

## A NEW NAME FOR THE GENUS ACTOPHILUS OBERHOLSER.

Dr. Charles W. Richmond has kindly called my attention to the fact that the generic name *Actophilus* is untenable. This generic term was proposed (Oberholser, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., June 2, 1899, p. 202) to replace *Phyllopezus* Sharpe, preoccupied, for a genus of African Jacanidae. It is, however, invalidated by *Actophilus* Agassiz (Index Universalis, 1846, p. 7), an emendation of *Actephelus* Stephens (Coleoptera). It may be replaced by *Actophilornis* (ἀκτή, beach; φιλέω, I love; ὄρνις, bird); and *Parra africana* Gmelin is designated as the type.

The species are.

*Actophilornis africanus* (Gmelin).

*Actophilornis albinuchus* (Is. Geoffroy).

—Harry C. Oberholser.

## NOTE ON THE ATLANTIC COAST SPECIES OF PLICATULA.

Since the institution of the genus by Lamarck in 1801, the earlier writers have confused different species under one name, and seventy-two years later Reeve added to the confusion by giving names to mere mutations of a single species. The examination of a large series of Atlantic Coast specimens leads to the following conclusions:

1. *Plicatula spondyloidea* Meuschen (as *Ostrea*) 1781.

Synonyms are *P. reniformis* Lamarck, 1819, and, in part, *P. barbadensis* Orbigny, 1846, and *P. imbricata* Reeve, 1873.

The shell is grayish white, sometimes with a touch of brown on the hinge-teeth. The ribs are high, carinate-imbricate, and few in number. Range, Florida to Texas.

2. *Plicatula gibbosa* Lamarck, 1801.

Synonyms: *P. ramosa* and *depressa* Lamarck, 1819.

Shell white with ramose brown or reddish lines. Valves more compressed, ribs low, feebly imbricate, more or less rounded and more numerous. Range, North Carolina to Florida and the Antilles.

3. *Plicatula mesembrina*, n. sp.

Synonym: *P. barbadensis* Orbigny, *ex parte*, 1846.

Shell whitish or with suffused reddish brown; valves compressed with low rounded ribs (6–10) and shallow interspaces, and narrow, usually pointed umbones. Width of shell, 27; length, 30; diameter about 12 mm. U. S. Nat. Mus. Cat. No. 343260, Uruguay. Range, Coasts of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.

—W. H. Dall.

## NOTE ON THE SPECIES OF PETRICOLARIA OF THE EASTERN COAST OF THE UNITED STATES.

A study of a large collection of this genus shows that the form long known as *P. dactylus* Sowerby is only a variety of the *P. pholadiformis* Lamarck, which may be called variety *lata*. Type in U. S. N. Mus. No. 95645, Quahog Bay, Maine. The true *dactylus* is a native of the West coast of South America.

—W. H. Dall.