

Cyphaspides sp. (TH381)

Cyphaspides → Proetida → Aulacopleurina → Aulacopleuroidea → Aulacopleuridae → Cyphaspidinae

Provenance : Morocco; Jbel Issoumour

Formation : ? Fm

Age : Devonian

Details : Complete specimen. With this one comes a slightly embarrassing story (embarrassing to me, that is). At the eve of his first day with us, our guide Youssef came along with several fossils to sell, and he proposed this as a "**Cyphaspis** from Issoumour". My thoughts were, "Oh, one without a spine on the 6th thorax...gotta have!". So far, so good...but I completely forgot to ask where precisely on the djebel Issoumour the beastie came from (embarrassment No. 1). Having taken the bought things back with me on the plane, I was able to make pictures of this specimen in time to show my buys to a friend, at the occasion of our first outing together after the Maroc Trip (which was at the April 13-14 minerals & fossils fair in Bogny-sur-Meuse, in the north of France). Of course, he came down on me a bit, because of the (sad) quality of the prepping...but also he immediately righted the mistake I had made in identifying this specimen in particular. Truth is, the pygidium is not quite visible, and I may want to prep it out more clearly in order to get confirmation (the pygidium on a **Cyphaspis** does not have spines, whereas a **Cyphaspides** does!). Even then, there's a prominence of the eyes stalks which I have not yet seen among **Cyphaspides**. However...another thing which confused me about the identification, is that according to my data base records, no species of **Cyphaspides** were as yet found outside the western Tafilalt region. So...if the **Cyphaspides** identification holds, I'll have a first one registered from the Mai'der area. Needless to say...this needs clarification...and thus an additional photograph is to follow.

Bought on : 26/06/2019

Bought at : Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines

Event : SMaM 2019



