

Relevant to dating
of Guérin (1831) and
Guérin (1838)

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The Insects of the *Coquille* Voyage

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The account of L. I. Duperrey's *Voyage autour du Monde* on S.M. Corvette *Coquille* in 1822-1825 was published in four large sections each with its own Atlas of plates; two of the sections running to two volumes. The Prospectus for the project was noted on 15 April 1826 in the *Biblphie.Fr.* (15 (30): 318, No. 2221), with a summary;

I. Zoologie, 1, 2+ Atlas

II. Botanique+ Atlas

III. Histoire du Voyage, 1, 2, + Atlas

IV. Hydrographie+ Atlas

Each volume of Zoologie eventually occupied two large parts. Volume 1, with distinct chapters by R. P. Lesson and by P. Garnot, was consecutively paginated; (1) General and Mammals, pp. 360; (2) General and Birds, pp. 361-744. Volume 2, however, was separately paged; part (1) by Lesson on Reptiles, Fish and Molluscs, 472 pp., appeared on schedule, but his chapter 14 (pp. 1-155) on Zoophytes had to wait unpublished for 7 years until chapters 12, 13 (pp. 9-320) on Crustacea and Insects, the balance of part (2), were ready. Meanwhile the Atlases had all been published by 1831.

F. É. Guérin had been charged with describing the Crustacea and Insects, the latter collected by the ship's 2nd Officer, J. S. C. Dumont d'Urville,* who also acted as botanist. His plates were on time, but the text was delayed until 1838, by when not only had the author's own nomenclature been changed to Guérin-Ménéville, but d'Urville had led and brought back the first *Astrolabe* Expedition (1826-29), and the complete account, text and plates, of that voyage had already been published; the Lepidoptera in September 1832 by Boisduval.

Naturally the *Astrolabe* called at several places visited by the *Coquille*, and Boisduval published some synonyms for species which had already been named by Guérin on the *Coquille* plates, but whose textual descriptions were still awaited. There was some debate as to priority, and in his text Guérin-Ménéville gave the full synonymy, generously but under our Code wrongly allowing Boisduval precedence. In doing so, he listed the dates of publication of each livraison of his plates (1838: 271, footnote).

Two points require clarification here. First, Guérin-Ménéville's dates for the livraisons each slightly anticipate the *Biblphie.Fr.* reports. It is considered that he must have been meticulous in this context, and his dates can be accepted; the time-lag of 2 to 4 weeks being attributable to issue and transit. No serious issues rest on this.

* This was d'Urville's second expedition. On his first, the *Venus de Milo* had been discovered and taken to Paris. At the end of his second he was promoted to Captain the *Astrolabe*, and lead two more, the last including an Antarctic exploration. On return from that he was made Admiral. Having thrice circled the world, and experienced the rigours of tropics and of polar regions, he perished with his family in the tragic railway disaster at Versailles in 1842.

Second, he accidentally listed plate 17 twice (in livraisons 19 and 20), omitting plate 19; a transposition which requires correction. The *Biblphie.Fr.* cannot help, since it reports only how many plates, not their numbers, were in each issue. Only one published attempt to rectify this has been found, but its author there misinterpreted the plain statement of the problem by another; "if plate 17 did appear first, the second entry should be altered to read plate 19" as a statement of fact instead of soliloquy, leaving the issue still in doubt. No harm was done; the even chance proves favourable.

Férussac (1831) diligently reviewed livraisons 18 (lacked by Sherborn and Woodward, 1906) and 19. The usual six plates formed each livraison; those of 18 were Zoophytes 3, Insectes 3; and those of 19 were Mollusques 2, Crustacés 1, Zoophytes 1, and Insectes "1". He did not give the plate numbers, but they are readily identified since he cited the names of practically all the species illustrated. The latter fact proves two things; first that in listing only five plates for livraison 19, his figure "1" for Insectes should have been "2"; and second that these plates were Plate 2 (the ten Coleoptera are named) and Plate 17 (*Morpho bioculatus* and the 3 others named). Thus this long-standing uncertainty is finally resolved by Férussac.

The full data for the Insectes livraisons are set out below. The dates shown are those *teste* Guérin-Méneville's note, and the *Biblphie.Fr.* references are placed alongside for comparison. The latter did not report livraison 17 as such, but two reports of "16" were given, the second being rightly "17". No report at all was made for livraison 18.

Finally, livraison 27 was called "the last", and no issue of the text of Zoologie 2 (2) was reported by *Biblphie.Fr.* in either 1838 or 1839. Guérin-Méneville carefully dated his *Avant-Propos* "15 Nov. 1838" (and his p. 272 was completed in 1838), and on this basis, independently supported by a statement that Lesson's Zoophyte text was delayed until 1838, the [1838] dating is accepted. The text proper (Chapter 12, Crustacés) starts at page 9 (sheet signature 2), preceded by title-pages and *Avant-Propos* [i]-xii. As Guérin-Méneville explained, he wrote too much here for the intended pp. [1]-8 of sheet signature 1, so signatures a, b replaced it and pp. 1-8 do not exist. The final part of the Zoologie may thus be cited;

GUÉRIN-MÉNEVILLE, F. É. (in DUPERRÉ, L. I., *et al.* "1826" [-1838]), *Voyage autour du Monde, exécuté par ordre du Roi, sur la Corvette de sa Majesté, la Coquille, pendant 1822-1825, . . .* I (Zoologie) 2 (2) (Crustacés et Insectes): pp. [i]-[iv], [v], vi-xii, 9-320; (Zoophytes by LESSON, R. P.): pp. [2], [3], 4-155; Atlas, pls. Crustacés 5, Insectes 1-21, 14 bis, Zoophytes 16. Paris.

ATLAS:

Plates	Livr.	Date	Corresponding <i>Biblphie.Fr.</i> reports in Vols. 19, 20, 21 (1830-1832);
Ins. 13, 14	17	26 May 1830	19 (24) (12 Jun.): 388, No. 3253
1, 15, 16	18	1 Sep. 1830	No report
2, 17	19	25 Nov. 1830	19 (50) (11 Dec.): 803, No. 6498, and (51) (18 Dec.): 815, No. 6609 erratum)
3, 6, "17" [19]	20	7 Mar. 1831	20 (18) (30 Apr.): 259, No. 2023
12, 14 bis	21	29 May 1831	20 (24) (11 Jun.): 348, No. 2737
5, 18	22	15 Jun. 1831	20 (27) (2 Jul.): 387, No. 3073

ATLAS (*continued*)

4, 20	23	25 Jul. 1831	20 (32) (6 Aug.): 462, No. 3741
11, 21	24	5 Sep. 1831	20 (38) (17 Sep.): 534, No. 4364
7	25	13 Oct. 1831	20 (46) (12 Nov.): 642, No. 5258
8	26	15 Nov. 1831	20 (50) (10 Dec.): 705, No. 5773
9, 10	27	22 Dec. 1831	21 (4) (28 Jan.): 59, No. 510
TEXT:	[31 Dec. 1838]		

REFERENCES

- FÉRUSAC, [A.E.J.P.J.F. d'A., Baron], 1831. Review No. 134. *Bull. Sci. nat. Geol.* 24 (2) (Feb. 1831): 196-197.
- SHERBORN, C. D. and WOODWARD, B. B., 1906. *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (7) 17: 335.