

Die Gattungsnamen *Erigone*, *Ericia* und *Nordenskiöldia*

sind in der Zoologie wiederholt verwendet worden. — *Erigone* ist prioritätsberechtig in der Araneologie, ist aber nachher in die Dipterologie eingeführt worden (von Robineau-Desvoidy 1830); diese Dipterengattung wurde 1903 von Speiser in *Varichaeta* umgetauft (in: Berl. Ent. Zeitschr. 1903, p. 69), wodurch aber bloss ein neues Synonym geschaffen wurde (cfr. Katalog der palaearkt. Dipteren III, p. 210). Dann wurde 1850 eine Molluskengattung *Erigone* genannt (von Albers in: Die Heliceen, Berlin 1850, p. 92); für diese schlage ich den neuen Namen *Helerigone* Strd. vor.

Der Name *Ericia* wurde zuerst einer Molluskengattung gegeben (von Moquin-Tandon in: Pacliot Cyclostom. 1848), dann einer Lepidopterengattung (von Walker in: List Heterocera British Mus. 35, p. 1802 (1866)); letztere nenne ich *Ericiana* Strd. — Nebenbei sei erwähnt, dass es ausserdem eine Gattung *Erizia* gibt (unter Sauria, von Gray in: Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1864 aufgestellt).

Nordenskiöldia ist prioritätsberechtig in der Coleopterologie (von Sahlberg in: Kgl. Sv. Vet. Akad. Handl. (2) XVII, No. 4, p. 96 (1880) aufgestellt). Für die 1907 von Koenike (in: Abhandl. naturw. Ver. Bremen, Bd. 19, p. 127) geschaffene Hydrachnidengattung *Nordenskiöldia* (nach dem finnischen Zoologen Erik Nordenskiöld benannt) schlage ich den Namen *Erikiä* Strd. vor.

Em b r i k S t r a n d (Berlin).

The Old Inhabitants of a Jerusalem Garden.

by A. H. Swinton.

(Continuation).

The Jewish antiquities of Jerusalem will be found to consist in long and large stones fitted with a nice bevel that enclose the Temple area, in the centre of which is a stone said to be the threshing floor of Ornan or Araunah, the Jebusite chieftain, under which there is a well; it is covered by the mosque known as the Dome of the Rock: there is also a vault with Roman and Egyptian columns. Below in the Kedron ravine stand a row of grey monuments with Doric and Ionic sculpture and away to the north lie storied, empty sepulchres some of which have their entrances closed by a millstone running in a groove; near Bethany, so called, are the remains of small houses and olive presses such as gave a name to Gethsemane. At the side of the roadway leading there, near the north-east angle of the town wall, where the Ateuchus sacer, or mortuary beetle, may be seen rolling its ball among the moth mulleins that rise like towers of perfume, I one day unearthed some pieces of lacquered tiles similar to those of which the mosque is fabricated, and certain strips of copper that had been used to colour them. Proceeding onward, under the ochery town wall, the jasper bulwarks of the hynnal, I came to a plot of bearded wheat overrun with wiry darnel, *Lolium temu lentum*, or tares, and here the *Centurea calcitrapa*, or star thistle, was also sadly abundant; known to the Romans as *Tribolus*, from its heads resembling a ball with spikes used in warfare this gave rise to a saying: 'Do men gather figs of thistles'. It was the commen-

ment of June, down in the valley of the summer dry Kedron, as of old at Bethlehem Ephratah, when Ruth was among the gleaners, cows and mules were circling round the heaped up threshing floors and raising clouds of chaff, recalling the judgement on evil doers; and now in the gardens where the clayey soil was cleft by the drought, Solomon's Ants, identified by Mr. Edward Saunders as *Aphaenogaster barbara*, were heaping up mimic tumuli of grass glums and medic seeds; another black ant, *Myrmecocystus viaticus*, was running about excitedly with its abdomen elevated, and a larger, solitary, more or less orange kind, *Camponotus maculatus*, crawled more slowly where the shadows fell: All were busy and industrious, beneath a pale blue sky unclouded and wearisome from its monotony; but it does not appear it is always so, for once during wheat harvest Samuel undertook to say there would be a thunderstorm with rain, and this very year the early spring corn had sprouted in Moab.

A minute Aley rodes, that resembled a small white moth, which I noticed one day spin round and round like a dancing dervish on a leaf, scattering abroad a white powder, brought to mind that insects have been useful to man. The Kermes, or crimson worm, is only found in Palestine where holm oak grows; and the Coccus discharges the juice of the tamarix in the southern desert, which, being boiled and strained, furnishes honey: Aleppo is famous for its ink galls; others are injurious. No doubt the heavily armed Roman soldier complained of the rust on his armour caused by the corroding sea breeze that in ordinary years blows cold on the hills of Judea throughout the parching heat of summer, and the high priests in the pride of their scarlet vestments had no immunity from the attacks of the clothes moths which abound sporadically: I searched for a specimen in the lodging house and could only discover the little grey, spotted, *Tinea subalbidella*, a whitish relative of our brownish fur moth, described by Stainton, which being peculiar to Jerusalem may have had the honour of fretting the garment. An ever present plague consisted in three kinds of gnat, the common *Culex pipiens*, a fulvous relative, and a black and white spotted gnat; besides which there were the sand-flies, or *Cicindela*, that annoyed the Crusaders; little live sparks that descended unawares like snowflakes. One day when I accompanied a Miss Bowyer, who had a visit to pay on Miss Crawford, a well known resident, at Bethany and a truly charitable lady; horse-flies came and stuck on the flanks of the mule like hobnails just as we were passing the slaughter house where Pharoah's hens were gathered, these were somewhat larger and yellower than the English *Hippobosca equina* and more variegated, not unlike the Indian variety that Westwood named *maculata*.

At the end of the diningroom of the lodging house, near a niche once occupied by a statuette of the Virgin, hung a faded palm bough; young palms, *Phoenix dactylifera*, resembling from their seed leaves broad-leaved plantains, often sprang up from the date stones cast on the refuse heap, and my landlady brought in one she kept in the kitchen, that was growing in a biscuit tin, to show to her visitors: but save two or three lank trees in the little town of Jerusalem, which in their old age rarely matured their fruit, the emblem of Juda that furnished the festive booth and warrior's wreath was absent from the landscape. In Nehemiah's day it adorned the bare slope of Olivet. Where the Jordan seen from its summit meanders along its sandy hollow fringed with willows, Archelaus built a palace and in the gardens he irrigated from the Fountain of Elisha, he planted many

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Societas entomologica](#)

Jahr/Year: 1910

Band/Volume: [25](#)

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Artikel/Article: [Die Gattungsnamen Erigone, Ericia und Nordenskiöldia 34](#)