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Mississippian Goniatices of Alabama, U.S.A.

Two new faunas of Mississippian goniatices have been found in the Pride Mountain Formation of Alabama. One is present in the Eastern Interior Plains Province and the other in the Valley and Ridge Province of Alabama. The one in the Eastern Interior Plains Province occurs at two horizons within the Pride Mountain Formation, south of Tuscumbia, Colbert County, Alabama. The lower fauna, 50 to 55 ft above the base, consists of *Lusitanoceras granosum*, *Lusitanites subcircularis*, *Sulcogirtyoceras limatum*, *Neoglyphioceras utahense*, and *Lyrogoniatices sp.* The upper fauna, 100 to 110 ft above the base, consists of *Dombarites choctawensis*, *Sulcogirtyoceras limatum*, and *Neoglyphioceras utahense*. The faunas of these two horizons are very similar to those known from the Ruddell Shale Member of the Moorefield Formation of northern Arkansas and from the Slade Formation of northeastern and south-central Kentucky. The fauna found in the Valley and Ridge Province occurs at the base of the Pride Mountain Formation, north of Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. The goniatices fauna here is of similar age, but is much less diverse than that in northwestern Alabama, consisting of only two elements—*Lyrogoniatices georgiensis* and *Girtyoceras meslerianum*. The former element dominates the fauna. This fauna is almost exactly like that found near Rome, Georgia, in the Floyd Formation. The relationship between these two faunas is currently unknown, but they are thought to be closely similar in age. Their occurrence in two distinct provinces suggests that there may have been paleoenvironmental, paleogeographic, or both types of controls acting on their distribution.