

two genera with new names (*Dendronephthya* and *Stereonephthya*). I have reexamined the specimens in my large collection of this genus and I have found so many cases in which it is extremely difficult to determine with certainty that the anthocodiae are "never" connected together to form bundles; moreover in many specimens there are very many isolated anthocodiae, and I cannot believe that the distinction is one of any practical importance.

The generic name *Spongodes* is one that has been well established for a great many years, it is used in nearly all the large Museums and Laboratories of the world and should not be discarded without some very strong reasons based upon a thorough anatomical study of its species. I would suggest therefore that the generic name *Spongodes* be retained and that those zoologists who have found Prof. Kükenthal's classification useful should retain *Dendronephthya* and *Stereonephthya* as sub-generic names.

The proposal made by Prof. Kükenthal as it stands is contrary to rule 29 of the "International rules of Zoological nomenclature" published in 1905 which reads as follows. »Wird eine Gattung in zwei oder mehr Gattungen geteilt, so verbleibt ihr gültiger Name einer der aus der Teilung hervorgegangenen Gattungen. War der Typus der Gattung ursprünglich bestimmt, so verbleibt der Gattungsname derjenigen aus der Teilung hervorgegangenen Gattung, welche diesen Typus enthält.«

Whether we are prepared to abide by these rules or not, it is clearly very inconvenient to discard altogether from our literature a generic name such as *Spongodes* which is so well known as the name applied to a very common Alcyonarian in the tropical seas.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Hamburg.

Herr Dr. Georg Duncker, wissenschaftlicher Hilfsarbeiter am Naturhistorischen Museum, ist auf ein Jahr beurlaubt, um als Zoologe an der Hamburgischen ethnographischen Expedition zur Erforschung der Südsee teilzunehmen.

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Nekrolog.

Am 7. April d. J. starb in Wien Prof. Dr. Ludwig Karl Schmarda, geboren am 23. Aug. 1819 in Olmütz, bis 1883 Professor der Zoologie an der Universität Wien, bekannt durch seine Arbeiten zur Morphologie und besonders zur geographischen Verbreitung der Tiere.