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The “Musée des Sciences de Laval” houses an interesting collection of Recent brachiopods mostly sampled during the first Monegasque and French oceanographic cruises in the second half of the 19th century. These were studied by D.-P. Œhlert (1849-1920), a specialist in fossil and extant brachiopods, who also obtained more brachiopods by exchange, from different parts of the world not sampled by the cruises, that also form part of the collections. Besides of this material, Recent brachiopods from the Monterosato and Cailliaud collections are also part of the Museum collections.

The first part of this book presents Œhlert’s remarkable collection dedicating special attention to the dredging localities that range from Bay of Biscay to Cap Horn or Newfoundland. In the second part, the 795 specimens of the collections have been studied, photographically illustrated and briefly described and discussed. Systematic descriptions of 39 species included in 32 genera are provided. The value of this collection is enhanced in a third part by an updated geographic and depth distribution of extant brachiopods along the French coasts.

This new synthesis constitutes an invaluable reference document for future studies of fossil and recent brachiopod populations.

## Product Details :

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Authors : Fernando ÁLVAREZ (palaeontologist, Honorary Professor, University of Oviedo, Spain), Christian C. EMIG (biologist oceanographer, Honorary Research Director of the CNRS) and Jérôme Tréguier (Director and Curator of the “Musée des Sciences de Laval”).

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