

ON SOME FISH GENERA OF THE FIRST EDITION OF
CUVIER'S RÈGNE ANIMAL AND OKEN'S NAMES.

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In the first edition of the Règne Animal (1817) Cuvier introduced many new genera or subgenera, but most of them were named only in French guise. Consequently many naturalists have refused to accept them, but adopted the first Latin names given subsequently, whether they were simply Latin equivalents for Cuvier's or substitutes for them. My desire to retain the excellent name *Lucioperca* for the pike-perches led me to search for earlier commentators on Cuvier and latin equivalents of his names than I had previously found. Several years ago I concluded to look through the volumes of the Isis and ascertain if Oken had anything to say about the subject. The volume for that year in the library of the Smithsonian Institution was without an index, but finally, at page 1145, I came upon an elaborate commentary by Oken^a on the classification proposed by Cuvier, and that classification and Oken's arranged in parallel columns. I communicated this discovery to several naturalists, and among them to President Jordan, who has consequently been able to "get to bottom" in the case of several of the Cuvierian genera. In order that others may have equal facilities, I hereinbelow give the names of Cuvier which were prefixed by a French article and without formal Latin names. Cuvier was quite inconsistent in the latinization of the names, sometimes giving them with all formality, within parentheses, after the French names, but generally neglecting to do so. The names here treated are those respecting which the neglect was manifested.

The volumes of Isis are often quite difficult to consult. In the present case, Oken's commentary extends through the whole of five numbers entitled and numbered as follows:

No. 144, columns 1145-1152; no. 145, columns 1153-1160; no. 146, columns 1161-1168; no. 147, columns 1169-1176. There are two columns to each page and the columns (not pages) are numbered.

^a Cuviers und Okens Zoologien neben einander gestellt: in Isis, 1817, pp. and col. 1145-1179 + 1779-1782 + 1182-1184 (irregularly numbered: see explanation above).

“Zu 147,” two leaves [1177–1178] = four pages.

The only leaf numbered is 1178; there are two columns to each page, as in case of previous numbers.

No. 148, pages [1779–1782].

On these pages there are also two columns, and the matter is continued without interruption from the last page of the previous number.

The numbers 1779, 1780, 1781, and 1782 are merely slips for 1179–1182.

“Zu 148,” leaves [1183–1184] = four pages.

All these parts are constituents of a number “VIII,” which embraces parts 131 to 151. All are without indication of the month or week or other date than “1817.”

The section relative to the fishes is in the last three columns of pages numbered “1781” and “1782” and the first three columns of leaf 1183.

Without this explanation the reader would be naturally perplexed.

GENERIC NAMES.

| No. | Cuvier. | Oken. | Page or leaf. |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 129 | Les Cestraciones Cuv | Cestracion | Leaf 1183 |
| 152 | Les Monacanthes Cuv | Monacanthus | 1183 |
| 153 | Les Alutères Cuv | Alutera | 1183 |
| 153 | Les Triacanthes Cuv | Triacanthus | 1183 |
| 165 | Les Curimatus Cuv | Curimatus | 1183 |
| 166 | Les Piabuques Cuv | Piabucus | 1183 |
| 184 | Les Stomias Cuv | Stomias | 1183 |
| 185 | Les Salanx Cuv | Salanx | 1183 |
| 193 | Les Cirrhines Cuv | Cirrhinus | 1183 |
| 199 | Les Lebias Cuv | Lebia (neu) | 1183 |
| 202 | Les Schilbé Cuv | Schilbe | 1183 |
| 204 | Les Bagre Cuv | Bagre | 1183 |
| 204 | Les Agoneiores Lacep. [sic] | | 1183 |
| 212 | Les Morues Cuv | Morr | 1183 |
| 213 | Les Merlans Cuv | Merlongus | 1183 |
| 214 | Les Merluches Cuv | Merluccius | 1183 |
| 215 | Les Lottes Cuv | Lota | 1183 |
| 215 | Les Mustèles Cuv | Mustel | 1183 |
| 215 | Les Brosme Cuv | Brosme | 1183 |
| 223 | o Monochires Cuv | Monochirus | 1183 |
| 226 | Les Lumps Cuv | Lumpus | 1183 |
| 231 | Les Congres Cuv | Conger | 1183 |
| 235 | Les Alabès Cuv | Alabes | 1183 |
| 239 | Les Fierasters Cuv | Fieraster | 1183 |
| 246 | Les Vogmares | | 1183 |
| 252 | Les Gonnelles | | 1183 |
| 252 | Les Opistognates Cuv | | 1183 |
| 262 | Les Crénilabres Cuv | Crenilabrus | 1183 |
| 272 | Les Daurades | Aurata | 1183 |
| 277 | o Plectropomes Cuv | Plectropomus | Page 1782 |
| 279 | Les Pristipomes Cuv | Pristipom | 1782 |
| 280 | Les Diagrammes Cuv | Diagramma | 1782 |
| 281 | o Grammistes Cuv | Grammistes | 1782 |
| 281 | Les Priacanthes Cuv | Priacanthus | 1782 |
| 283 | Les Stellifères Cuv | Stellifer | 1782 |
| 286 | Les Pterois Cuv | Pterois | 1782 |
| 291 | Les Pomatomes | Pomatomus | 1782 |
| 294 | Les Sandres Cuv | Sander | 1782 |
| 296 | Les Cingles Cuv | Zingel | 1782 |
| 299 | Les Otolithes Cuv | Otolithes (Joh. rub.) | 1782 |
| 299 | Les Ancyrodons Cuv | Ancyrodon (Lonch. A.) | 1782 |
| 310 | Les Chironectes Cuv | Chironectes! (L. Hist.) L. | 1782 |
| 316 | Les Vomers Cuv | Vomer | 1782 |
| 324 | Les Atropus Cuv | Atropus (Brama A.) | 1782 |
| 327 | Les Volliers Cuv | Istiophorus | 1782 |
| 328 | Les Leptopodes Cuv | Leptopod | 1782 |
| 334 | o Chelmons | Chelmo | 1782 |
| 339 | Les Anabas Cuv | Anabas (Anthias test.) | 1781 |
| 342 | Les Seserinus | Seserinus | 1781 |
| 344 | Les Amphiprions | Amphiprion | 1781 |

Several of these names have undesirable ending, as *Lobia*, *Bagre*, *Brosme*, and *Otolithes*. Others are incomplete, as *Morre*, *Must*, *Pristipom*, and *Leptopod*. Apparently Oken was undecided himself as to appropriate endings, and left them as he has done on account of this uncertainty.

In an article "On the relations and nomenclature of *Stizostedion* or *Lucioperca*," published in 1894,^a I was unable to find a latinized generic name for the pike-perches earlier than 1820, when Rafinesque published the name *Stizostedion*. The name *Sander*, published in the year 1817 as Cuvier's, must now be received and take its place. By those authors, however, who consider the American and European species to be distinct generic types, *Stizostedion* will be retained for the former and *Sander* be taken for the latter.

Zingel must supersede *Cingla* or *Acerina*.

The generic names that may be accepted as dating from this work are *Monacanthus*, *Alutera*, *Triacanthus*, *Curimatus*, *Piabucus*, *Cirrhinus*, *Bagre*, *Lota*, *Brosme*, *Monochirus*, *Aurata* (= *Sparus*), *Plectropomus*, *Priacanthus*, *Stellifer*, *Sander*, *Zingel*, *Otolithes*, and *Chelmo*. When Cuvier gave a Latin or Greek ending to a word, it may be considered as a genuine scientific name even if he did prefix it with a French article or give a French accent.

^aProc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVII, 123-128.