

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO PRESERVE THE USE OF THE NAME "ANTALIS" HERRMANNSEN, 1846 (CLASS SCAPHOPODA) IN ITS ACCUSTOMED SENSE

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The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission to use its plenary powers in such a way as to preserve the name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (*Indicis Gen. Malacoz. Primordia* 1 : 63) (Class Scaphopoda) for use in its accustomed sense, with *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 785) as type species. The problem raised in the present application requires to be decided in connection with the preparation of the forthcoming *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*; it is particularly hoped therefore that the International Commission will be able to give this application all practicable priority.

2. The name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846, is now universally employed for the subgenus of *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758, typified by the species *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus. Herrmannsen in 1846, who cited no nominal species for *Antalis*, defined this genus as follows: "Tubulorum genus a Dentaliis notis levissimis distinctum." This may be regarded as sufficient to constitute an "indication" for the purpose of Article 25 of the *Règles*.

3. The name *Antalis* was next published with a description by H. & A. Adams in 1853 (*Gen. rec. Moll.* 1 : 45), by whom "*A. semistriolata* Goulding" and "*A. entalis* Linnaeus" were cited and figured as examples of the genus, in which sixteen species were listed.

4. In 1897 Pilsbry & Sharp (Tryon's *Man. Conch.* 17 : 37) specified *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758, as the type species of *Antalis*, which they treated as a subgenus of *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758. Ever since that date, the name *Antalis* has been consistently employed in this sense.

5. In 1778, however, da Costa (*Hist. nat. Test. Brit.* : 24) used the vernacular name "Dentale" validly as a generic name (*Dentale*), using it in his description of the British scaphopod *Dentale vulgare* or "Dentale Commun." This name was introduced by da Costa to replace the name *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, which was placed in synonymy.

6. The species *vulgare* da Costa and *entalis* Linnaeus are now considered to be specifically distinct, but are considered to belong to the same subgenus. Thus, *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (type species: *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758) becomes a subjective junior synonym of *Dentale* da Costa, 1778 (type species: *Dentale vulgare* da Costa).

7. Except for the single occasion in 1778, when it was introduced by da Costa, and one recent occasion, when it was used by one of us (Emerson, 1951, *Nautilus* 65 (1) : 17-20), the name *Dentale* has never been employed in a valid generic or subgeneric sense. It has, however, been widely employed in French literature as the vernacular equivalent of *Dentalium*.

8. If the name *Dentale* da Costa were now to be reintroduced to replace the name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, the nominal genus *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758 (*sensu lato*) would have two subgenera with virtually identical names, namely *Dentale* da Costa (type species : *Dentale vulgare* da Costa) and the nominotypical subgenus *Dentalium* Linnaeus (type species : *Dentalium elephantinum* Linnaeus).

9. It is felt that needless confusion would arise from the concurrent use of the word "Dentale" as the vernacular equivalent of *Dentalium* (*sensu lato*) and as the valid name for a subgenus of *Dentalium* distinct from *Dentalium* (*sensu stricto*).

10. Accordingly, the proposal is hereby submitted that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

- (1) use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Dentale* da Costa, 1778, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy ;
- (2) place the generic name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species, by selection by Pilsbry & Sharp (1897) : *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (3) place the trivial name *entalis* Linnaeus, 1758 (as published in the binominal combination *Dentalium entalis*) (trivial name of type species of *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;
- (4) place the generic name *Dentale* da Costa, 1778, as proposed, in (1) above, to be suppressed under the plenary powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.



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