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DOES THE PANTHER (FELIS CONCOLOR) GO INTO THE WATER TO KILL FISH?

BY LIVINGSTON STONE.

[Letter to Prof. S. F. Baird.]

My mind has been quite exercised lately on the question whether panthers go into the water to kill fish. They are so numerous and bold here this year, that they come to our very doors and kill pigs and fowls under our windows. We estimate that they have killed a hundred dollars' worth of hogs here this season, besides calves, colts, and full grown cattle and horses. As far as boldness is concerned, they are fully equal to jumping into our trout ponds and killing our trout. And if you think they are likely to do this, we will take special precautions against it. They easily jump over any obstacle not more than 15 feet high, so that our fences are no protection from them.

They frequently swim the river, which made me think that perhaps they might get into the trout ponds sometimes for a meal of fish.

UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION,

Baird, Shasta County, California, September 21, 1882.

ON CERTAIN NEGLECTED GENERIC NAMES OF LA CÉPÈDE.

BY DAVID S. JORDAN AND CHARLES II. GILBERT.

In the Histoire Naturelle des Poissons (1799–1803) of La Cépède a considerable number of generic names are proposed, some of them founded on errors of various sorts, others properly defined. About one-fourth of these were adopted by Cuvier and Valenciennes, and have come into general use. A large number are simple synonyms. The remainder, for different reasons, were set aside by Cuvier and Valenciennes, and new names proposed in their places. As the laws of priority are constantly becoming more and more urgent, we find ourselves obliged to go behind Cuvier, and to adopt these earlier names.

The present paper contains a discussion of some of these names, the adoption of which would affect the nomenclature of American fishes.