

nigrescentibus. = Collum subtus, pectusque superiori parte, smaradigno splendent, in viridem cerulescentem varianti. = De pectore ad abdominis medietatem, nigro velutinus est, in aureo-olivaceum transiens, crisso fusco-aureo, caudaque aliquantulum furcata, tripollicari, reatricibus aureis apice rotundatis. [p. 48.]

Obviously, this is *Eugenes fulgens* (Swains.), 1827.

T. [rochilus] TOPILTZIN. = Rostrum rectum, nigrumque est, pollice paullo majus. = Corpus subtripollicare, lincola alba ad latus oculi. = Caput zaphirimi splendoris aliquantulum reflectit, corpore supra deaurato, remigibus fuscis, reatricibus nigrescentibus, apice amplis et albis, caudam componentibus, tripollicarem et rotundatam. [p. 49.]

This is evidently *Cœligena clemencie* (Less.), 1829, but the colors of the throat and crown are transposed.

ON THE DATE OF LACÉPÈDE'S 'TABLEAUX.'

BY CHARLES W. RICHMOND.

IN 'Natural Science' for Dec., 1897, 432, Mr. C. Davies Sherborn has brought forward a very interesting subject — that of the first published appearance of Lacépède's 'Tableaux,' usually credited to the Mémoires de l'Institut, 1801, but as this writer has noted, sometimes cited vaguely "1799." During his efforts to solve the question of date, Mr. Sherborn discovered these 'Tableaux' in the "Didot" edition of Buffon, at the end of Vol. XIV of the Quadrupèdes, which, it appears, bears the date 1799 upon its title page. The "Didot" edition, in 18mo, is said to consist of 76 volumes, dating from 1799 to 1806; the genera, Mr. Sherborn states, are to be credited to Lacépède, and the species to Daudin. The latter doubtless here described various birds intended to appear in his 'Traité,'¹ and an account of them, by

¹ To have been completed in 6 volumes, according to the prospectus in the Journ. Typographique. Vol. I was published Jan., 1800; vol. II, publ. May, 1800, and the third volume was in the press and would not be long in appearing (Journ. Typ.). It was, however, never published.

any one who has access to the work, will be very acceptable to ornithologists.

Not long since, having occasion to examine the 'Journal Typographique,'¹ I unexpectedly found the "Didot" edition announced in course of publication by Plassan, in monthly livraisons of two volumes each. Further inquiry brought to light the fact that only a small portion of the work (9 livraisons) was issued in 1799, and vol. XIV of the *Quadrupèdes* (in livr. 35), was not published until Oct., 1802!² Again, it appears that the Didot's had no connection with the work before 1803, as the following "avis" (Journ. Typ., Aug. 25, 1803, 358) will show:

"MM. *Pierre Didot l'aîné*, et *Firmin Didot*, viennent d'acquérir, et de réunir à leur *Collection stéréotype*, l'édition, de format in-18, de l'*Histoire naturelle de Buffon*, revue par son continuateur, M. Lacépède, membre de l'Institut national des sciences et des arts; ils stéréotypent en ce moment-ci, et mettront très-incessamment en vente les 4 vol. qui terminent l'*Histoire naturelle des poissons*, par M. Lacépède, et complètent en même tems cette édition, dont les trente-cinq premières livraisons ont été imprimées par M. Plassan. Nous imprimerons dans notre prochain No., leur nouveau *Prospectus*, qui se distribue chez eux, avec leur notice stéréotype."³

Thus it would appear that the first 70 volumes constituted Plassan's edition, and the last 6 Didot's. If Didot's imprint occurs in the early volumes of the set quoted by Mr. Sherborn it would indicate a reprint of Plassan's edition. Why the later volumes should be dated 1799 I cannot surmise, unless it be that the set of 70 volumes was intended for publication in that year, and the plan to issue in monthly livraisons, an afterthought. Antedated

¹ A weekly journal, published in Paris from 1797 to 1810, devoted exclusively to the announcement of new works, music, etc.; succeeded, in 1811, by the 'Journal Général de l'Imprimerie et de la Librairie.'

² Engelmann's reference (Bibl. Hist. Nat., 1846, 322) to a tract containing these tableaux "in-18. Paris, 1802. Plassan," is additional evidence. Engelmann gives the whole work as dating from 1799 to 1802.

³ In the forty or more notices of this work in the 'Journal Typographique,' between 1799 and 1802, there is no reference to the Didots.

works¹ are not uncommon, especially in the case of French works issued in livraisons.

The "Didot" or Plassan edition disposed of, it becomes necessary to determine the original place of publication of the tableaux. Mr. Sherborn quotes from Engelmann (Bibl. Hist. Nat., 1846, 376) a tract "in-4. *Paris. an VII. (1799). Plassan. (38 pag.)*," supposed to contain these papers,² but waiving this as inaccessible and doubtful, the earliest published reference, in the case of the bird portion, appears to be Daudin's 'Traité,' Vol. I,³ Jan. 1800 (422-438). Here the principal bird classifications from Johnston, 1657, to Lacépède, 1799, are shown, with more or less detail, giving in each instance the name of the author and work from which it was extracted. Lacépède's tableau (in full, but differing in some details from that of 1801), however, is cited simply as "Méthode de Lacépède, 1799," indicating apparently that it was previously unpublished. Having been read before the Institute June 9, 1799, it was undoubtedly accessible to Daudin. The specimens in the Paris Museum were at that time arranged, and no doubt labelled according to the tableau. (Cf. Daudin, *Traité*, I, 35.)

The various genera in our Check-list credited to Lacépède, 1801, and others to Cuvier, *Leçons d'Anat. Comp.* I,⁴ should properly be quoted "Lacépède, in Daudin, *Traité*," etc.

In order to render the dates of publication of the Plassan

¹ Byron's Narrative of the voyage of the 'Blonde,' dated 1826, was publ. Feb. 20, 1827; the Appendix to Parry's 2nd voyage, dated 1825, was publ. in Feb., 1827; Swains. & Rich. Fauna Boreali-Americana, II, dated 1831, was publ. in Feb., 1832.

With French works it was often the practice to issue the title page, table of contents, etc. in the first livraison; among antedated works may be noticed Vieillot's Ois. Am. Sept., dated 1807, but published in 22 livraisons, of which the first was issued Dec. 1, 1807! — The Zoölogy of the voyage of the 'Uranie' & 'Physicienne,' dated 1824, was published in 16 livraisons, the last in June, 1826, etc.

² There is no mention of such a tract in the Journ. Typ. for the year 1799.

³ Announced in the Journ. Typ., Jan. 19, 1800. Giebel (Orn. Thesaurus, I, 1872, 3), for some reason, gives it as "1799."

⁴ Published in April, 1800 (Journ. Typ. Apr. 19, 1800).

Livr. 17.	{ Tome XVIII. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome VIII. Oiseaux.	{ Aug. 22, 1800, 365.
Livr. 18.	{ Tome XIX. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome IX. Quadrupèdes.	{ Sept. 22, 1800, 3.
Livr. 19.	{ Tome XX. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome IX. Oiseaux.	{ Oct. 26, 1800, 34.
Livr. 20.	{ Tome XXI. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome X. Quadrupèdes.	{ Nov. 30, 1800, 66.
Livr. 21.	{ Tome XXII. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome X. Oiseaux.	{ Jan. 4, 1801, 107.
Livr. 22.	{ Tome XXIII. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome XI. Quadrupèdes.	{ Jan. 24, 1801, 132.
Livr. 23.	{ Tome XXIV. Matières Générales.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome I. Quadrupèdes Ovipares.	{ Mch. 5, 1801, 170.
Livr. 24.	{ Tome XI. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome I. Poissons.	{ Apr. 4, 1801, 203.
Livr. 25.	{ Tome XII. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome II. Ovipares.	{ May 9, 1801, 243.
Livr. 26.	{ Tome XIII. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome II. Poissons.	{ June 3, 1801, 267.
Livr. 27.	{ Tome XIV. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome III. Ovipares.	{ July 3, 1801, 299.
Livr. 28.	{ Tome XV. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome III. Poissons.	{ Aug. 27, 1801, 355. ¹
Livr. 29.	{ Tome XVI. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome IV. Ovipares.	{ Oct. 11, 1801, 19.
Livr. 30.	{ Tome XVII. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome IV. Poissons.	{ Nov. 15, 1801, 50.
Livr. 31.	{ Tome XVIII. Oiseaux.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome V. Poissons.	{ Jan. 29, 1802, 131.
Livr. 32.	{ Tome XII. Quadrupèdes.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome VI. Poissons.	{ Apr. 19, 1802, 225. ²
Livr. 33.	{ Tome XIII. Quadrupèdes.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome VII. Poissons.	{ July 18, 1802, 339.
Livr. 34.	{ Tomes VIII, IX.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Poissons.	{ Sept. 16, 1802, 411.
Livr. 35.	{ Tome XIV. Quadrupèdes.	{ Journ. Typographique.
	{ Tome X. Poissons.	{ Oct. 21, 1802, 30, 31. ³

[It will be noticed that no reference is made to any place of publication other than the *Mémoires de l'Institut*.]

¹ "Il ne reste plus, pour la terminer, que sept livraisons, que nous publierons régulièrement."

² "C'est le nombre considérable de planches de cette livraison, qui en a retardé la publication. Les éditeurs assurent les souscripteurs," etc., etc.

³ "On trouve à la fin du tome XIV des Quadrupèdes, une table dans laquelle tous les quadrupèdes et les oiseaux dont Buffon a traité, sont inscrits dans l'ordre et dans le genre auxquels ils appartiennent, d'après la méthode du cit. Lacépède, publiée dans les *Mémoires de l'Institut national*, et que l'on a suivie pour l'arrangement des collections du Muséum d'histoire naturelle," etc., etc.



Richmond, Charles Wallace. 1899. "On the Date of Lacépède's 'Tableaux'" *The Auk* 16, 325–329. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4069359>.

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