

Ob ein neues Tier nach dem Leben, oder als Museumsexemplar beschrieben wird, ist gleichgültig. Unter Umständen ist sogar die Beschreibung des lebenden Tieres wichtiger, denn beispielsweise die Beschaffenheit der Oberlippe bei der Sambesi-Giraffe würde an einer trocknen Haut nicht erkennbar sein und bei einem ausgestopften Exemplar vielleicht ganz falsch dargestellt werden. Außerdem gehen mit der Zeit auch manche Typen in den Museen zugrunde, oder sind später, wie ich mich öfter bei *Caniden* überzeugt habe, wegen Ausbleichens oder meist Defektwerdens des Felles ganz unbrauchbar. Wer sich vom lebenden Quagga nach den in Berlin, Frankfurt und Darmstadt befindlichen Exemplaren eine Vorstellung machen wollte, würde zu den wunderlichsten Resultaten kommen.

Ferner stimmen die beiden Giraffen mit *Giraffa tippelskirchi* bzw. mit *G. schillingsi*, die Trouëssart damit vereinigt, sicher nicht überein. Über die Variabilität von *Giraffa wardi* habe ich kein Urteil, da ich sie nicht gesehen habe.

Natürlich sehe ich auf Grund der Autorität des Herrn Oldfield Thomas zunächst von einer Neubenennung der Giraffe des Barotse-Gebietes ab, würde aber, falls sie sich später doch als neu herausstellen sollte, mir den Namen *Giraffa infumata* vorbehalten.

4. Some Necessary Changes in the Generic Names of Starfishes.

By Walter K. Fisher, Stanford University, California, U.S.A.

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Certain generic names of starfishes have long been incorrectly used. In view of the general acceptance of the International Code of Nomenclature students of Asteriodea should no longer employ these incorrect names, even if a change is temporarily inconvenient. A fairly complete list follows. Some of the generic names proposed by Perrier in the Report of the Scientific Results of the Travailleur and Talisman, 1894, are obviously preoccupied and as they have gained no recognition are not listed here. One or two names mentioned have already been corrected but are published again for the sake of emphasis.

1) *Anasterias* Perrier, 1875. The type, *A. minuta*, is the same as *Sporasterias rugispina*. Consequently Ludwig's¹ use of the name for a different genus is incorrect. Ludwig's genus may be called *Lysasterias*, with *Anasterias perrieri* Studer as type. *Anasterias* can be retained for the genus heretofore called *Sporasterias*.

2) *Asteropsis* Müller and Troschel, 1840. This name dates from

¹ Seesterne, Voy. S. J. Belgica 1903. 42.

Sept. 1840 (Arch. f. Naturgesch., 6. Jahrg. Bd. I, 322) and has *A. carinifera* Lamarck for type. Thus the name would be available only for the group now called *Gymnasteria*, if it were not antedated by *Asterope* M. and T. (see under *Gymnasteria*). Perrier long ago restricted *Asteropsis* to a quite different genus, namely to Lamarck's *Asterias vernicina*. Müller and Troschel's *Asteropsis* was monotypic so that Gray's name *Petricia*² is the correct one for the genus, which Perrier and Sladen incorrectly called *Asteropsis*. The mistake has been largely due to the fact that authors have quoted the System der Asteriden as the source of the name, whereas it was published two years earlier, as noted above.

3) *Astropecten*. This pre-Linnaean name is now attributed to Schulze's »Betrachtung der versteinerten Seesterne und ihrer Theile«, 1760. Schulze, on careful examination, turns out to be not a real binomialist. His so-called binomials are but descriptive terms in imitation of Linck's names, and are not used in the sense of genus and species, as even a hasty examination of the book will reveal. Schulze divided all true starfishes into three genera according to the number of arms. To show that he had no conception of a genus in the modern sense, it is only necessary to point out that the »genus« in which his »*Astropecten regularis*« is placed was called »quinque fidae«. Another genus he called »stellae oligactae«. Most of his names are not binomial in form, however, but are single. Even if the dual names were genus and species (which they are not) still Schulze would not be a consistent binomialist, and his names would not be tenable under modern rules of nomenclature.

Astropecten, however, was given binomial standing by Gray 1840. Nardo's previously described *Stellaria* (1834) is not available on account of *Stellaria* Moeller, 1832, for a genus of Molluscs. Fortunately, therefore, the old name will not have to be changed, but the authority for it becomes »Gray, 1840«.

4) *Crenaster* Perrier 1885. This is invalidated by *Crenaster* d'Orbigny (Prodrome de Paléontologie, t. i., 1850, 240) a synonym of *Astropecten* Gray. *Crenaster* Perrier is probably not distinct from *Dytaster* Sladen.

5) *Cribella* Agassiz, 1835, is a pure synonym of *Linckia* Nardo 1834. *Cribella* Forbes 1841 (not of Agassiz) is antedated by *Henricia* Gray, 1840, the correct name of the group of which *Asterias sanguinolenta* O. F. Müller is type.

6) *Ctenaster* Perrier, 1881. This is invalidated by *Ctenaster* Agassiz, 1835, a substitute name for *Asterina* Nardo, 1834. *Ctenaster* Perrier

² Proc. Zool. Soc. 1847, 81; type *P. punctata* Gray = *A. vernicina* Lam.

is a good genus, and being without a name may be called *Laetmaster*, the type and only known species being *Ctenaster spectabilis* Perrier.

7) *Diplasterias* Perrier, 1891. The type is *Asterias sulcifera* (Perrier). The genus is antedated by *Cosmasterias* Sladen, same type. This in turn is long antedated by *Pisaster*³ Müller and Troschel — type, *Asterias ochracea* Brandt, which is congeneric with *A. sulcifera*. *Podasterias* Perrier, type *Diplasterias lütkeni* Per. (not *Pisaster lütkeni* Stimpson, sp.), is another synonym of *Pisaster*. *Diplasterias* is a very artificial group, as constituted by Perrier, and is not coextensive with *Pisaster*, but is synonymous an account of the relationship of the types. Perrier repudiated the name, which should have been allowed a painless death, but Koehler has resurrected it for two new species in his report on the echinoderms of the Expedition Antarctique Française (1906). This use of the name is to be deplored.

8) *Goniodon* Perrier, 1894. This name is invalidated by the earlier *Goniodon*, C. L. Herrick, Denison University Scientif. Lab. Bull. III (Apr.) 1888, 4, for a mollusc. *Goniodon* Perrier may be called *Diplo-dontias*, type, *Pentagonaster dilatatus* Per.

9) *Gymnasteria* Gray, Dec. 1840. Within the year 1840 *Asterias carinifera* Lamarck was used as the type of three genera: *Asterope*⁴ Müller and Troschel, *Asteropsis*⁵ M. and T., and *Gymnasteria* Gray⁶. Müller and Troschel believed that their *Asterope* was invalidated by *Asterope Philippi* (for a crustacean) published the same year in Arch. f. Naturgesch., part 2, June, page 186. For this reason they changed the name to *Asteropsis*. But Philippi's name was not published until June while Müller and Troschel's appeared in April. A reprint of Philippi's article in the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, VI, Sept. 1840, page 89, states that the original appeared in the Wiegmann's Archiv, Part 2, June 1840, thus fixing the date. Consequently there is no reason why *Asterope* M. and T. being valid, should not replace *Gymnasterias* Gray. The family Gymnasteriidae will become Asteropidae.

10) *Patiria* Grey, 1840. This genus has for type a true *Asterina*, i. e., *Patiria coccinea* Gray = *Asteriscus coccineus* M. & T., 1842 = *Asterina coccinea* (Gray) Perrier 1875. *Patiria* was monotypic when described and consequently has no other status than as a synonym of *Asterina*. Perrier, with his usual freedom of treatment, excluded the

³ Arch. f. Naturgesch. 6. Jahrg. Bd. I. 1840. 367; System der Asteriden, 1842.
20. Type *Asteracanthion margaritifera* M. and T. (= *Asterias ochracea* Brandt).

⁴ Monatsber. d. Kgl. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin. April 1840. 104.

⁵ Arch. f. Naturgesch. 6. Jahrg. Bd. I. Sept. about 1840. 322.

⁶ Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. VI. Dec. 1840. 278.

type, and restricted the name to Gray's later described *Patiria ocellifera* and *crassa*. Sladen in 1889 added a third species. These three species are without a tenable generic name, and the group may therefore be called *Parasterina*, the type being *Patiria crassa* Gray.

11) *Palmipes* Agassiz 1835, is antedated by *Anseropoda* Nardo, 1834, type *Asterias placenta* Pennant. *Palmipes* is not tenable.

12) *Pararchaster* Sladen 1885, though invalidated by the previously described *Benthopecten* Verrill (American Jour. Sc. XXVIII, 1884, 218) is still employed by Ludwig and others.

13) *Pentaceros* Schulze 1760. As noted under *Astropecten*, Schulze is not a binomialist; added to this his *Pentaceros*, even if a genus (which it is not) has no specific names, Sherborn to the contrary, notwithstanding (Index Animalium). Under *Pentaceros* Sherborn cites »*gibbus*« and »*planus*«. Schulze, however, says: Die Arten sind entweder platt, *planac*, oder aber »höckericht und banchicht« *gibbae* — plural descriptive terms of the most general character. Under modern rules absence the of a species upon which to hang the generic term would be enough to throw out *Pentaceros*. Schröter in 1782 (Musei Gottwaldiani Testaceorum Stellarum marinum, etc., Nürnberg, p. 58) used *Pentaceros*, but he is not a consistent binomialist, and his »generic« names are not tenable. *Pentaceros* for starfishes was first given binomial standing by Gray in 1840, but this is unfortunately invalidated by *Pentaceros* Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1828, for fishes, leaving *Oreaster* Müller and Troschel, 1842, in possession of the field; type *O. reticulatus* (Linn.) M. and T. The family becomes the Oreasteridae.

14) *Pentagonaster* Schulze. This will meet the fate of *Pentaceros*, and is superceded by *Goniaster* Agassiz (type, *Asterias tessellata* Lam'k). The name *Pentagonaster* was given validity by Gray in 1840 for a small group of which *P. pulchellus* is type. *Stephanaster* Ayres, adopted by Perrier, is long antedated by *Pentagonaster* Gray, while *Phaneraster* Perrier is similarly invalidated by *Goniaster*. The *Goniaster* of Sladen is quite another animal and has been renamed *Pseudoreaster* by Verrill.

5. Ein neuer menschlicher Cestode.

Von Prof. Dr. N. Leon, Jassy.

(Mit 3 Figuren.)

eingeg. 23. Mai 1908.

Als ich meine im Jahre 1905 gesammelten Cestoden durchgesehen, habe ich ein Exemplar gefunden, welches mir von Prof. Dr. Samfirescu zugesandt worden war. Auf der Etikette war nichts andres angegeben, als daß der Cestode von einem Bahnbeamten herrührt. Dieser

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