SUPPORT FOR GUNNAR HENNINGSMOEN’S PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR THE GENUS “PROPOTELTURA” BRÖGGER, 1882 AND REQUEST FOR THE VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE EMENDATION TO “PELTURA” OF “PELTOURA” MILNE EDWARDS (H.), 1840 (CLASS TRILOBITA)

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(Commission Reference : Z.N.(S.) 1034)

Whilst supporting the case proposed by Cand. Real. G. Henningsmoen, I consider that the opportunity ought also to be utilized so that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature be requested to exercise its Plenary Powers for the purpose of validating, on grounds of over a hundred years' universal usage, the familiar spelling-emendation of the generic name Peltoura Milne Edwards (H.), 1840, to Peltura first made by Burmeister (H.), 1843 (Die Organisation der Trilobiten, Berlin : 83). It is admittedly not clear whether Burmeister's 1843 emendation was deliberate or a misprint. Corda (A.J.C.), however, in 1847 (in Hawle, I. and Corda, A.J.C., Prodrom einer Monographie der böhmischen Trilobiten : 127), unlike Burmeister, recognised the genus as valid and spelt its name in the form Peltura; he selected as the type species Paradoxides [recte Entomostracites] scarabaeoides Milne Edwards [recte Wahlenberg, 1821] and gave a new illustration.

2. The genus Peltoura was described by Milne Edwards (H.) in 1840 (Hist. nat. Crustacés . . . 3 : 344) as being based on two species Entomostracites scarabaeoides Wahlenberg 1821 (“Petrificata Telluris Svecanae . . .,” Nova Acta Soc. Sci. upsal. 8 : 41) and Peltoura bucklandii Milne Edwards. The latter species, P. bucklandii, was removed from the genus Peltura on taxonomic grounds. For the sake of completeness it is desirable however that the specific name bucklandii Milne Edwards should now be placed on the Official List.

3. It is consistent practice among trilobite workers to refer the generic name Peltura to Milne Edwards. Stability in spelling is desirable not only for palaeontological use but also for stratigraphy, for the name Peltura is used by stratigraphers for zonal index fossils of the Upper Cambrian in north-west Europe and eastern Canada.

4. I accordingly ask that, when it deals with Dr. Henningsmoen’s application, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should:

1. use its Plenary Powers to validate the emendation by Burmeister (H.) (1843) to Peltura of the generic name Peltoura Milne Edwards (H.), 1840;

2. place the under-mentioned generic name on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

   Peltura (emend. under the Plenary Powers under (1) above of Peltoura) Milne Edwards (H.), 1840 (gender: feminine) (type species, by selection by Corda (A.J.C.) (1847): Entomostracites scarabaeoides Wahlenberg, 1821);

3. place the under-mentioned specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

   (a) scarabaeoides Wahlenberg, 1821, as published in the combination Entomostracites scarabaeoides (specific name of type species of Peltura (emend. of Peltoura) Milne Edwards (H.), 1840);

   (b) bucklandii Milne Edwards (H.), 1840, as published in the combination Peltura (emend. of Peltoura) bucklandii;

4. place the under-mentioned generic name on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:—Peltoura Milne Edwards (H.), 1840 (an Invalid Original Spelling for Peltura, a spelling validated under the Plenary Powers under (1) above).

SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS IN THE CLASS TRILOBITA BY (a) G. HENNINGSMOEN, TO DESIGNATE A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR THE GENUS “PROTOPELTURA” BRÖGER, 1882; (b) C. POULSEN, TO SECURE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE GENERIC NAMES “OLENUS” DALMAN [1827] AND “PARADOXIDES” BRONGNIART, 1822, AND (c) V. JAANUSSON, TO SUPPRESS THE GENERIC NAME “CRYPTONYMUS” EICHWALD, 1825

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(Commission References: Z.N.(S.) 1034, 623, and 1068)

(For the proposals in these cases see Bull. zool. Nomencl. 12: 31–32, 3–13, and 60–64)

(Letter dated 30th July 1956)

I write to express my support for the following proposals:

Protopeltura, Olenus and Paradoxides, and Cryptonymus.

I believe the actions suggested in each case will be welcome and will promote stability in nomenclature.

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