

examination of the type of Wood's species in the British Museum can definitely settle the question.

*Bartschivindex* H. B. Baker, 1943, becomes, therefore, in our opinion, a synonym of *Ptychocochlis* Simpson.

*The Type of Aperostoma Troschel 1847*

Troschel in the *Zeitschrift für Malakozoologie*, vol. 4, 1847, p. 44, proposed the genus *Aperostoma*, naming as the examples: *volvulus* Lam., *mexicanum* Menke, and *blanchetianum* Moricand. The type of the genus must of course be one of these three.

Pfeiffer in the article immediately following states that in his opinion "*Aperostoma* still embraces two heterogeneous elements, namely, shells with a heavy calcareous and others with a thin, horny operculum. I would restrict the genus *Aperostoma* to the first i.e. those with a calcareous operculum, and I would revive for the others Montfort's name *Cyclophorus*, whose type in *Cyclostoma volvulus* Müller." To the two named species left in *Aperostoma* thereby he adds six more species.

*Aperostoma blanchetianum* was known to have a calcareous operculum, and the operculum of *mexicanum* was unknown (Pfeiffer states this in *Zeitschrift für Malakozoologie*, vol. 4, 1847, pp. 103, 104), but he placed that species in *Aperostoma*.

Since Pfeiffer as first reviewer restricted *Aperostoma* to cyclophorid mollusks having a calcareous operculum, and since *blanchetianum* is the only one of the three original species having such an operculum, that species should have been selected as the type.

To preserve the genus *Aperostoma* as it was used by the first revisor nearly one hundred years ago and as it has rather generally been used until quite recently, we propose to present the case to the International Commission on Nomenclature, with the request that they rule *A. blanchetianum* Moricand the type of *Aperostoma* Troschel.

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PAPUINA GARTNERIANA PFEIFFER

By WILLIAM J. CLENCH

There has been considerable confusion concerning this as well as allied species from Northern Australia and the East Indies. In the same paper Pfeiffer described both *Papuina gartneriana*



and *P. poiretiana* from the Cuming collection, the former with the locality unknown, and the latter as coming from Port Essington, Northern Territory, Australia. According to J. C. Cox, *P. gartneriana* came from Port Essington and *P. poiretiana* came from Night Island off the northeastern Queensland coast.

It would appear to be exceedingly doubtful if either came from Port Essington. The figure of *P. gartneriana* is probably overdrawn and may well represent a slightly malformed specimen which had led Pfeiffer astray in his original diagnosis.

We have specimens originally from J. C. Cox bearing the name of *poiretiana* from Night Island and a specimen labeled *gartneriana* from "Northern Australia," originally from Dohrn who had purchased Pfeiffer's collection. Both the specimens of Cox and Dohrn are indistinguishable.

Later, Tapparone Canefri had listed *gartneriana* as a questioned synonym of *Papuina blainvillei* Le Guillou from the Aru Islands off the southwest coast of New Guinea. Unfortunately subsequent writers accepted this relationship without question and the error has persisted. *Papuina blainvillei* and *P. gartneriana* are quite distinct.

The following account is by John Macgillivray, Naturalist to the Expedition (Narrative of the Voyage of H. M. S. *Rattlesnake*, 1852, 1, pp. 115-116) who had originally collected the shells that Pfeiffer described through Cuming.

"On September 8th [1848] we anchored to the westward of the North end of Night Island, a mile off shore, and remained there for the two succeeding days. This island is two miles in length, and a half a mile in breadth, surrounded by a narrow reef of dead coral and mud. . . . the place is densely covered with mangroves. A sandy portion, of about five acres in extent, is thickly covered with bushes and small trees. . . . Even this small spot produced a fine white *Helix*, not found elsewhere,—it occurred on the branches of the cotton trees."

An outline of the literature follows:

#### PAPUINA GARTNERIANA Pfeiffer

*Helix gartneriana* Pfr. 1851, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 253 (locality unknown).

*Helix gaertneriana* Pfr., Reeve 1851, Conch. Icon. 7, pl. 79, No. 419 (Night Island, North Australia); Forbes 1852, [in] J. Mac-



gillivray, Narrative of the Voyage of H. M. S. *Rattlesnake*, London, 2, p. 372 (Night Island); Pfeiffer 1854, Conchy.-Cab. 1, pt. 12, sec. 3, p. 402, pl. 145, fig. 1-2 locality unknown); J. C. Cox 1868, Mono. Australian Land Shells, Sydney, p. 66, pl. 11, fig. 11 (after Reeve) (Port Essington).

*Helix poiretiana* Pfr. 1851, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 254 (Port Essington); Reeve 1852, Conch. Icon. 7, pl. 79, No. 418 (Port Essington); Pfeiffer 1854, Conchy.-Cab. 1, pt. 12, sec. 3, p. 372, pl. 140, fig. 5-6 (Port Essington); J. C. Cox 1868, Mono. Australian Land Shells, Sydney, p. 66, pl. 2, fig. 1 (Night Island, N. E. coast of Australia).

*Helix (Papuina) blainvillei* Pilsbry 1891, Man. of Conch. (2) 7, p. 25, pl. 8, fig. 57-58, pl. 9, fig. 75-76 [description and these figures] not *Helix blainvillei* Le Guillou 1842, Revue Zoologique, p. 140 (Aru Islands).

*Helix (Papuina) poiretiana* Pfr., Pilsbry 1891, Man. of Conch. (2) 7, p. 27, pl. 8, fig. 46-49 (Night Island, N. E. Australia).

In addition to Night Island, we possess three specimens of *gartneriana* collected by P. J. Darlington along Lankelly Creek, McIlwraith Ranges, Cape York, Queensland. This mountain range parallels the coast a short distance inland opposite Night Island. This island is 13 miles north of Cape Sidmouth, Queensland.

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## NOTES AND NEWS

OLOF O. NYLANDER.—We are grieved to record the death of this veteran Maine naturalist on July 30. An account of his life and work will be given later.

DR. MERRILL MOORE is at present serving as a Major in the Medical Corps of the Army. He has recently been assigned to foreign duty as Chief of the Psychiatric Service of the 39th General Hospital (Yale Unit) with the American Expeditionary Forces overseas.

SINISTRAL POMACEA.—In my rambles a few days ago I found in a private pond here, a fine live specimen of *Pomacea paludosa* (Say) which was *sinistral*. Is this of very rare occurrence or are they found occasionally? I never heard of one before, and others in Florida say the same.—D. L. EMERY, 121 Twentieth Ave. So. St. Petersburg, Fla.



Clench, William James. 1943. "Papuina gartneriana Pfeiffer." *The Nautilus* 57, 64–66.

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