQ.

BRIGHTON:
WILLIAM J. SMITH, 43, NORTH STREET.

1871.

20th
both
1-25-25
11854

PREFACE.

This Collection of Sussex Chalk Fossils is the result of the loving labour of the leisure hours of ten years.

My love of Natural History was directed into this channel through the casual acquaintance (when quite a boy) of the late GIDEON MANTELL, Esq., F.G.S., LL.D. When, in 1841, I came to live at Brighton, I found that his valuable and interesting Collection had been removed to the British Museum.

While the great Natural Storehouse of extinct Animal Forms still remained, the Fossils daily discovered in the large Chalk Quarries round Lewes were destroyed as worthless, because there was no one to care for them.

Regretting that so many objects of beauty and interest should not be redeemed from destruction, I devoted my pocket-money and spare time to the amusement of (1) Inducing the workmen to observe and lay aside for me everything the chalk contained that was not a flint ;

and (2) To collecting and developing the treasures thus obtained.

I use the word "treasures" advisedly ; for had I been so inclined, I could have disposed of the Collection for a considerably larger sum of money than it had cost me ; but I preferred to present it to the Museum of this Town, in the hope that it would not only be a Local Record of Fossil Remains of the neighbourhood, but that its Exhibition might induce other Young Men to direct some of their spare hours in the intervals of active business to its study, and thereby to share the same pleasures, and find the same advantages in the pursuit, that I have done.

These advantages are neither small nor few ; for while I admit, on a casual glance, there is nothing very attractive in a chalk fossil, yet the delight of discovering some *new* relic of Creative Power hitherto unknown to Science is as great to the discoverer as that of a new planet or comet is to the astronomer ; while it surpasses the joy of a gold-digger at finding a "nugget," inasmuch as he has no fear that any one will steal it.

The pleasure of a Collector in meeting with a fossil fish in a chalk stone, is not surpassed by that of an angler who has hooked a living one ; and the enjoyment of developing the form of a beautiful fossil,—such as a Pentacrinus or Echinus,—from its entombing chalk matrix, is similar to what an artist or sculptor experiences as he sees his

conception grow daily into visible reality ; while, to crown all, there are no sad regrets at the amusement having caused unnecessary suffering to the weaker objects in Creation, none of which have cause to lament that their brief day of life has been prematurely shortened.

The pursuit developed in me a habit of early rising ; it blessed me with the health which usually follows vigorous exercise in the open air ; and it made me acquainted with men of culture and refinement, who, in many instances, have grown to be firm and fast friends.

One word of caution I must give to young Collectors. There is a danger lest, in the greed of collecting, there should grow up a jealousy of those who have been more successful : and a watch must be set against the folly of fancying that, because you have fortunately discovered a new fossil, you may assume airs of personal importance as if you were its creator. But these are weaknesses which belong to human nature, and are not peculiar to the study of this or any other science.

To be a happy and successful Student, one must be *humble* and *reverent* ; and if the inspection of this Collection should help one young man to find his pleasure, and to spend his spare time in this direction, rather than to waste it in billiards or idleness, it will not have been formed nor presented in vain.

I should be deficient in due recognition of kind and

patient assistance, if I omitted to thank (for the aid rendered in the nomenclature and arrangement of this Catalogue) my friend, WILLIAM BOYD DAWKINS, Esq., F.G.S., the Professor of Owen's College, Manchester, whose position is a proof of what may be done by any one who can combine high personal character with persevering and intelligent effort. Without his aid the Catalogue could not have attained its present form and accuracy.

HENRY WILLET.

Arnold House,

Brighton,

January, 1871.

NOTICE.

The Fossils are arranged according to the System laid down in PROFESSOR OWEN'S "Palæontology."

The following Abridgements have been used throughout :—

- u. c., upper chalk.
- m. c., middle chalk.
- l. c., lower chalk.
- c. m., chalk marl.

Underneath the Table Cases are specimens of the existing Species, to illustrate the affinities of their fossil analogues.

In Case 12 there is a series of Minerals from the Chalk, and a small collection of the objects around which Flint is generally accumulated.

1000

100

10

1

100

1000

100

10

1

1000

100