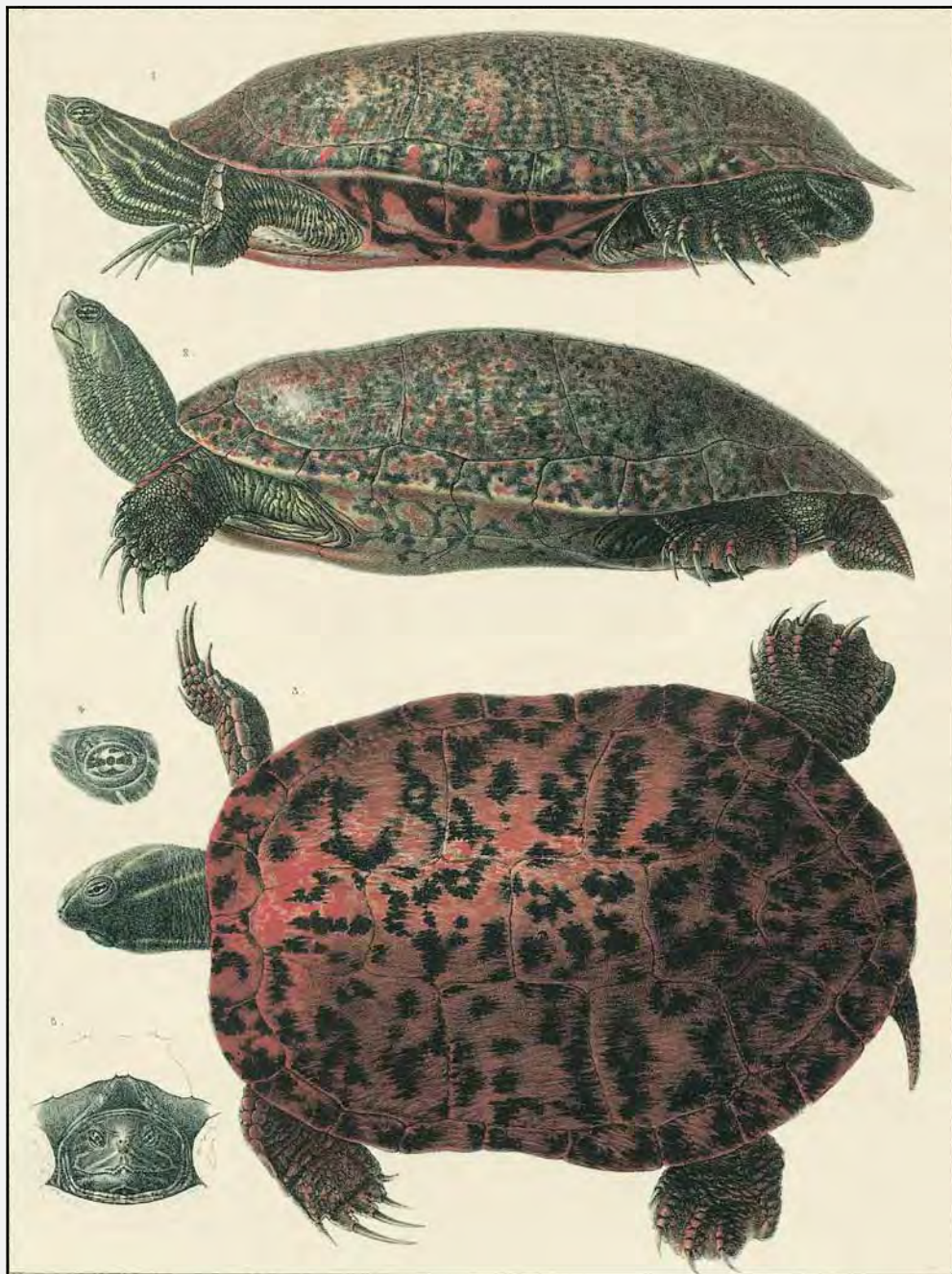




International Society for the History and Bibliography of Herpetology



VOL. 1, No. 2, 1999



International Society for the
History and Bibliography
of Herpetology

The **ISHBH** is a not-for-profit organization established to bring together individuals for whom the history and bibliography of herpetology is appealing and to promote the knowledge of related topics among members and the general public. Membership is open to anyone who shares the aims of the society.

Membership. The biennial fee (1999-2000) is US \$30 (students US \$10, life membership US \$300). This fee includes a subscription to the society's biannual newsletter. Members are encouraged to contribute with articles, news of meetings, hints on antiquarian trade, book reviews or participate in a literature exchange forum.

The society organizes seminars, visits to libraries, museums, research stations, etc. in connection with herpetological meetings with international participation. The society works to facilitate informal contacts among members so that the members can informally meet, offer support in knowledge and transact exchanges of literature and ephemera.

Formal application for membership shall be directed to the chairperson and should be addressed:

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About the cover

The frontispiece of this issue is a reproduction of plate 27 from Louis Agassiz' work *Contributions to the Natural History of the United States of America*, Vol. 2, 1857, depicting what Agassiz referred to as *Ptychemys rugosa* (= *Pseudemys rubriventris* today). At its conception the "Contributions" was an ambitious project originally planned as a ten volume set describing American animals. Subscribers for the series were solicited and ultimately 2,500 enrolled at \$120 a set. The first two volumes appeared in 1857 and contained Agassiz' primary contribution to herpetology, namely a monograph on North American turtles. By 1862 two more volumes had been published, but the series never reached completion and the fifth and last volume was published posthumously in 1877.

This species is known today as the Redbellied Turtle, *Pseudemys rubriventris*. It was first described by LeConte in 1830 as *Testudo rubriventris* based on a specimen from the Delaware River near Trenton, New Jersey. The genus name *Pseudemys* had been created by Gray in 1855 for the North American turtles known as cooters. However, Agassiz was apparently unaware of Gray's work and proposed the name *Ptychemys* for this group in volume 1, p. 431 of the "Contributions".

Agassiz referred to this species as "*rugosa*", although he noted that it is well known to American naturalists under the name "*rubriventris*". Agassiz explained that it had already been described by Shaw (1802) as *Testudo rugosa*, and noted that even LeConte (1854) made this claim. Shaw (1802), however, stated that the species description was based on a specimen of unknown origins preserved in the Leverian Museum. According to Schwarz and Thomas (1975) the location of this species' holotype is unknown. Although the type locality is also unknown Mittleman (1947) restricted it to Cuba. ...

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Society News

Message from the Chairperson

The meeting of the Society for 1999 was held on June 27 in connection with the joint meeting of herpetologists and ichthyologists (ASIH, AES, HL and SSAR) at The Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, USA. A handful of members and prospective members assembled for the formal meeting in spite of strong competition from five concurrent scientific oral sessions. Acceptance of the constitution was proposed and passed unanimously. It is reproduced below. A round table discussion was held in which attendees contributed with several valuable suggestions on the activities of the society. The lunch gathering that followed attracted a wider assembly and was shared in one of the finer restaurants at the conference center.

The ISHBH program following the close of the main meeting at Penn State was a trip to the Philadelphia area and attended by a small but enthusiastic group of members. The meeting point was the Old Bookbinders, a Philadelphia restaurant more renowned for its snapping turtle soup than any book binding activity. The main venue was an organized visit to the Library of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. The many important herpetological works held by the library made it a true delight for the participants. Dan Elliot, the library Director, welcomed the group and guided a tour of the library and its herpetological holdings. Many of the principle herpetological works were on display, an exhibition of books on herpetology made specifically for the Society. It was actually retained for several months and has inspired the Academy to set up an even larger herpetological book exhibition this spring in the main museum galleries. Professor Aaron Bauer had prepared a leaflet describing the history of the presented works and the authors as well as the illustrators behind them. The leaflet is available from the

author for the members that could not attend the library visit.

The group was thereafter invited to the house and library of Mr. and Mrs. Bauer in the evening. Their imposing private herpetological book collection was openly put on view and the guests were allowed to freely peruse the library while listening to Aaron Bauer's tales on thrilling acquisition adventures.

The Society owes the highest gratitude to Mr. Elliot for his warm welcome and excellent demonstration of the Academy library and to Monica and Aaron Bauer for their hospitality and a truly enjoyable evening.

Membership is now up to about 60 out of which two have signed up for life. One life member is 92 years old, which maybe could inspire other younger members to follow suit. We have recently presented ourselves to the editors in the major herpetological associations, giving them an opportunity to introduce, as editorial news, our society to their members. We hope to reach many potential members this way. It is our aim that the Bulletin shall meet an international recognition and thus be a preferred alternative for any written contributions of the history and bibliography of herpetology and even entuse further research in these fields. A wider membership would be a step forward in this direction.

Next meeting will be in La Paz, Mexico. Our meeting organizer presents these plans in more detail on page 5.

Richard Wahlgren

Constitution of the International Society for the History and Bibliography of Herpetology

The constitution approved by the General Assembly at State College, Pennsylvania, USA, at 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 27, 1999.

I. Name

The name of the society is International Society for the History and Bibliography of Herpetology, hereafter referred as the "Society."

II. Aim

The aim of the Society is to bring together individuals for whom the history and bibliography of herpetology is appealing and to promote the knowledge of the related topics among members and general public.

III. Meeting activities

The Society shall organize meeting activities such as seminars, visits to libraries, museums, research stations, etc. in connection with herpetological meetings with international participation.

IV. Social activities

The Society shall facilitate informal contacts among members so that the members can informally meet, offer support in knowledge and transact exchanges of literature and ephemera.

V. Publications

The Society shall publish a newsletter/journal with materials on the history of herpetology and bibliography. The Newsletter can be distributed to the members either in a printed form or on the Internet (printed for those members without access to the facility). The Society can undertake other publishing projects that are in line with the aims. All publications can be sold separately to non-members at the Executive Committees' discretion.

Members are encouraged to contribute with articles, news of meetings, hints on antiquarian trade, book reviews or participate in a literature exchange forum.

VI. The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of five members, preferably of an international scope,

namely chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary/treasurer, meeting organizer, and editor.

The Executive Committee is elected by a General Assembly in terms for two years.

The Executive Committee members can hold meetings with the officers congregating personally, by use of the e-mail system, fax or printed document communications. Decisions are taken by simple majority.

VII. General Assembly

An ordinary general assembly is held once per calendar year in connection with a herpetological meeting with international participation. Calls for the meeting should reach the members two months prior to the meeting.

The following items should be on the agenda:

- Election of the Executive Committee (every two years)
- Approval of the last Treasurer's Report
- Granting freedom of responsibility for the Executive Committee

Extraordinary general assemblies can be held when requested by at least five members of the Society.

VIII. Members

Membership shall be granted to anyone that shares the aim of the Society. A formal application shall be directed to the chairperson.

The Executive Committee reserves the rights to deny or revoke membership in situations that are deemed not to be in the interests of the Society.

IX. Finances

The members contribute to the Society with a biennial fee that is set by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall annually prepare a financial report including a financial statement. The calendar year constitutes the fiscal year. The Treasurer's Report shall be signed and circulated to the members at the latest 30 June every year.

The Society meeting 2000

The next formal meeting of the ISHBH will take place in conjunction with the 2000 joint meetings of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, The Herpetologists' League, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. The meeting will be held June 14-20, 2000 in La Paz, Baja California, Mexico. In addition to our business meeting, we will hold an informal lunch gathering (as at Penn State in 1999).

The highlight of our participation in the meeting will be an oral paper session dealing with herpetological history. This session has not been scheduled as a formal symposium, so all those members wishing to participate as presenters should submit abstracts according to the format indicated for contributed papers when the call for abstracts appears. The organizer of the scientific program for herpetology is aware of our plans and will schedule all of our talks together. Although any contribution on the history of herpetology is welcome, the focus of the session will be on individual workers or classic herpetological publications. For example, a biography could form the centerpiece of your

presentation, or a particular work or series of works could serve as the point of departure for the discussion of an illustrator, a publisher, or a genre of publication. Papers that highlight the significance of the topic for herpetologists in general are especially welcome as these will be attractive to members of the herpetological community at large.

All those wishing to participate should contact the ISHBH meeting organizer, Aaron M. Bauer, Dept. of Biology, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085-1699, USA. Tel. +1-610-519-4857, Fax +1-610-519-7863, aaron.bauer@villanova.edu, with a tentative title by the abstract submission deadline (28 February 2000). This will ensure that the local committee will have a complete list of the presenters to be scheduled in our session and will allow for the logical ordering of talks within the session. Information about the joint meetings in 2000 can be found at <http://www.uabcs.mx/asih/>

Aaron M. Bauer

Other News

Postal auction of Joseph R. Bailey's herpetological library

Joseph R. Bailey, who died in 1998, was a leading expert on the snakes of tropical America and coauthor of the book "*Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia*" (Univ. North Carolina Press, 1980). He was professor of zoology at Duke University where he supervised many outstanding graduate and undergraduate students. A full obituary was published in *Herpetological Review* 30(2): 70-71 (June 1999). The auction proceeds will be used to set up in perpetuity The Joseph R. Bailey Endowment. The income on this investment will be used to support student activities, book-length publication projects, and other activities in keeping with Joe Bailey's interests.

Joe Bailey had an excellent herpetological library. Some of his books have been donated to the Duke library, but the bulk of the library—consisting of nearly 400 books and monographs—is now being auctioned. The collection is especially rich on North, Central, and South American topics. Many of the books are now out-of-print and scarce. There are some rare titles, others with exquisite plates, and a number of highly desirable collections of papers. Bid submissions and procedural questions should be sent to: Kraig Adler (Auction), Cornell University, Neurobiology, Mudd Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-2702, USA, kka4@cornell.edu. The books are not in Ithaca, so questions about them cannot be answered. Bids must be received by February 1, 2000.

Meeting of a working group of the DGHT on the History of Herpetology and Herpetological publications. April 1, 2000, Gersfeld, Germany (near Fulda)

The meeting will take place at the hotel Forellenhof (which is used by the working groups Urodelen and Lacertiden for their annual meetings). This will be the first official meeting of the working group for the History of Herpetology and Herpetological publications (the official German name will be AG Literatur und Geschichte der Herpetologie und Terrarienkunde). The working group will be officially established on April 1, 2000, with all the officially necessary procedures in the

morning and lectures in the afternoon and evening. So far there will be lectures on the History of the DGHT, how to restore and bind old books, on postage stamps showing turtles and on a reprint project (Fitzingers Atlas). Also, one of the items which shall be discussed is how cooperation with the ISHBH could take place. For more information contact: Alfred A. Schmidt, Heinrich-Bingemer-Weg 5, DE-60388 Frankfurt am Main, GERMANY, Tel. +49-(0)61091-219 44, frogbook@aol.com

About the cover ... continued from page 2.

Today Shaw's species is known as *Trachemys decussata* (Gray, 1831).

Cope (1875) also mistakenly used the name *Pseudemys rugosa* (Shaw 1802) instead of *Pseudemys rubriventris* (LeConte 1830) in spite of the fact that he refers to Holbrook (1842) who used *Emys rubriventris* (LeConte 1830)! This jumble of names was finally synonymized by Boulenger (1889) in his British Museum catalogue, though under the name *Chrysemys rubriventris*. The first use of *Pseudemys rubriventris* was by Lönnberg (1894), and this name has predominated since then.

I thank John Iverson for information regarding taxonomy and Richard Wahlgren for access to his library. **Ralph Tramontano**

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Herpetology in the Transactions of The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. A listing of titles 1739 - 1825, translated into English, with annotations and unabridged translations of selected contributions and a brief history of the Academy.

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Kongl. Svenska Vetenskaps Akademien or The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences as it is known in English was founded 1739. An institution of an association of science in Sweden started a few years earlier though. The first Swedish scientific society was *Societas Litteraria & Scientiarum*, founded 1725 in Uppsala, which when sanctioned by the King in 1728 adopted the name *Kongl. Vetenskaps-Societet* (Royal Society of Sciences). It published transactions with the names of *Acta Litteraria & Scientiarum* and *Acta Regiæ Societatis Scientiarum Upsaliensis*, which were issued between 1720 and 1750. These publications certainly gave foreign corresponding subscribers a glimpse of the scientific arena in Sweden but its seat in a place other than the capital city made it less prominent and the Latin language in which all their publications were written made it rather isolated in Sweden.

It was a handful of men in Stockholm who identified the need for a more conventional academy. These were Jonas Alström (knighted Alströmer), Baron Sten Carl Bjelke, Baron Carl Wilhelm Cederhjelm, Count Anders von Höpken, Carl Linnaeus and Mårten Triewald who met in 1739 and in June founded the society they named *Svenska Vetenskaps-Akademien* (literally The Swedish Science-Academy). At this time there was no pressure or even proposition from the government for the establishment of an academy, on the contrary this was purely a private matter by the founders. Linnaeus is

said to have been the driving force behind the academy. He had just returned from Holland and settled in Stockholm as a physician. He was an acknowledged scholar internationally but in his home country it would take some time and hard work before his prominence was recognised. During his stay in Holland from 1735 to 1738 he had visited London, where he met the president of the Royal Society, Sir Hans Sloane, and Paris, where he was made a corresponding member of the Académie des Sciences. Linnaeus may have felt that an academy in Stockholm would be a fitting platform for him to develop a career in his home country.

It was a rule of the day that members of similar academies, with an exception of the French, were accepted in order by which class in the community they belonged. One of the main pillars in the Swedish academy, however, was the issue of equality between the members. Furthermore, the bylaws, which were endorsed by the Royalty on March 31, 1741, stipulate in §5 “A cultivation of the Swedish Language is a nucleus of the Academy, which therefore shall be used exclusively and alone in writings, publications, and at all official Meetings.”

Permission to issue transactions was received on September 5, 1739. The members decided to print the transactions quarterly and with a new Præses for each issue. The first of the Transactions was printed in the third quarter of 1739.

The members had sincere plans to print translations in German and French of the Transactions in order to promote an awareness abroad of the publication and the Academy. These plans would never progress to reality but the Transactions eventually turned up in other languages without any direct involvement of the Academy. Contributions from the botanists Linnaeus and Swartz, the chemists Scheele, Bergman and Berzelius and other contemporary Swedish scientists of the time were too important to be neglected in Europe. Summaries and citations were made in various academic journals, in particular the papers on medical subjects. German translations and reviews would become most frequent. One reason could of course be that parts of Germany were at that time under Swedish sovereignty. It would take ten years before the Transactions were published unabridged in German. The Professor of Mathematics in Leipzig, Abraham Gotthelf Kästner (1719-1800), privately published the first two annals in Hamburg and Leipzig 1749 under the title "*Der Königl. Schwedischen Akademie der Wissenschaften Abhandlungen aus der Naturlehre, Haushaltungskunst und Mechanik, auf die Jahre 1739 und 1740. Aus dem Schwedischen übersetzt*". He had recruited a person to do the translations but for several reasons had to let him go. The third annals came the following year translated by Kästner himself with help of "a grammar and a dictionary", which he continued to do until 1792 when he published the translations of the Transactions from 1790. An index was published two years later but this would be the last production from him on this remarkable undertaking.

Among the more notable French translations is *Mémoires de l'Académie royal des sciences de Stockholm; concernant l'histoire naturelle, la physique, la médecine ... etc.*, which was pub-



This picture of a man digging a hole to plant a tree, or variations of it, appears on the frontispiece of many volumes of the Transactions and provides a symbol of the Academy's endeavours. Within this example from 1771 we can also observe a snake; on the bottom is a banner proclaiming "For Posterity".

lished in Paris 1772 in a quarto volume of 543 pages. It contains selected articles from the period 1739-1767 translated by Louise F. G. de Karalio (1731-1795). The articles were arranged by subjects and recapitulated to suit French readers. A Latin translation of the Transactions with the title *Analecta transalpina* was published 1762 in two volumes covering a selection of about half of the contributions from 1739 to 1752.

Information on translations of the Transactions is taken from Holmberg (1939). Holmberg has not succeeded in finding any English translations. The British Museum had confirmed to him that they have no records of English translations or even summaries.

Ståhl (1831) provides a subject index of the Transactions between 1739 and 1825. I have listed all articles quoted by Ståhl on herpetological topics including envenomation. Ståhl uses the following keywords: *Grodor* (Rana L.), *Ormar* (Serpentes L.), *Ormbett* (Snake bites), *Sköldpaddor* (Testudo L.), *Ödlor*

(Lacerta L.). A few papers have just passing sentences on reptiles or amphibians. These have not been included in the present listing.

The Academy is often abbreviated KVA and the Transactions KVAH. The name of the Transactions, or "Handlingar" in Swedish, has changed over the years (Table 1). The Transactions were produced up to 1854 in octavo and thereafter in quarto. They were issued biannually from 1813. The Swedish Academy is today most renowned as the keeper and administrator of the respectable Nobelprizes in the disciplines of physics and chemistry.

Odd volumes of KVAH find their way occasionally into the antiquarian market but those of the early 19th century are very hard to come by. The current price for a full volume would be about \$250 and for a quarter issue about \$50. One or more folded copper engravings accompany each quarter issue, the charm and quality of which influence the price. The Academy still has a stock for sale, including extracts, but most likely none with plates is remaining. Their web site for ordering from the

Academy is <http://ww.cfvh.kva.se/CVH011.htm>. The site is in Swedish but an English version is under construction. The Academy has also published a book in English on its own history, which is available: Tore Frängsmyr (ed.), *Science in Sweden: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences 1739-1989* (1989). The bound copy with 291 pages costs SEK 100 (about \$12).

Capitals in the first letters of words in a title text are, as a rule, not used in the Swedish language. In old texts as we can see in titles reproduced here, they occasionally have used them to highlight key words, much in the same way as in English. I have in the translations attempted to configure the English titles to the likeness of the originals in respect of using capitals. I have also strived to create a word for word translation.

My thanks are directed especially to the editor, Ralph Tramontano, for his assistance with the translations and generous editorial advice. Aaron M. Bauer has commented on the manuscript and helped with current nomenclature and species identifications. Errors are my responsibility.

Gråberg, J. M. 1741 (IV): 248-255, pl. VIII.

Grounds Keeper J. M. Gråberg's Report of a living FROG, found on Gothland in Burswik in solid and dense Stone, just about 8 ells^[1] down in the Quarry, ... submitted to Wetenskaps Academiem by Johan Pihl, Med. Doct. and Assessor as well as District Medical Officer in Gothland.

Slotts-Conducteuren J. M. GRÅBERGS Berättelse om en lefwande GRODA, funnen på Gothland wid Burswik uti fasta och täta Stenen, inemot 8 alnar neder i Stenbrottet, ... inskickad till Wetenskaps

Academiem af Johan Pihl, Med. Doct. ock Assessor samt Provincial-Medicus i Gothland.

^[1]An "ell" (Sw. *aln*; pl. *alnar*) is an archaic measurement that corresponds to about 60 cm.

The quarrymen in a sandstone quarry had on 8th May 1733 when cutting a large piece of stone all of a sudden become aware of a living frog in the stone. They were startled by the discovery and alerted Gråberg, who also was ill at ease over the finding. He poked at the frog whereupon it shut its eyes. He subsequently killed it. The

Table 1. The various names of the Transactions, or "Handlingar" in Swedish, over the years:

1739-1746:	Kongl. Svenska Wetenskaps Academiens handlingar
1747-1756:	Kongl. Svenska Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar
1757-1779:	Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar
1780-1812:	Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens nya handlingar ["nya" = new]
1813-1854:	Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar

dried specimen and the quarry were later illustrated for the contribution in KVAH. Carl Sahlin (1939) reported on this and other stories about living frogs found in stones, which are legendary. Sahlin concludes that in this case a frog using a crevice in the stone for shelter had mistakenly been taken for being imbedded in the solid stone. In an Academy meeting 1745 it was said that reports on “curiosities”, which were common in several European scientific journals, should not be accepted for publication in the Transactions of the Academy.

Bäck, Abrah. 1748 (III): 231-237.

FINDINGS of Vipers’ bites, which are less or more dangerous.

RÖN Om Ormars bett, som äro mindre eller mer farlige.

Abraham Bäck (1713-1795) graduated as a medical doctor in Uppsala in 1740 and continued his studies in Europe, travelling in Holland, England, France and Germany for five years. He maintained a close personal friendship with Linnaeus and after his return they corresponded frequently.

The author points out that many cures against snakebite trauma may have received medical endorsement from the treatment of wounds that have originated from non-poisonous snakes. The author performed, together with two medical students, experiments with snakebites in Paris in July and August 1744. In the first test they placed a grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) with a rat in a glass jar. The snake was non-defensive against the rat, which gave them enough confidence to grab it with their bare hands. They repeated the test with what they believed was another kind of snake, namely a slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*) with identical result. The third snake was what the French called an “aspis” but it is not clear what species Bäck was actually referring to. The rat gave the snake a bite, which tried to escape without harming the rat. They repeated the test with another “aspis” by letting it chew a small dog on the nose for “one eighth of an hour”. The dog showed no ill response. The test was performed again the following day

and this time the dog was clearly ailing in the afternoon but was alive and well the following day. They actually performed two more trials with the same snake and dog but no ill effects were seen.

The aspis was not known to the students to be dangerous. An inspection of its mouth also revealed that the teeth were large but not protruding and hinged as in the vipers. They concluded that the symptoms the dog had shown probably came from the wounds upon his nerves from the very bite without any poisoning.

Bäck reports that the lizards and salamanders that occur in Paris had bitten him several times and they, contrary to common belief, are harmless.

Experiments with the vipers followed. A viper (allegedly *Vipera berus*) caught in Paris shared the jar with the rat used in the earlier experiments. It was eventually bitten and died after a few minutes. The adder was induced to bite a dog, which was treated with a mixture called “odorous spirits”. It shivered and showed signs of illness but recovered after just a few hours. A viper obtained from an apothecary was allowed to bite the same dog. The dog’s wound was treated with the odorous spirits and the dog displayed just faint symptoms. The adder died in the afternoon. Another small dog was bitten this time by a large, thick “vipère”, also obtained from an apothecary. The dog exhibited clear symptoms of poisoning after half an hour and died in two hours. An autopsy was made five and a half hours later. The nose was black from gangrene. The blood vessels in the mesenteries (*vasis sanguineis Mesenterii*) were tangled. They figured that the poison causes the blood to become thicker and that odorous spirits would be the best remedy.

This adder was now provoked into biting the dog that had survived the aspis. He showed signs of poisoning but not until the late afternoon when he disgorged greenish water with worms. He died the following morning. Two weeks later the same adder was induced to bite a bulldog. He had no obvious ill effects and was

released the day after. The viper, however, was very weak and died one or two days later.

Linnaeus, Carl 1749 (IV): 246-251, pl. VI.
AESPING, described By CARL LINNÆUS.
ÅSPING, beskrefven Af CARL LINNÆUS.

Linnaeus' detest of snakes is often reiterated. The tale is based on Linnaeus' description in the introduction of the class Amphibia in *Systema Naturae* 1758, p. 194 of the snakes as foul, loathsome and all other analogous adjectives that one could possibly conceive. He demonstrates, however, a true fascination and admiration of snakes in many other passages of his writings. The introduction of this account is one such place:

"Nature, who unravelled all his foetuses so splendidly, appears to have, with contempt, thrown the Snakes nude on Earth, without defence and protection. The Animals, he has given the feet, to run away, the Birds wings, to fly away, the Fishes fins, to swim away, and the Creatures [Invertebrates] he has hidden away in the depth of water; but the Snakes he has heaved nude on the bare Earth, devoid of all means. But so that none of his foetuses shall perish, has he used an eccentric way for the Snakes' armour, in as much as he has equipped one of a hundred with personal guns.

Anyone enemy, whom the Creator himself has fortified, may not be pleasant encountering. The Creator has on the other hand been so merciful telling the snakes, not to act in offence; thus you never observe a snake chasing man, but only defending himself, when one gets too close to him.

I halt for admiration, when I faithfully reflect on this arrangement by the Creator, in particular when I notice that the Master of Nature has not supplied everyone with arms, instead may often a snake, who is most dangerous, dress as one without arms, as well as an unarmed, on the contrary, may carry the armour of the equipped."

Linnaeus proceeds to explain that all kinds of wild animals, birds, fishes and insects usually have a particular colour but just the snakes vary in colour, giving as an example that a grass

snake can resemble an adder as well as an adder can be black as a grass snake. As a consequence any system of classification of snakes has been without foundation in that the snakes lack any recognisable characteristics.

"A few years back, when His Majesty and Advisor to the King, Count Carl Gyllenborg bequeathed to me the beautiful collections of Indian animals, which now Upsala Academy is proudly in possession of, I received the opportunity to examine the snakes; I then learned that the broad scales on the belly and the small scales under the tail were just the only marks, through which the Creator characterised the snakes. I then arranged all the snakes I had in the Museo, after this given reason, which can be seen in *Syst. Natur.* 6, p. 34."

Linnaeus had three years earlier published a book recording all known animals in Sweden, the first edition of *Fauna Svecica* 1746. Linnaeus coined here the expression "fauna" for all the animals in a given region. In *Fauna Svecica* he had described three "snakes", the Swedish adder, the grass snake and the slow worm. A small and reddish snake not listed in *Fauna Svecica* was rumoured to exist in the 'southern' part of Sweden. He advertised for specimens of the snake and eventually got four. He states that it has never been described before, either in or outside Sweden. He describes it in great detail and states that it resembles a young adder. Drawings on plate VI in the *Transaction* depict the snake from above and below. Linnaeus finishes the description:

... "But getting to the true characteristics, it consists of broad scales that run from the chin to the tail or the vent, which amount to 150, but under the tail are 34 divided scales."

and he continues:

"When I for the first time saw this snake I was in doubt whether it could be a Viper or common Adder, in particular as the Viper has 145 scales under the belly and 36 under the tail, which together make 181 scales while the Aesping's scales together make 184. But as all these [four] snakes agree in the minute scales, the spot on the tail, and other small details in the scales on the

head, I am certain that it is a true species, which by Naturalists should be called

COLUBER scutis abdominalibus 150, squamis caudalibus 34.”

Its distribution, he continues, is mostly and predominantly the province of Småland, which is where Linnaeus was born and spent his youth. He admits that one of the specimens was caught outside Uppsala. He can tell from the fangs that it is poisonous. Its name in Småland is Äsping but he does not know if the name is derived from Aspis. The paper was accepted 4th November (1749).

Linnaeus is here naming the species by describing the numbers of abdominal shields. This description is before the tenth edition of his *Systema Naturae* that would be published nine years later. It is therefore considered Pre-Linnaean and has, by definition, no taxonomic validity. It will still take some five years before he will use the binominal system for the first time. Linnaeus will eventually call this species *Coluber cherssea* in the tenth edition of *Systema naturae* (1758).

Citations and taxonomy:

Linnaeus 1758 (S.N. 10th ed.), p. 218: *Coluber Cherssea*. **Laurenti 1768**, p. 97: *Coluber Cherssea*. **Lacepede 1790**, 3rd vol., pp. 217-221: *Coluber Cherssea*. **Lacepede 1802**, 3rd vol., (English ed.), pp. 239-243 *Coluber cherssea*. **Daudin 1803**, 6th vol., pp. 144-149: *Coluber cherssea*. **Cuvier 1829**, p. 92: *Coluber Cherssea*. **Griffith & Pidgeon 1831**, p. 272: *Col. Cherssea*. **Nilsson 1842** (Skandinavisk Fauna), p. 55 provides substantiation that the snake is *Vipera berus*. Several specimens called *Äsping* even from the particular area where Linnaeus described its occurrence had been sent to Nilsson. They were all females, usually young, of the common viper. Prof. C. P. Thunberg made an inventory of Linnaeus' collections in Uppsala and had in 1821 displayed for Nilsson the supposed original type specimen of *Coluber cherssea*, which was determined to be a *Vipera berus*.

Linnaeus, Carl 1752 (III): 206-207.

REMARK On Distinguishing-marks between Snakes.

ANMÄRKNING Om Ormarnas Skilje-märken.

An unabridged translation of this “pre-Linnaean” contribution is provided on page 22. In order to test Linnaeus' assumption I have made an effort to obtain data from researchers that have actively been working with adders but unfortunately none has any data on the caudal scales. It is well known however that sexual dimorphism in tail length occurs especially among viperid snakes. Linnaeus' belief is actually not restricted to adders so I invite anybody with suitable data to comment on the validity of this theory for this Bulletin.

Kalm, Pehr 1752 (IV): 308-319; 1753 (I): 52-67; 1753 (III): 185-194.

1. Narrative on the Rattle-Snake, and the medications that in Northern America are used against its sting.
2. CONTINUATION Of M. PEHR KALM'S Narrative on the Rattle-snake, and the medications that in Northern America are used against its sting.
3. Final narrative Of the Rattle-Snake, In particular of the medications against his bite.
 1. *Berättelse om Skaller-Ormen, samt de läkemedel som i Norra America brukas emot dess stygn.*
 2. *FORTSÄTTNING Af H. PEHR KALMS Berättelse om Skaller-ormen, och de läkemedel som i Norra America brukas emot dess styng.*
 3. *Slutelig berättelse Om Skaller-Ormen, Isynnerhet om botemedel emot hans bett.*

Pehr Kalm's narrative on the rattlesnake is spread over three issues of KVAH. Kalm (1716-1779) was a disciple of Linnaeus who sent him on a study tour to North America that lasted for two and a half years. He arrived in Philadelphia in September 1748. Kalm made general scientific and cultural observations including natural history. His travel account was published in Stockholm 1753-1761 in three volumes, entitled *En resa til Norra America*, which also has been translated into English by J. R. For-

ester, *Travels into North America*, published 1770-1771.

The account on rattlesnakes and their bites in KVAH has fortunately already been made available for the American audience. Esther Louise Larsen has produced an unabridged translation published April 1957 in *The American Midland Naturalist*, vol. 57 (2): 502-511. This important journal should be available at libraries and further annotations would therefore be redundant here. Several other contributions by Kalm appear in KVAH between 1749 and 1778. In a paper in KVAH 1754 (I: 31) he compares the risk of snake bite in Sweden with North America, where snakes are far more widespread and dangerous.

Hultstedt, Jacob 1754 (I): 78-79.

“The Snake Stone, which is used to remove venom from wounds after bites from snakes and mad animals.” Published as an excerpt from a submitted paper without a title; this title is taken from Ståhl (1831).

“Ormstenen, som brukas att draga giftet ur sår efter ormars och rasande djurs bett.”

The author had been in Spain for a few years and observed successful treatments of snakebite with a stone called *Piedra de la Serpente* in Spanish. Hultstedt had seen reports in Spain that the stone can be made from an antler. A piece should be applied to the cut open wound.

Montin, Lars 1765 (II): 149-154.

Successful Attempt, with juice of Ash-leaves curing bites from poisonous Snakes; performed and presented by Lars Montin, M.D. Distr. Med. Off. in Halland.

Lyckadt Försök, at med Askelöfs - saft bota giftiga Ormars bett; gjordt och ingifvet af Lars Montin, M.D. Provinc. Med. i Halland.

The author laments that the antidotes *Ophiorrhiza Mungos* in India against cobra bite and *Polygala Senega* used in America against rattlesnake bite are not available in Sweden.

Montin has tried several remedies against the common adder's bite and found ash leaves to be an acceptable medicine. He presents here a case story that he was involved in. A young farm hand had been bitten in his right little toe by an æsping, an adder-like snake then considered to possess a more potent venom than the common adder, hence was Montin sceptical but at the same time inquisitive in this case. The doctor blended minced ash leaves with French wine and extracted a juice. He prescribed a glass of the juice every half-hour, a poultice of crushed leaves applied to the leg and a cup of the traditional cure olive oil every evening whereupon the patient was cured in a few days. Montin attributes the successful healing mainly to the ash leaves.

Citations:

Lacepede 1790, 3rd vol., pp. 218-220, conveys an abridged translation that had appeared in “*Mémoires abrégés de l'Académie de Stockholm, ... tom. XI*, pag. 300- 301”. The “right little toe” has been altered to the “left little toe”. **Lacepede 1802**, 3rd vol., (English ed.), pp. 240-242. **Shaw 1802** (General Zoology, vol. 3, pt 2), p. 383 cites it with source “Memoirs of the Swedish Academy” and stating the farmer was bitten in his left foot, so it sounds as if he has taken it from one of the Lacepede editions.

Hoffberg, Carl Fredr. 1778 (II): 89-103.

Observations and Remarks on the bite of Swedish Snakes.

Rön och Anmärkningar om Svenska Ormars bett.

Acrel, Olof 1778 (II): 103-107.

Comments on preceding Thesis;
Anmärkningar vid föregående Afhandling;

The author states that although Sweden does not harbour many snakes people occasionally die from snakebite. He favours the antidote olive oil, which successfully has been used in England and France. The remedy *Ophorhiza Mungos* from Asia is effective against bites from all poisonous snakes but is seldom or never brought to Europe. The Rattle-Snake root, *Polygala Senega*, from America can be used also against bites inflicted by other snakes

and is now available at the Swedish pharmacies but usually not in the country side, far from cities and pharmacies. Hoffberg feels it is regrettable that the medical properties have not been tested on its Swedish relative *Polygala vulgaris*. Olof af Acrel (1717-1806) was a medical doctor of prominence. He supports Hoffberg's contribution although he argues that it demonstrates the historical background of snakebites more than providing practical hints. He stresses instead the importance of getting the venom out from the place where the snake injected it as soon as possible. In order to cause an inflammation he recommends after cutting into the wound to irritate it with salt, urine or tobacco. In addition, he directs consumption of large quantities of milk.

Hagström, Joh. Otto 1784 (I): 47-52.

Observations on a living Tortoise. *Testudo pusilla*.

Rön med en lefvande Sköldpadda. Testudo pusilla.

Johan Otto Hagström (1716-1792) was a District Medical Officer and naturalist. The author is keeping a spur-thighed tortoise in captivity. The article did of course present valuable hints for the herpetoculturist of these days but the information is dated now. Hagström is mostly concerned with the variety of food he can feed his animal and, in particular, with the consistency of what comes out from the other end. About its sound he has the following discovery to disclose:

“Her cry (vox) that sounds almost like an 7 months’ foetus, is finely tuned and as moaning, which she will utter when you unexpectedly happen to tread on her, ...”

Taxonomy:

Wermuth & Mertens 1961, p. 209: *Testudo pusilla* Linnaeus, 1758 = *Testudo graeca graeca* Linnaeus, 1758.

Sparrman, Anders 1784 (II): 164-167, pl. IV. *LACERTA Sputator* and *LACERTA bimaculata*, two new lizards from America, described by ANDERS SPARRMAN.

[Plate IV is reproduced on page 15.]

LACERTA Sputator och LACERTA bimaculata, två nya ödlor från America; beskrifne af ANDERS SPARRMAN.

Professor Anders Sparrman (1748-1820), a disciple of Linnaeus was a medical doctor, botanist and zoologist. During 1765-1767 he travelled to China and later (1772-1777) explored southern Africa for half a year before accompanying James Cook on his second voyage. He was the curator (1784-1798) of the collections belonging to the Academy, a function he mismanaged (Dal 1996, p. 105). In these two papers he provides descriptions of lizards that he did not collect himself.

The first article deals with *Lacerta sputator* only. The description of *Lacerta bimaculata* will appear in a continuation article in the next issue of KVAH.

He describes in details a new species. The specimen was given to a Swede, Dr. Acrelius, then residing in Philadelphia by a friend of his who lived on St. Eustache Island, where these lizards were reported to be common. It was in the first case forwarded to Baron De Geer in Sweden for his collections, which after his death were donated to the Academy. Dr. Acrelius had in a letter to De Geer in 1755 given an account of the lizard, which is cited in Sparrman's paper:

“... She will not hurt anybody without cause. Is readily provoked. You can observe them running up and down on the walls. If anybody stops and looks at her she will spit at the spectator; she will not spit unless her enemy is close enough. The spittle is black; one drop is so potent that if a body part is hit it will soon swell; it is however not that dangerous as it can be treated with spirits or rum; ...”

Sparrman speculates that the lizard depicted as figure 2 (see figure on following page) on the original plate is a variety or a larva of the

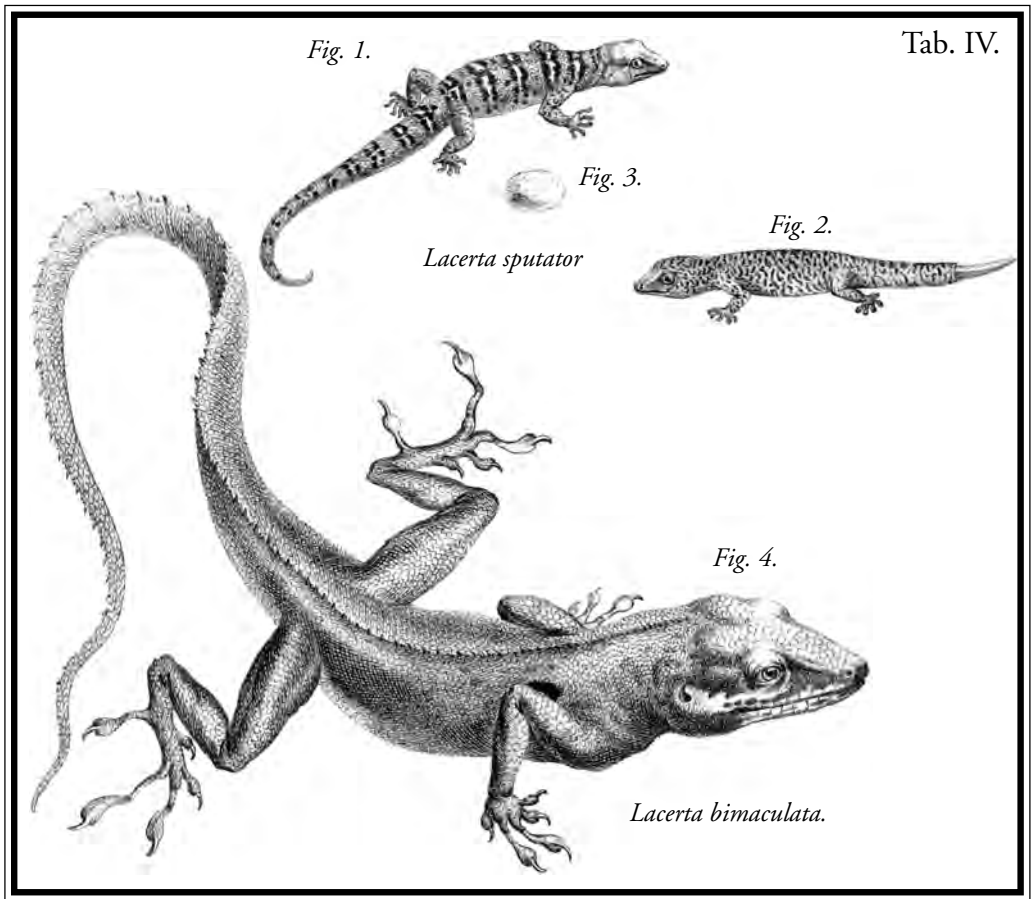


Plate IV from Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar 1784 (II), reproduced in approximately the original size, showing the lizards described in Anders Sparrman's article on pp. 164-167 of the same volume (*Lacerta sputator*) and in Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar 1784 (III), pp.196-171 (*L. bimaculata*). These articles are summarised here on pp. 14-15 and 15-16. Captions have been reset.

Lacerta sputator. He is mystified of its ability to climb walls and he gives several hypotheses.

Citations and taxonomy:

Lacepede 1788, 2nd vol., pp. 132-136, plate V: *Lacerta sputator*. **Shaw 1802**, pp. 279-280: *Lacerta Sputator*. **Cuvier 1829**, p. 57: *Spheriodactyles sputator*. **Gray 1831**, p. 52: *Spheriodactylus Sputator*. **Griffith & Pidgeon 1831**, p. 230 reiterate its spitting behaviour described by Acrelius in Sparrman's paper but they conclude: "This assertion does not appear to be worthy of much credit." **Gray 1845**, p. 168, (Cat. Liz. B. M.): *Sphaerodactylus sputator*. **Boulenger 1885**, (Cat. Liz. B. M. (I)), p. 219: *Sphaerodactylus sputator*. **Andersson 1900**, p. 27: Not of *Sphaerodactylus sputator* of Boulenger (1885), p. 219. **Barbour 1921**, pp. 266-267: *Sphaerodactylus sputator* (Sparrman). **Barbour 1923**, p. 2:

Sphaerodactylus sputator (Sparrman) and tells of a successful expedition 1922 to secure topotypes of Sparrman's early described species. **Barbour 1937**, p. 115: *Sphaerodactylus sputator* (Sparrman) type locality of St. Eustatius only (Lesser Antilles). **Schwarz & Thomas 1975**, p. 162: *Sphaerodactylus sputator* (Sparrman) and extend the distribution to several other islands. **Powell et al. 1996**, p. 72: *Sphaerodactylus sputator* (Sparrman, 1784).

Sparrman, Anders 1784 (III): 169-171, pl. IV. LACERTA bimaculata, a new Lizard from America.

LACERTA bimaculata, *en ny Ödla från America*.

This is the continuation of the previous article. The vicar, Mr. Acrelius directed several speci-

mens of this species to the Natural Cabinet of De Geer. He has enclosed a story that the lizard is harmless and lives in bushes. It is like *Lacerta sputator* found on St. Eustachius and larger variants occur in Pennsylvania. In the story it is described how you easily can catch the lizard with a snare made from a straw of grass. The plate depicting the new lizard is shown on the preceding page.

Sparrman finishes his paper with:

“What is already said, also *bimaculata* is wildly apart from all in S. N. noted Lizards; you try in vain also all descriptions and drawings with older and current Authors.”

Citations and taxonomy:

Shaw 1802, pp. 222-223: = var.? of *Lacerta principalis*, referring to Schneider but gives no precise reference. **Gray 1845**, p. 200: = *Anolis leachii* Duméril & Bibron. **Barbour 1923**, p. 2: *Anolis bimaculatus* (Sparrman, 1784) and tells of a successful expedition 1922 to secure topotypes of Sparrman's early described species. **Powell et al. 1996**, p. 75: *Anolis bimaculatus* (Sparrman, 1784).

Hornstedt, Clas Fr. 1785 (II): 130-133, pl. V. Description of a Lizard, found and submitted from Java;

Beskrifning på en Ödla, funnen och insänd från Java;

Clas Fredrik Hornstedt (1758-1808) was a medical doctor and zoologist. He travelled to Java as a naturalist during the years 1783-1787. A full translation of the part of the text in this paper that is written in Swedish appears on pages 23-24. The remaining part of the paper consists of the species description and is written in Latin.

Citations and taxonomy:

Schlosser 1768. The sail-tailed water dragon was described 1768 by Johannes Albertus Schlosser in Holland as *Lacerta amboinensi* and has now the name *Hydrosaurus amboinensis*. **Lacepede 1788**, 1st vol., pp. 347-349, conveys the account that the Swedish Baron De Geer bought the specimen that Schlosser originally described and that it later was donated to the Swedish Academy. **Andersson 1900**, p. 28, reports that three specimens are kept at Riksmuseum, Stockholm: “one is easy to distinguish as Schlosser's type-specimen, although the original label is completely bleached.”

Thunberg, Carl Peter 1787 (II): 123-128, pl. IV. Descriptions of some rare and unknown Lizards. [Plate IV is reproduced on page 17.]

Beskrifning på några sällsynte och okände Ödlor.

Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828) was the most prominent of Linnaeus' pupils, or apostles as Linnaeus himself preferred to call them. Many of the apostles who were sent abroad on scientific missions by Linnaeus died in the countries they visited but Thunberg returned and eventually succeeded as Professor of Botany in Uppsala Carl Linnaeus Jr., who in turn had succeeded his father. During 1770-1779 Thunberg made a long tour to the Cape colony and Japan with periods on Java and Ceylon. He described his life abroad in a narrative of four parts, published in Uppsala 1788-1793 in Swedish. The work was translated to German (Berlin 1792-1794), English (London 1793-1796) and French (Paris 1796) (Dal 1996, p. 62). Thunberg is most renowned scientifically for his botanical contributions, e.g. *Flora Japonica* 1784 and *Prodromus Flora Capensis* 1794 and 1799.

His stop in Java on his way to Japan lasted for three months and on his return he made another sojourn for half a year undertaking excursions to the mountains as well as the jungles. He stayed an additional five months in Ceylon on his onward return trip.

Extract from Thunberg's introduction:

“The amphibians being among the most frigid of Animals, are mostly found in the hottest countries, and always on the look out for hiding places, escaping man's sight as much as man usually shudders with horror at this dreadful looking animal.

These animals possess occasionally the most hazardous poison and many of them have, sometimes for no reason, been blamed to produce the most complicated bites and wounds.

All these circumstances, together with the fact that the animals in their colours resemble each other and the difficulty therefore always great, in separating the poisonous from the innocent, has caused, that nobody has dared to catch them and that they have not been carefully examined, as other more beautiful animals, for

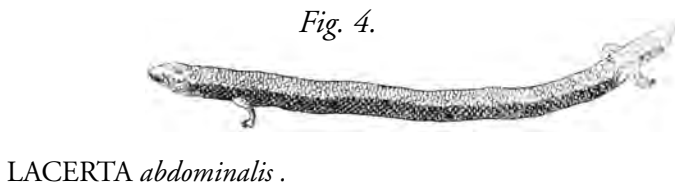
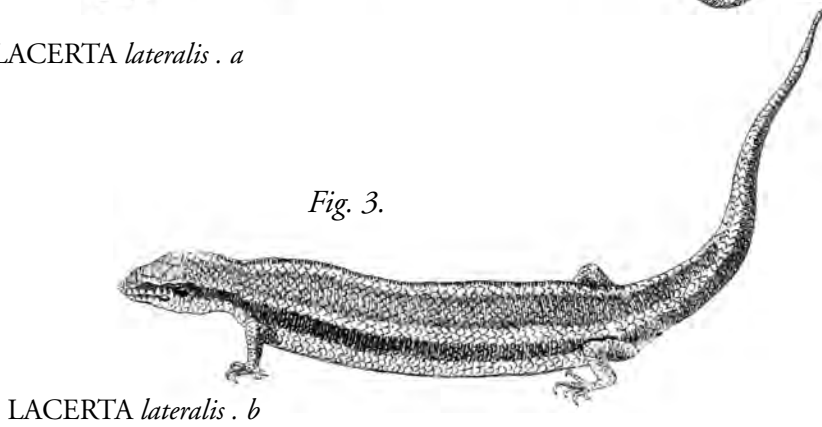
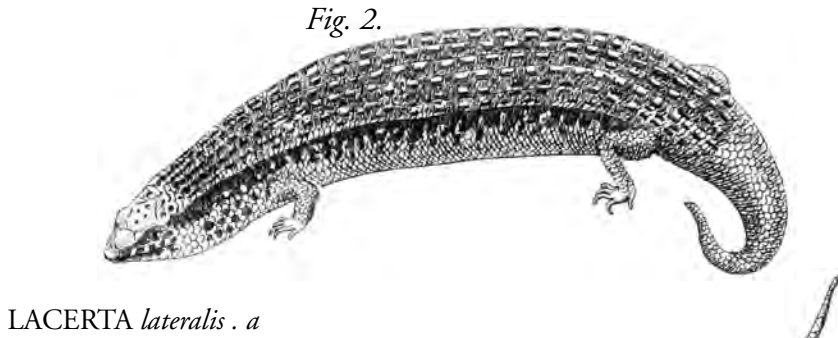
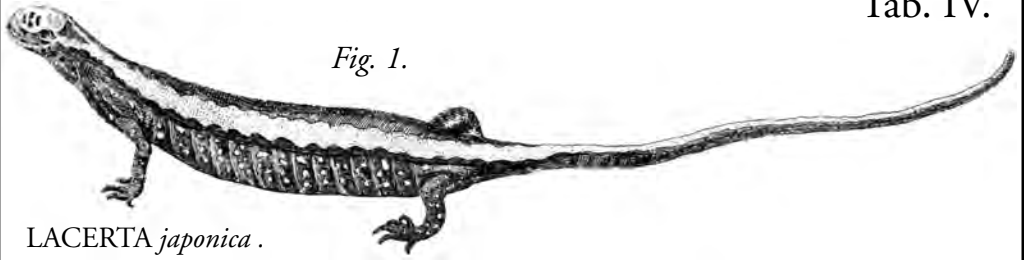


Plate IV from Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar 1787 (II), slightly reduced from original size, depicts the "lizards" described in Carl Peter Thunberg's article on pp. 123-128. This article is summarised here on pp. 16-18. Captions have been reset.

the knowledge of the naturalists and the splendour of the Animal-Cabinets. Thus, there still goes a great many Lizards and Frogs, as well as snakes of all types, in the barren lands of Africa and the woods of the Indians, which in respect of features, way of life or benefit or harm, with other fine characteristics are to the learned Europe completely unknown.

Some have been listed in *Systema Naturæ* and described, as well as illustrated by a few other Authors; still many lack both illustration and description, in particular among the Snakes and the Lizards, which are plenty in kind.”

“Of Lizards has Mr. Professor SPARRMAN already described some from the Cabinet of Kgl. Vet. Acad., which were unknown, and Mr. Lector HORNSTEDT has acquainted us with the rare *Lacerta Amboinensis*. To the same Lizard-genus I offer to add some other species, which are housed in Upsala Academy’s Naturalie-Collection, and which I myself to a large extent have brought along from the Eastern part of Asia.”

The rest of the paper is on the whole detailed descriptions of three kinds of “lizards”: *Lacerta japonica*, *Lacerta lateralis*, *Lacerta abdominalis*.

Lacerta lateralis is described as one species with two distinct varieties but with what one can tell from the plate they are different species (see preceding page). Thunberg brought one of them from Java, “fig. 2” on the plate, as he writes on page 127, whilst the other had been found in a collection at a pharmacy located in the Swedish provincial town of Vesterås. The lizard depicted on figure 2, however, has ultimately been identified as *Chalcides ocellatus* from North Africa so it appears that Thunberg mixed up the sources of the specimens.

Citations and taxonomy:

***Lacerta japonica*: Lacepede 1788**, 2nd vol., pp. 208-219 refers to Thunberg’s “*lézard du Japon*” in his treatment of terrestrial salamander and considers it to be a colour variety of this European salamander. **Schneider 1799**, pp. 73-74: = *Salamandrae Japonicae*, citing Thunberg 1787 from the German “version” of KVAH and Houttuyn [1782]. **Stejneger 1907**, p. 42: = *Onychodactylus japonicus* (Houttuyn, 1782), described as *Salamandra japonica* in Verh. Genootsch.

Wetensh. Vlissingen, IX, p. 329, pl. -, fig. 3, on a specimen collected by Thunberg.

***Lacerta lateralis*: Lacepede 1788**, 2nd vol., pp. 104-105: *lacerta lateralis* = variété du mabouya (but not appearing in the English translation 1802) and provides the details that it came in Thunberg’s possession from a private collection and that the figures indicate that they are of different species. **Schneider 1801**, p. 188: = *Scincus variegatus*. Daudin 1802, vol. 4, pp. 314-317 recognises the two different species and refers to Schneider in placing it with synonymy of *Scincus variegatus*, with the type locality Egypt. *Scincus variegatus* is later placed in synonymy with *Chalcides ocellatus* (Forsskål, 1775) (Boulenger 1887 Cat. Liz. B. M. (III), p. 400). **Lönnberg 1896**, p. 36 asserts after examination of the type specimen that the animal figured as no. 2 is synonymous with *Chalcides ocellatus* (Forsskål, 1775).

***Lacerta abdominalis*: Lacepede 1788**, 2nd vol., p. 172 in his description of *Le Seps*. **Schneider 1801**, p. 211: *abdominalis* is accepted but arranged under *Chamaesaura*. (I have been unable to trace any subsequent citations of this name.)

Thunberg, Carl Peter 1787 (III): 178-180, pl. VII. Description of Three Turtles.

Beskrifning på Trenne Sköld-paddor;

Thunberg compiled a catalogue of the collections in Uppsala *Upsala Academiens Naturalie-Cabinett*, which was published from 1787. These three chelonians were probably found during the inventory but I am not certain if this was published before Thunberg’s article.

Testudo japonica is found in Japan in lakes and “water” and is fed by the Japanese for their enjoyment. The type specimen for *Testudo rostrata* was without any information with regard to where it originated. It is also taken up in his catalogue of 1787, part 2, page 21. Thunberg’s type is still present in the Uppsala Zoological Museum in dried condition (Wallin 1994). *Testudo areolata* he describes as a land tortoise, which he obtained in India without really knowing where it originated.

Citations and taxonomy:

***Testudo japonica*: Thunberg 1787**, p. 29 (Donatio 1775 C. P. Thunberg): *Testudo japonica*. **Gray 1831**, p. 20: = variety of *Chelonia mydas*. **Wermuth &**

Mertens 1961, p. 237: *Chelonia mydas japonica* (Thunberg, 1787).

Testudo rostrata: Thunberg 1787, p. 21 (Donatio 1749 Jonæ Alströmer/C. Linné): *Testudo rostrata*.

Boulenger 1889, p. 253: = *Trionyx cartilagineus* (= *Amyda cartilagineus* [Boddaert, 1770]). **Lönnberg 1896**, pp. 33-34, when studying the collection of Linnaean types in Uppsala examined the type-specimen and thought it to be identical with *Trionyx swinhonis* (Gray) Boulenger (now *Rafetus swinhoei* [Gray, 1873]). Thunberg's description is earlier and Lönnberg therefore suggests it should be named *Trionyx rostratus* Thunberg (= *Rafetus rostratus* [Thunberg, 1787]). **Zhao & Adler 1993**, pp. 175-176: = *Pelodiscus sinensis* (Wiegmann, 1834), "*Testudo rostrata* is an older name for this species (for discussion, see R. G. Webb 1985, *Herpetologica* (41): 84-88); however ICZN (1991, *Bull. Zool. Nomen.*, London, 48:276) has conserved the name *Pelodiscus sinensis*". **Wallin 1994**, p. 127: *Trionyx rostratus* (Thunberg, 1787), referring to Lönnberg 1896.

Testudo areolata: Thunberg 1787, p. 29 (Donatio 1775 C. P. Thunberg): *Testudo areolata*. **Wermuth & Mertens 1961**, p. 175: = *Homopus areolata* (Thunberg, 1787), which is a species from South Africa.

Ödmann, Samuel 1787 (III): 235-237.

Story, about Snakebite on a pregnant Woman and its effect on the Foetus;

Berättelse, om Ormbett uppå en hafvande Hustru och des verkan på Fostret;

Samuel Lorentz Ödmann (1750-1829) was a priest but also a remarkable zoologist, active in the field between 1773 and 1792 and publishing several important contributions, especially in ornithology, in KVAH. From 1792 until his death 37 years later he remained a recluse in his small chamber in Uppsala preferring to remain lying in bed using his chest rather than the desk for both dining and writing.

An adder had bitten a woman pregnant in the 7th month on her foot. The foetus had shortly after the bite acute convulsions for a few minutes whereupon it died and she had a miscarriage later in the evening. Her own reaction to the poison was also severe but she survived and completely recovered within three weeks.

Hornstedt, Clas Fr. 1787 (IV): 306-308, pl. XII.

Description of a New snake from Java;

Beskrifning på en Ny orm från Java;

Hornstedt found on Java, Indonesia, a file snake. It was too large to be preserved in alcohol so he saved only the skin. Because of its peculiar scales he assigns it to a new genus, *Acrochordus*. The technical description is in Latin.

Citations and taxonomy:

Lacepede 1790, 3rd vol., p. 85 adds "Acrochorde" as the 8th genus (7th is *Langaha*) to Linnaeus 6.

Lacepede 1790, 4th vol., pp. 308-310: L'acrochorde de Java. **Schneider 1801**, p. 344: *Acrochordi*. **Present names:** Genus *Acrochordus* Hornstedt, 1787; Spec.: *Acrochordus javanicus* Hornstedt, 1787.

Sparrman, Anders 1795 (III): 180-183, pl. VII.

COLUBER ferruginosus: an entirely new Adder, found in Södermanland and described; By ANDERS SPARRMAN.

COLUBER ferruginosus: en aldeles ny Hugg-Orm, funnen i Södermanland och beskrifven; Af ANDERS SPARRMAN.

Sparrman is surprised how this species has escaped notice until now in a country with so many disciples of Linnaeus. He describes it in Swedish and notes that its teeth can hardly even be seen.

Citations and taxonomy:

Nilsson 1842 (*Skandinavisk Fauna*), p. 49: = *Coronella levis* [= *Coronella austriaca* Laurenti, 1768]. **Schreiber 1912**, p. 661: = *Coronella austriaca* Laurenti, 1768, p. 84, plate 5, fig. 1.

Sparrman, Anders 1795 (III): 183-185, pl. VII.

A green spotted Frog, found in Carlsrona and described;

En grönnfläckad Groda, funnen i Carlsrona och beskrifven;

Sparrman visited on commission the provincial town of Carlsrona in southern Sweden and came upon a frog. He attributes it to (*Rana*) *sitibunda*, described by Pallas 1771, which is in synonymy with *Bufo viridis* Laurenti, 1768.

Citations and taxonomy:

Schneider 1799, p. 206. = *Bufo Viridis*. **Nilsson 1842**, p. 102. = *Bufo variabilis* (Merrem) [= *Bufo viridis* Laurenti, 1768].

Ljungh, Sven Ingemar 1804 (III): 187-190, pl. V. LACERTA TJITJA, a new Lizard from Java, described by SVEN INGEMAR LJUNGH. LACERTA TJITJA, en ny Ödla från Java, beskrifven af SVEN INGEMAR LJUNGH.

Sven Ingemar Ljungh (1757-1828) was a civil servant who had retired early in 1793. He was a keen amateur naturalist who had studied under Linnaeus and Thunberg and possessed one of the largest private natural history libraries in Sweden. The author describes a lizard being common in Batavia (presently Jakarta) on Java in what was then known as “South India”. It has toes that enable it to climb on walls, can change colours like the chameleon and makes a call that sounds like “Che Che Che Che Che”. The body length is 2 3/4 inches and the tail is 3 1/4 inches. The colour is grey with black-brown stripes and spots. Mr. Joh . Brandes made the drawing in Batavia from a dead animal on Feb. 18, 1784, reproduced below. The figure caption is “Lacerta tjittia”.

“With the following specific distinguishing marks should also this species for the time being with ease be differentiated from all others hith-

erto known of the Lizard group:

Lacerta Tjitja: cauda tereti mediocri fusco fasciata, pedibus pentadactylis unguiculatis, corpore cinereo vittis quatuor fuscis dentatis.”

Taxonomy:

I have not been able to find “tjitja” cited so it appears hitherto to have escaped being synonymised. Aaron M. Bauer, in press., identifies it as *Cosymbotus platyurus* (Schneider, 1792), p. 30. Bauer, A.M. 2000. On the identity of *Lacerta tjitja* Ljungh 1804, a gecko from Java. Hamadryad 24(2).

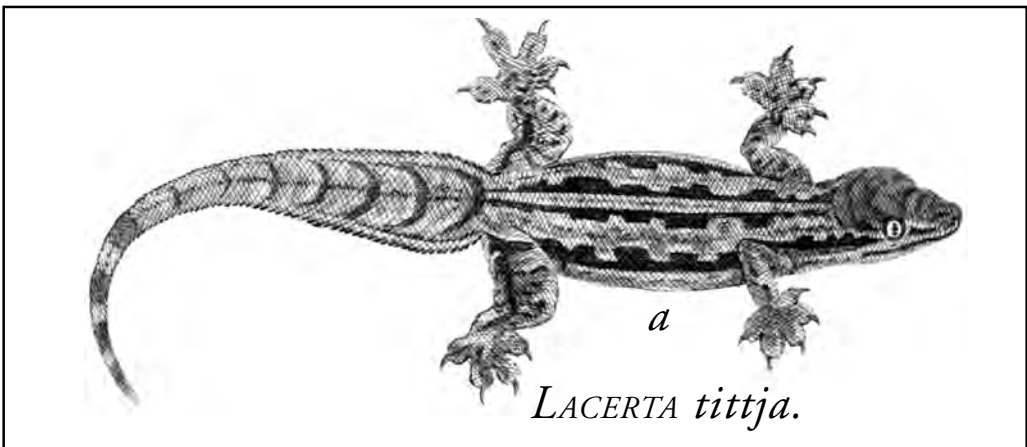
Thunberg, Carl Peter 1807 (I): 1-4, pl. I.

Description and Illustration of two Variants of a new Species of Snakes, named *Boa variegata*. Beskrifning och Teckning på tvänne Art-Förändringar af et nytt Species ibland Ormar, Boa variegata kalladt.

Thunberg submitted this herpetological contribution 28 years after his return from his journey to the Cape, Java and Japan.

The introductory part of his article is rather general. He describes the snakes as less developed animals especially because of their primitive means of locomotion. He declares that snakes have been allotted to warmer climates and are therefore quite unfamiliar to naturalists.

“The thoughts of the dreadful poison that the Creator has been pleased to arm and equip a



This picture of the lizard described by Sven Ingemar Ljungh in Kongl. Vetenskaps Akademiens nya handlingar 1804 (III), pp. 187-190, can be found on plate V of that volume. Ljungh’s article is summarised above. Captions have been reset; the drawing is reproduced in approximately the original size.

greater part of these otherwise defenceless creepers will cause horror and fright and warn to caution when examining and describing them.

Equipped with poison that when mixed in the blood rather swiftly will kill, are all Rattlesnakes and a large part of the Coluber-genus, whereas Coecilia, Amphisbæna, Anguis and Boa are entirely devoid of this.

Of the latter Genus, which appears to be characterised from the others by, not only excessive length and thickness, but also delightfully coloured and marbled bodies are few species known, and all are found only in countries, and islands, situated near the Æquator.

Two variants of one Species were the only in East India that I found of this genus and brought home, which figured and described I believe earn a place in the Kongl. Vetenskaps-Acedemien's both important and interesting Memoirs.

Species I have named Variegata after its diversity of colours, spread over its entire body.

The first variety (Pl. 1a) is characterised by 172 scuta abdominalia and 47 scuta caudalia, counted together 219.

The length of the whole body is 16 inches; from nose to Anus 14 inches; from Anus to the tip of the tail 2 inches.

Thickness is about that of a finger.

The nose is pointed forward and the tail gradually tapers to the very tip.

The whole Body is marble coloured in undulating stripes, which often make up distinct squares, with several smaller white spots, scattered all about.

The other variant (Pl. 1b) is characterised by 173 scuta on the belly and 50 under the tail, counted together 223.

Body length is 15 inches.

from Nose to Anus 13 inches:

from Anus to the tip of tail 2 inches.

Thickness is similar to the former.

Nose and tail are also like the former.

This one is less coloured in marble compared with the former, patterned with a more faint yellowish colour, with stripes that occasionally meet and form elongated cubes."

Taxonomy:

I have not been able to find any citation of the name *Boa variegata* as a valid taxon or synonymy. Aaron Bauer, pers. comm. 1999-11-17, identifies it as *Candoia carinata* (Schneider, 1801), p. 261.

Julin, J. 1811: 129-130.

Report on a Living Snake found in a bird egg under an Anthill, submitted by J. JULIN in a letter to Prof. SWARTZ.

Berättelse om en Lefvande Orm funnen i et fugelegg under en Myrstack, meddelad av J. JULIN i bref till Prof. SWARTZ.

Johan Julin (1752-1820) was a pharmacist and naturalist in Finland. He tells in this letter which was published in KVAH about an angler who four years before this report was submitted had on 20th July been looking for worms, probably "Carabus Hortensis" according to Julin, in an anthill. The angler had found in the mound a cracked shell of a mallard with the dead hatchling, and to his astonishment, a living snake hidden in the other half of the egg. The find was brought to Julin, who states it has a likeness of an æspis (*Coluber chersens* [sic]) or a young "Col. Berus". It was deposited in the museum of the Academy.

Dalman, J. W. 1820 (2nd half): 286-293, pls VI and VII.

ANNOUNCEMENT of some Tortoise-shells, which have been found upon digging for the Götha Canal;

UNDERRÄTTELSE om några Sköldpadd-skäl, som blifvit funna vid gräfning af Götha Canal;

Johan Wilhelm Dalman (1787-1828) was a naturalist, illustrator, professor of botany, librarian to KVA and curator of the zoological museum of the Academy. This is the description of a discovery he made the same year it was published.

Citation and taxonomy:

Kurck 1917: 42: *Emys orbicularis* (Linnaeus)

REMARK

On

Distinguishing-marks between Snakes.

By

CARL LINNÆUS.

On account of the description submitted by Tax-collector H. CARL CLERCK'S to the Kongl. Vetenskaps Academi of an Adder, which he recently has discovered in Stockholm, and which otherwise is in agreement with my description of an Adder, *Faun. Svec. N:o* 260, only that this one had 153 abdomen-shields and 32 tail-shields, where I assigned the Adder 144 belly-shields and 39 tail-shields, I wish to offer the following remark.

To properly differentiate the Snakes has been difficult for one conversant in Nature, until I began to count the abdomen-shields in them.

I must admit, however, that these shields change in the meantime in each kind to a somewhat larger or smaller number, however, always so that what is added or taken off of the belly shields, the same is shortened or increased in equal proportion in the scales under the tail; that is to say therefore, that if *the Belly-shields* become, for example, 5 more than usual, then the number of the *Scales* under the tail becomes 5 pairs less and vice versa.

Hence, I usually always, before I dare to designate a Snake as a new kind, add the number of belly-shields and the pairs of scales under the tail, and from the sum establish, which kind the Snake belongs.

When I adhere to the same calculation in this presented Snake, then emerges

In Mr. CLERCK'S Snake	Belly-shields	153
	tail-scales	32
		Sum 185

In my in <i>Fauna Svec.</i>	Belly-scales	144
	tail-scales	39
		Sum 183

Thus differ these two only by 2 scales, which is not of any fundament, as the first scale under the chin, the last on the tail, and the scale by the opening, can hardly be determined, so that the sum ought to be accurately the same.

Thus I pronounce that the by Mr. CLERCK discovered Snake be our common Adder (*Fn. Sv.* 260) and not a new Species. But for information of this way of calculation should this reminder serve a place in the Kongl. Academiens Handlingar, so that others may observe a calculation, which hitherto nowhere is mentioned

1785. *Apr. May. Jun.* [Pp. 130-133]

*Description of a Lizard, found and
submitted from Java;*

By

CLAS FR. HORNSTEDT,

Mem. of Soc. Sci. in Batavia.

With deepest respect I am honoured to express my humble appreciation, for the favourable care that the Kongl. Vetensk. Academien has granted for my Indian Journey's transports.

It is not unknown to the Royal Academy that I have chosen to acquaint myself with the Southernmost part of the vast Asia, which to its Natural-History certainly still is amongst the most anonymous on our Globe. I have begun my travels on Java. An Island, which generous Nature has granted both the most delightful rewards and at the same time, the most trying nuisances. The always verdant Summer with lush Paddies and Blossoming fields, the fertile Woods of Coffee-trees and Sugar Cane, nutritious Palms with delicious fruits; Plantains, Pineapple, Coconuts, etc. make all seasons equally pleasant, when you at the same time are burned by the intense Sun, wild Tigers and Baboons, starving Sharks and Crocodiles, venomous Snakes and Lizards, which overwhelm all places and give the Masters of the Animals no safe sanctuary.

I have already had, and have daily, invaluable occasions to acquaint with these dangerous foes. In particular has one Lizard, peculiar in his genus, whose description I have the honour to submit the Kongl. Academien, looked remarkable to me, in her immense Sail, she attires on her tail, so rare amongst this abundant group, that for the exception of the Basilisk, yet none has been made known^(*).

(*) A similar Lizard is described by Mr. SCHLOSSER in *Epistola de Lacerta Amboinensi*, together with illuminated figure in natural size, which also has been copied in miniature by Mr. Buchoz in *Sec. Cent. Dec. I. Pl. VIII.* and mentioned by Mr. BODDART in Utrecht in *Schriften der Berlin. Geschellschaft. III. T. p. 459.* Mr. HORNSTEDT'S Lizard nevertheless varies in respect to the spots from the Schlosserian and as they were not acquainted with the Female to the same Lacerta, it is here for the first time depicted and described [see the reproduction of plate V from this volume on p. 24]. Furthermore, the variety of Lacerta Amboinensis that Mr. HORNSTEDT found on Java will be so much better known since the actual Animal, after which Mr. Schlosser made his description and drawing, has been bought in Holland by late Marshal DeGeer and now, though the DeGeerian Donation, is preserved in Kgl. Academien's Natural History Collection.

Tab. V.

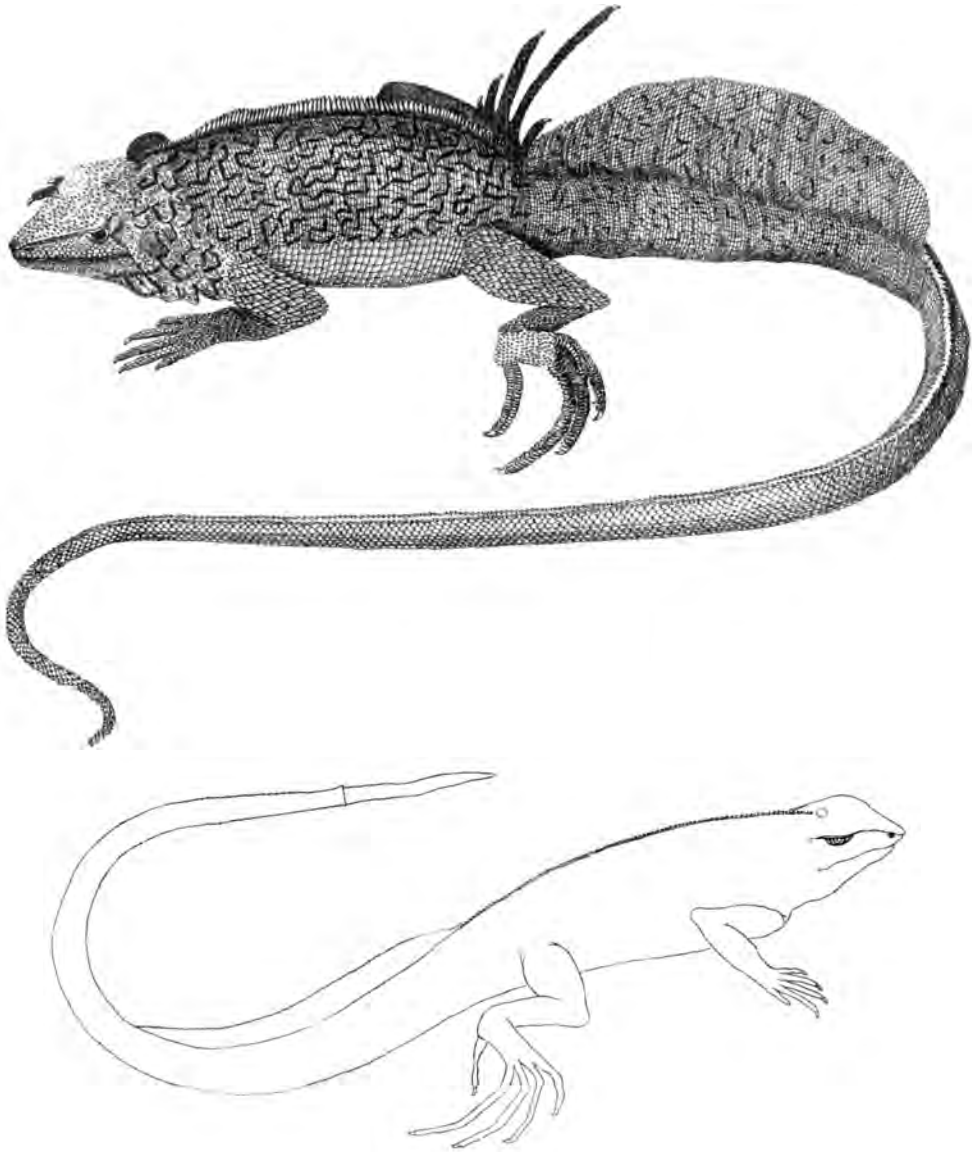
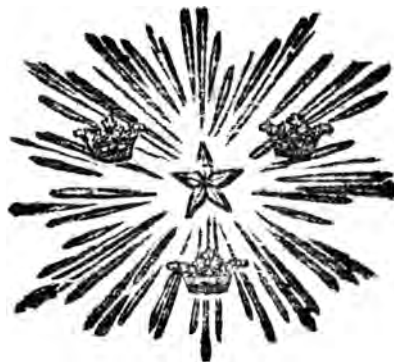


Plate V from Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens handlingar 1785 (II), slightly reduced from original size, which depicts the lizards described in Clas Frederik Hornstedt's article on pp. 130-133. The Swedish text in this article is translated in its entirety on p. 23. Captions have been reset.

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The Klauber Herpetological Library at the San Diego Natural History Museum

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Laurence M. Klauber, a herpetologist by avocation, was a man with a wide diversity of interests. An electrical engineer by training, he became president and later chairman and chief executive officer of the San Diego Gas and Electric Company. His hobbies ranged from poetry, opera and poker to inventing electrical devices and serving the San Diego community. Undoubtedly, his greatest passion was the study of amphibians and reptiles. From this, came one of his most prized possessions, his personal library on amphibians and reptiles. This collection of herpetological works was generously donated to the San Diego Natural History Museum in 1968. It remains one of his last great contributions to the field of herpetology.

Shortly before his death on May 8, 1968, at the age of 84, Laurence Klauber bequeathed his cherished library to the museum during a private dinner party attended by a select group of museum patrons. Earlier, in 1961, the museum had accepted the gift of his private collection of herpetological specimens. In order to express their appreciation for his latest contribution, the museum designed and built a separate room for his book collection in their already existing library. Architectural plans were completed on December 3, 1968 by Hatch, Heimerdinger, & Associates, Inc. of San Diego, the financing for the plans coming from a donation from Mrs. J. Dallas (Mary) Clark. The remodeling of the existing library with an additional room was

placed at \$25,000, with \$18,500 being contributed by SDG&E (Engstrand and Bullard, 1999). The opening and dedication of the Klauber Herpetological Library came shortly thereafter on June 26, 1969. Today, the library is little changed with the exception of added shelving. It is maintained by an endowment from the Klauber family which allows for maintenance and the purchase of new volumes.

Laurence Klauber's interest as a bibliophile began sometime around 1925, shortly after he renewed his childhood interest in reptiles in 1920 and the publication of his first scientific paper in 1924. He served as the president of the Library Commission of the City of San Diego from 1942 until the time of his death. In 1945, his publication in the second volume of *Herpetologica* entitled "Some Herpetological Book Prices Then and Now" solidified his reputation as an expert in herpetological book collecting. This publication details some of the more noteworthy holdings of his personal library and compares the inflationary trend of the value of herpetological books.

At the time of its acquisition, the Klauber Herpetological Library was valued at \$47,500 and contained 1,400 books and 19,000 offprints, in addition to his hand-written card file, personal diaries, and original data sheets detailing his research on rattlesnakes and the collection of specimens. Today, the library has 2300 volumes and through prosperity the collection is belie-

ved to be valued at over \$3 million dollars. Of even greater value is the historical information contained in his personal notes. These detail the distribution of amphibians and reptiles throughout southern California, a region undergoing the conversion of natural habitat by urban development. This collection of books on amphibians and reptiles, and his personal notes, is certainly one of the most comprehensive private herpetological libraries ever assembled.

The Klauber Herpetological Library holds full series of most herpetological and natural his-

tory journals, reports from the great American expeditions, and volumes with varying herpetological subjects. Listed below are some of the more rare items, those pre-dating Linnaeus' *Systema Naturae*. Notes on each volume mostly come from Klauber's handwritten comments taken from the inside front cover of each book. Other information comes from various clippings Klauber attached to the inside covers. All price quotations reflect the full amount of information Klauber recorded.

1513. ARISTOTELES. De natura animalium, de partibus animalium, de Generatione Gnimalium. Aldus, Venice. 273 p.

Klauber purchased this volume from Feisenberger, London on July 30, 1950 for \$7.81 (US).

1523. NICANDER of Colophon. Theriaca. Aldine Press, Venice. 91 p.

1533. SOLINUS, C. Julius. Polyhistor, adiecto ad libri calcem India. Apud Simonim colinaeum, Paris. 132 p.

This copy was purchased on April 20, 1948 from Export Book Co., Preston, Lancashire for \$2.20 (US).

1552. WOTTON, Edward. De differentiis animalium libri decem. Lutetiae Parisorum. 220 p.

This work represents the first systematic account of zoology. Wotton was a physician to Henry VIII and brought objectivity back to the systematic study of zoology. Klauber purchased his copy from Dr. W. Junk, Berl. on October 2, 1927 for \$10.14 (US).

1560. CIEZA DE LEON, Pietro. La Prima Parte dell' Historie del Peru. Venice. 215 p.

This edition appeared as a volume in a series, but is complete in itself. Klauber's notes indicate that this work contains the first mention of rattlesnakes in Italian, and second mention in any language (see leaf 19; verso). Klauber

purchased this volume from Francis Edwards, London on June 6, 1954 for \$17.16 (US).

1565. AELINAUS, Claudius. De historia animalium, Libri XVII. Lugduni, Venice. 668 p.

1567. AELINAUS, Claudius. De varia historia, libri XIII. Lugduni, Venice. 279 p.

1568. GREVIN, Jacques. Deux Livres des Venins, Ausquels il est amplement discouru des bestes venimeuses theriaques, poisons & contrepoisons, Les oeuvres de Nicandre, Medicin & Poëte Grec, traduites en vers Francois. Anvers. 333 p.

This work contains numerous cuts of animals, scorpions, dragons, serpents, fishes, herbs, frogs, and other sorts. Klauber purchased his copy from Myers and Co., London on July 7, 1942 for \$18.00 (US).

1571. GREVIN, Iacob. De venenis, libri duo. Opera et labore Hieremiae Martij in latinum conversi. De antimonio, eodem interprete. Antverpiae, Plantin. 332 p.

This work on poisons contains numerous woodcuts of snakes, fishes, and plants in the text. Klauber purchased it from Myers and Co., London on November 4, 1941 for \$16.10 (US).

1572. MARANTA, Bartolomeo. *Della Theriaca et del Mithridato libri due*. Marcantonio Olmo, Vinegia. 280 p.

This work is about antidotes against serpents, venom, and cures for poisons. This first edition was purchased by Klauber from Export Book Co., Preston, Lancashire on February 21, 1949 for \$30.30 (US).

1587. GESNER, Conrad. *Historiae animalium. Libre V: qui est de Serpentium Natura*. Zürich. pp. (XII) + 170.

This first edition, in Latin, contains numerous woodcuts scattered throughout the text and some are full page. The Klauber Library also has a second Latin edition published in 1621 from Francofurti. Volume 5 is devoted to snakes. Klauber purchased his copy from A. Asher, Amsterdam on November 28, 1947 for \$45.00 (US).

1601. PLINY, G. Secundo. *The Historie of the World*. Commonly called, *The Naturall Historie of C. Plinius Secundus*. London, Great Britain. 2 vols. in 1: 614 p., 632 p. Translated into English by Philemon Holland.

Klauber purchased his copy from Dawson, LA on December 21, 1948 for \$51.25 (US).

1604. PAULINUS, Fabius. *De viperis in trochiscorum apparatu pro theriaca adhibendis*. Venetiis. 16 p.

Klauber purchased this volume from L'Art Ancum, Zurich in December 1, 1946 for 40 Swiss Francs.

1608. TOPSELL, Edward. *The Historie of Serpents or the Second Book of Living Creatures*. London. 6 leaves, 315 p. illus.

This work was purchased from William Dawson & Sons, Ltd., London on December 21, 1938 for £3.10.0.

1616. AELINAUS, Claudius. *Aeliani de natura animalium, Libre XVII*. Geneva. 1018 p.

Klauber purchased this work from Davis & Orioli on March 29, 1943 for \$3.27 (US).

1621. GESNER, Conrad. *Historiae animalium. Libre V: qui est de Serpentium Natura*. Zürich. Second Edition.

This edition was purchased from Behmore, Rome for \$6.81 (US). No date was noted.

1635. NIEREMBERG, J. E. *Historia Naturae, Maxime Pergrinae, Libris XVI. Distincta. In quibus rarissima Naturae arcana, etiam astronomica, & ignota Indiarum animalia, quadrupedes, aves, pisces, reptilia, insecta, zoophyta, plantae, metalla, lapide & alia mineralia, fluviorumque & elementorum conitiones, etiam cum proprietatibus medicinalibus, describuntur...* Accedunt Libri unus. Antverpiae. Antwerp (Plantin). 502 p. illus.

This volume was a gift to Klauber from Chapman Grant of the San Diego Natural History Museum in October, 1945. The majority of this work relates to the natural history of México and also contains accounts of native American customs, plants, animals and many native words and drawings.

1635. PLINY, G. Secundo. *The Historie of the World*. Commonly called, *The Naturall Historie of C. Plinius Secundus*. London, Great Britain. 2 vols. in 1: 614 p., 632 p. Translated into English by Philemon Holland.

Klauber purchased this copy from Frank Hammond, Birmingham, England on May 10, 1949 for \$51.56 (US).

1640. ALDROVANDUS, Ulysses. *Serpentum, et Draconu Historiae, libri duo...* Bononiae. pp. (IV) + 427 + XXVIII.

This work represents the reptile volume of the *Opera Omnia* (1599-1668) and contains a number of woodcuts illustrating various snakes and mythological dragons, some of which occupy the full page. Many of these same illustrations appear later in come from Topsell's 1608 *The Historie of Serpents or the Second Book of Living Creatures*. Klauber purchased this volume from Friedlaender, Berlin on October 27, 1926 for \$5.00 (US).

1650. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *Historia naturalis de quadrupetibus*, Libri I. Francofurti ad Moenum. 231 p. illus.

This volume contains an amphibian and lizard section pp. 185-213. It is part of a six part (libri) work. The Klauber Library copy is bound in four volumes, representing a combination of a 1650 and 1653 editions to make a complete set. Klauber purchased the four volumes for £8.10.0.

1650. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *Historia naturalis de piscibus et cetis*, Libri V. Francofurti ad Moenum. 228 p., illus. *Historia naturalis de exangirbus aquaticis*, Libri IV. Francofurti ad Moenum. 78 p., illus.

1650. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *Historia naturalis de avibus*, Libri VI. Francofurti ad Moenum. 227 p. illus.

1653. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *Historia naturalis de insectis*, Libri III. Francofurti ad Moenum. 200 p., illus. *Historia naturalis de serpentibus*, Libri II. Francofurti ad Moenum. 40 p., illus.

1651. SEVERINUS, Marcus Aurelius. *Viperapythia id est de viperae natura, veneno, medicina, demonstrationes et experimenta nova*. Patavii. 522 p.

1655. WORM, Olaus. *Museum Vormianum, seu historia rerum rariorum*. Lugduni Batavorum. 389 p. illus.

Klauber purchased this volume from A. Asher, Amsterdam on November 23, 1949 for \$22.85 (US).

1657. CASTELLO, Bartholomaeo. *Lexicon medicum Greco-Latinum*. Roterodami. 517 p.

Klauber purchased this work from Old Authors Farm, Morrisburg, Ontario, Canada on May 15, 1957 for \$9.00 (CAN). It originally came from the Vatican Library.

1657. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *Historiae naturalis de serpentibus*, Libri II. Joannem Jacobi fil. Schipper, Amstelodami. 36 p., illus. (incomplete). *Historiae naturalis et de exanguibus aquaticis*. Joannem Jacobi fil. Schipper,

Amstelodami. 58 p., illus.

These 1657 copies are bound together with the snake portion appearing to be incomplete. This work was given to Klauber for Christmas in 1925 from E.B.G. (initials unknown).

1657. JONSTONUS, Johannes. *An history of the wonderful things of nature set forth in ten severall classes*. (Translation by John Rowland). London. 354 p.

1658. TOPSELL, Edward. *A history of four-footed beasts and serpents: describing at Large their True and Lively Figure, their several Names, Conditions, Kinds, Virtues (both Natural and Medicinal), Countries of their Breed, their Love and Hatred to Mankind, and the wonderful work of God in their Creation, Preservations, and Destruction. Interwoven with curious variety of Historical Narrations out of Scriptures, Fathers, Philosophers, Physicians, and Poets: Illustrated with divers Hieroglyphicks and Emblems, etc., both pleasant and profitable for students in all Faculties and Professions. Collected out of the Writings Conradus Gesner and other Authors. Whereunto is now added, the Theater of Insects; or, Lesser Living Creatures: As Bees, Flies, Caterpillars, Spiders, Worms, etc. A most Elaborate Work: by T. Muffet, Dr. of Physick. The whole Revised, Corrected, and Inlarged with the Addition of Two useful Physical Tables, by J. R. [John Rowland] M.D. E. Cotes, London. 818 p. illus.*

This book was the great picture book of the seventeenth century, and is consequently nearly always in bad condition. The copy at the Klauber Library is no exception. There are several hundred woodcuts with both mythical and real serpents and dragons. The "History of Serpents" is found on pp. 587-818. Klauber purchased his from Bowes & Bowes, Cambridge, England on August 4, 1926 for \$8.32 (US).

1660. ABBATIUS, Baldus Angelus. *De admirabili viperae natura et de mirificis eiusdem facultatibus*. Third edition. Hagae. 186 p.

This copy was originally the property of the seventeenth century naturalist F. Willughby.

The first edition was published in 1589, the second in 1603. Klauber bought this third edition on September 10, 1931 from Frank Woore, Derby, England for £10.6.0.

1661. LOVELL, Robert. *Sive Panzoologico-mineralogia, Or a compleat history of animals and minerals, Containing the Summe of all Authors, both Ancient and Modern, Galenicall and Chymicall, touching Animals...* as to the Place, Meat, Name, Temperature, Vertues, Use in Meat and Medicine, Description, Kinds, Generation, Sympathie, Antipathie, Diseases, Cures, Hurts, and Remedies... With the Anatomy of Man.. As also a History of Minerals... Oxford.

Klauber purchased this small volume from T. D. Wester, Tunbridge on April 8, 1951 for \$13.09 (US).

1663. BOCHART, Samuel. *Hierozoicon sive bipertitum opus de animalibus, sacrae scripturae.* 2 vols. Londini. 1094 p. 888 p.

1664. REDI, F. *Osservazioni intorno alle vipere, fatte da Francesco Redi e da lui scritte in una lettera all' illustrissimo Signor Lorenzo Magalotti, gentiluomo della Camera de Ser. B. Duca di Tose.* Firenze. 91 p.

This copy was purchased from J. Tregaski & Son, London, England on August 25, 1927 for \$16.21 (US).

1665. FRANZIUS, Wolfgang. *Historia animalium. Joannem Ravesteiniu, Amstelaedami.* 779 p.

This work was purchased from Koehler, Leipzig on September 20, 1927 for f4.5.

1670. REDI, Francesco. *Lettera di Francesco Redi sopra alcune opposizioni fatte alle sue osservazioni intorno alle vipere.* Firenze. 47 p.

This copy was purchased from Dr. W. Junk, Berl. on July 21, 1926 for \$0.93 (US). The Klauber Library also has a 1685 addition.

1675. REDI, Francisci. *Experimenta naturalia.* Amstelodami. 193 p.

1676. JACOBÆUS, O. *De Ranis Observationes.* 8 vols., Romae. 128 p., 3 pls.

1677. WURFFBAIN, J. P. *Salamandram. Novib (?)*. 88 p.

This work was purchased from G. W. Taylor, Guildford, England on December 18, 1954 for \$0.37 (US).

1669. CHARAS, M. *Nouvelles Experiences sur la Vipère ou l'on verra description exacte de toutes ses parties, la source de son Venin, ses divers effets et les Remèdes Exquis...* Paris. 218 p.

This small book was first published in 1669 in French, first translated to English in 1670. The author was first a chemist and botanist and only later turned to medicine. Klauber purchased this book from P. Lier, Florence, Italy on June 28, 1929 for \$5.32 (US).

1670. CHARAS, M. *New experiments upon vipers, containing also an exact description of all the parts of a Viper, the Seat of its Poison and the several Effects thereof, originally written in French, now rendered in English.* London. 223 p., 3 pls.

First English edition. Klauber purchased it from F. Marchem, Harrow Weald, Middlesex on July 30, 1946 for \$3.90 (US).

1672. CHARAS, M. *Nouvelles Experiences sur la Vipère ou l'on verra description exacte de toutes ses parties, la source de son Venin, ses divers effets et les Remèdes Exquis.* Second edition. Paris. 367 p.

Klauber purchased this copy on November 24, 1937 for \$2.00 (US).

1673. CHARAS, Moise. *New Experiments Upon Vipers with Exquisite Remedies, that may be drawn from them, as well for the cure of their Bitings, as for that of other Maladies. Also a letter of Francisco Redi, concerning some objections made upon his observations about Vipers: written to M. Bourdelot and Mr. Alex. Morus. Together with the sequel of New Experiments upon Vipers in a reply to a letter*

written by Sign. F. Redi. Now rendered English. London. 222 p., 112 p. (letter by Redi), 3 pls.

Klauber purchased this copy from Henry Pordom and Bros. on April 23, 1926 for \$11.18 (US).

1681. BLASIUS, Gerard. *Anatome Animalium, Terrestrium, variorum, Volatilium, Aquatilium, Serpentum, Insectorum, Ovorumque, structuram naturalem. Ex Veterum, Recentiorum, propriisque Observationibus proponens, figuris variis illustrata.* 4to. Amstelodami. pp. (IV) + 496, 66 full page copper-plate engravings (emblematic frontispiece, 5 in text, 60 numbered plates following text).

This work has been regarded as one of the first comprehensive manuals of comparative anatomy. It includes illustrations of whole specimens and those in various stages of dissection. Herpetological plates include a chameleon (pls. XIV, XV), turtle (pl. XXX), salamander (pl. LIV), lizard (pl. LIV), toad (pl. LIV), frog (pl. LV), and snakes (pl. LX); their specific identification needs further research.

1693. CHARAS, M. *Nouvelles Experiences sur la Vipère ou l'on verra description exacte de toutes ses parties, la source de son Venin, ses divers effets et les Remèdes Exquis.* Second edition. Paris. 367 p.

Klauber purchased this copy from H. Dawey, London on May 20, 1927 for \$4.01 (US).

1694. CHARAS, M. *Nouvelles Experiences sur la Vipère ou l'on verra description exacte de toutes ses parties, la source de son Venin, ses divers effets et les Remèdes Exquis.* Second edition. Paris. 367 p.

Klauber purchased this copy from P. Lecheralier, Paris on November 24, 1937 for \$2.60 (US).

1731-1743. CATESBY, M. *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands.* Folio. London. 2 vols.

There are a number of editions of this work. It is considered to be an important work of the natural history of America (Klauber, 1945).

1734-1765. SEBA, Albertus. *Locupletissimi Rerum Naturalium. Thesauri accurata descriptio, et iconibus artificiosissimis expressio, per univrsam physices historiam.* Royal folio Amsterdami. 4 volumes: Vol. 1, 1734, pp. (XXVIII) + 178, 111 pls.; Vol. 2, 1735, pp. (XX) + 154, 114 pls.; Vol. 3, 1758, pp. (XXII) + 212, 116 pls.; Vol. 4, 1765, pp. (VIII) + 226, 108 pls.;

This copy is a black and white version and is considered rare. A very few copies were issued with colored plates. Many of the plates are double-page and subjects range across all categories of zoology and some botany. Of the plates representing reptiles, many contain assemblages of lizards and snakes, often without regard to geographic region of origin. Vol. 2 contains mostly reptiles, although these can be found throughout the other volumes as well. The text is written in Latin and French and is an explanation of the plates (Klauber, 1945). This is an important work because it is frequently referenced in Linnaeus' *Systema Naturae*.

The author was a rich Dutch pharmacist who stocked medicinal supplies from all parts of the world. When ships in the great Dutch trading fleet docked at Amsterdam, they were met by this businessman, who was ready to buy their goods. The sailors also knew that they could sell Seba curious specimens for his collection for a good price. The illustrations were done by the best artists Seba could hire; descriptions of the specimens were written by experts in their respective fields. His private museum was purchased later by Peter the Great and transported to St. Petersburg.

In Klauber's personal notes, he indicates Plates 45, 95, and 96 in Vol. 2 depict rattlesnakes. In order to verify their identification, Klauber visited the Huntington Library in California to inspect a color version of this work. Klauber notes that Plate 45, Fig. 4, represents a Mexican or Central American *Crotalus durissus* because the paravertebral stripes are clearly marked and are brown with a yellow vertebral stripe between. Klauber believed his identification was unquestionable, although he notes the text describes it from Ceylon. Plate 95, Figs. 1-3, represent rattlesnakes as well. Fig. 1 is probably

a *C. terrificus*; Fig. 2 may be a *C. durissus* or *C. horridus*; and Fig. 3 is possibly a *C. mitchellii*. Plate 96, Fig. 1, is probably not a rattlesnake, although the large brown snake represented is drawn with a rattle. Klauber purchased this set of volumes from Lowe Brothers, Ltd. of Birmingham, England on March 8, 1934 for £6.6.0.

1735. ALPINUS, Prosper. *Historiae Aegypti Naturalis pars prima... Opus Postumum*. Lugduni Batavorum. 2 vol. in 1. illus.

Klauber purchased this volume from Export Book Co., Preston, Lancashire on November 12, 1949 for \$7.00 (US).

1742. OWEN, C. *An Essay towards a Natural History of Serpents*. London. pp. XXIII + 240 + (XII), 7 uncolored plates.

This was considered by Klauber (1945) to be a plentiful and popular work frequently quoted in book catalogues not specializing in natural history subjects.

1752. HILL, John. *An history of animals containing descriptions of the Birds, Beasts, Fishes, and Insects of Several Parts of the World; and including accounts of the several classes of Animalcules visible only by the assistance of the microscopes*. London. 584 p.

This book was purchased from Quaritch, London on December 17, 1951 for \$14.41 (US).

1754. LINNAEUS, Carl von. *Museum Adolphi Frederici Regis... in quo animalia rariora imprimis, et exotica: Quadrupedia, aves, amphibia, pisces, insecta, vermes describuntur et determinantur, Latine et Svecicae, cum iconibus*. Holmiae. pp. (XXX) + 96 + (VII), pls. 33.

This work is of importance in interpreting some of Linnaeus' later descriptions in the *Systema Naturae* (Klauber, 1945). For instance, Linnaeus' description of *Crotalus horridus* and two other species reference the collection of Adolphi Frederici Regis. Based on Klauber's personal notes, the description of *Crotalus* (p. 39) was believed to represent only *Crotalus horridus*. Of the 33 black and white plates, 3-24

depict snakes. Klauber received this copy from Doris Cochran while visiting the Smithsonian Institution on February 7, 1936.

1754. GRONOVIVS, Laurentius Theodorus. *Museum Ichthyologicum, sistens piscium indigenorum and quorundam exoticorum qui in Museo Laurenti Theodori Gronovii, J.U.D. adservantur, Descriptiones ordine systematico*. Lugduni Batavorum, T. Haak. 2 v. in 1. V. 1, pp. 1-46.

1756. GRONOVIVS, Laurentius Theodorus. *Amphiborum Animalium Historia Zoologica exhibens Amphibiorum qui in Museo Laurenti Theodori Gronovii, J.U.D. adservantur, Descriptiones ordine systematico*. Folio. Lugduni Batavorum, T. Haak. 2 v. in 1. V. 2, pp. 47-88. pls. 7.

This work contains two volumes. The 7 plates illustrate only fish, in black and white. Klauber purchased this two volume copy from A. Asher, Amsterdam on June 10, 1953 for \$22.60 (US).

1758. ROESEL VON ROSENHOF, August Johannes. *Historia Naturalis Ranarum Nostratum in qua omnes earum proprietates, quae ad generationem ipsarum pertinent fusius enarrantur. Cum praefatione illustri viri A, v. Haller. First Edition*. Nurnberg. pp. (VI) + VIII + 115 + I, pls. frontispiece + 24.

This work contains a beautifully colored frontispiece and plates. Many of the plates depict frogs in various stages of dissection. Each plate is presented in duplicate, with one in black and white showing numbered and lettered details, the other colored. The text is in parallel columns in Latin and German. Klauber purchased his copy from Dawson, LA on January 7, 1939 for \$25.75 (US).

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Margi Dykens, Librarian at the San Diego Natural History Museum, for access to the Klauber Herpetological Library and for reviewing the manuscript. ...

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Deciphering Latin Dates and Place Names on the Title Pages of Old Herpetological Books

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When attempting to catalogue or reference old books, the herpetological book collector sometimes encounters problems of interpretation involving the date of publication or the place where the book was published, if these are given in Latin form. Roman numerals given on the title page or, in the older books, on the colophon page at the end of the book are usually easily understood. However, in some older books—generally before 1650—there is an alternate form of the usual symbol D representing the number 500 and of the M standing for 1000.

For example, consider Gessner's *Historiae Animalium Liber IV. Qui est de Piscium & Aquatiliu Animantium natura*, second edition, published in Frankfurt am Main in 1620 and which mainly covers fish and crustaceans, but also includes frogs, turtles, and some lizards and snakes. At the foot of the title page the date is given as: CIO IDC XX, or M DC XX (=1620). These variant forms of M and D are created by reversing the letter "C."

Another frequently encountered problem is that the places of publication are given in their Latin forms and these sometimes have no obvious connection to the modern names. For example, Schneider's *Amphibiorum Physiologiae Specimen Alterum* was published in 1792 in "Traiecti ad Viadrum," or Frankfurt am Oder (that is, Frankfurt on the Oder River in eastern Germany, not to be confused with the more well-known Frankfurt am Main in western Germany). The opposite problem also occurs, when the Latin name seems to correspond to a modern name but, in fact, the supposition turns out to be

wrong. One of the most common herpetological examples of this mistake occurs with the place of publication of Spix's treatises on the Brazilian herpetofauna, published in three volumes, 1824-1825. These were published in "Monachii," which is all-too-often misconstrued to be the principality of Monaco. In fact, it is the old Roman name for Munich (or in German, München), in southern Germany.

I give below the most frequently encountered Latin place names used in herpetological publications.

Roman name	Modern name
Amstelaedamum	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Argentoratum	Strassburg (Strasbourg), France
Athenae Rauracae	Basel, Switzerland
Basilea	Basel, Switzerland
Bononia	Bologna, Italy
Bruxellae	Brussels, Belgium
Cantabrigia	Cambridge, United Kingdom
Colonia	Cologne, Germany
Cracovia	Cracow, Poland
Firenze	Florence, Italy
Hafnia, Havnia	Copenhagen, Denmark
Haga Comitum	The Hague ('s Gravenhage), Netherlands
Herbipolis	Würzburg, Germany
Holmia	Stockholm, Sweden
Leida	Leiden, Netherlands
Lipsia	Leipzig, Germany
Lugdunum	Lyon, France
Lugdunum Batavorum	Leiden, Netherlands
Mediolanum	Milan, Italy
Monachium	Munich (München), Germany
Neapolis	Naples (Napoli), Italy

Roman name	Modern name
Norimberga	Nuremberg (Nürnberg), Germany
Oxonia dom	Oxford, United King-
Parisii	Paris, France
Patavia	Passau, Germany
Patavium	Padua, Italy
Ratisbona	Regensburg, Germany
Tigurum	Zürich, Switzerland
Trajectum ad Rhenum	Utrecht, Netherlands
Trajectum ad Viadrum	Frankfurt am Oder, Germany
Tubinga	Tübingen, Germany
Urbinum	Urbino, Italy
Venetiae, Venezia	Venice, Italy
Vindobona	Vienna (Wien), Austria
Vratislava	Breslau (now Wrocław), Poland
Wirceburgum	Würzburg, Germany

From the above list, it will be seen that some cities had more than one Roman name and they often bear no resemblance to one another. In other cases, two seemingly identical names can correspond to very different cities (e.g., Patavia vs. Patavium). Sometimes, the exact spellings can vary or the words are abbreviated (e.g., Cantab. for Cambridge).

A more complete list of Roman place names with their modern equivalents is given in J. H. Slater's *Book Collecting A Guide for Amateurs*. Swan Sonnenschein & Co., London, 1892 (pages 28-33).

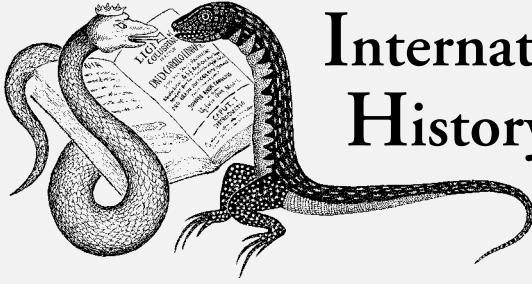
The Klauber Herpetological Library

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Visitation to the library is by appointment only. Contact Margi at +1-619-232-3821 ext. 225 or email library@sdnhm.org. Visit www.sdnhm.org for general information.

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