

NOTE ON THE GENUS PRIONURUS OR ACANTHOCAULOS.

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In the Records of the Australian Museum for June, 1900 (III, p. 206), Mr. Edgar R. Waite has substituted "*Acanthocaulos*, *gen. nom. nov.*" for the familiar name *Prionurus* of Lacépède. "The name is suggested to replace *Prionurus*, Lacépède, 1830, preoccupied by Ehrenberg, in *Arachnida*, 1829." The data are erroneous.

The name *Prionurus* was first given by Lacépède in the *Annales du Muséum National d'histoire naturelle*, IV, p. 208, as indicated in the Synopsis of the genera of the superfamily Tenthidoidea.^a The article was presented to the museum in 1803 (an. XI) and published in 1804 (an. XII). An extended description was given under the name *Prionure microlepidote* (pp. 205, 206), and a diagnosis under the latin name *Prionurus microlepidotus* (p. 211). The case is thus perfectly clear.

It is probable that Mr. Waite overlooked the information given by his predecessors and was misled by Scudder's *Nomenclator Zoologicus*. Therein the only references to *Prionurus* are the following: *Prionurus* Ehr. *Arachn.* 1829. A. and *Prionurus* Less. *Pisc.* 1830. A. The reference is to Lesson 1830 and not Lacépède 1830. The letter "A" indicates Agassiz's *Nomenclator Zoologicus*.

^aProc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VII, 1884, p. 277.
