

THE HOSTS OF ARGULIDS AND THEIR  
NOMENCLATURE.

AN excellent monograph of the 'North American Parasitic Copepods of the Family Argulidæ' has been contributed to the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum by Dr. Charles Branch Wilson and just published. As it is 'the first of a series, now in course of preparation, on the parasitic Copepods,' it seems advisable to point out a defect which should be avoided in the subsequent monographs. The hosts are very often erroneously named or named in a very archaic or contradictory manner. The archaic nomenclature is chiefly connected with foreign forms and is the result of determinations of species made many years ago.

The host of *Argulus nattereri* (p. 720) and *Dolops longicauda* (p. 732) named '*Salmo* (*Hydrocyon*) *breviens* Cuvier' (p. 720) or '*Hydrocyon* (*Salmo*) *breviens* Cuvier' (p. 732) does not belong to the same order as *Salmo* nor to the same genus as *Hydrocyon* (which is confined to Africa), but to a genus (*Salminus*) peculiar to South America. The *Argulus salmini* (p. 720) was also found parasitic 'in the gill cavity' of *Salminus* and not of '*Salmo*,' a genus, as already stated, of a different order.

Species of '*Chromis*' are designated as the hosts of two species of Argulids, *Argulus chromidis* of Nicaragua (p. 721) and *Chonopeltis inermis* of Wiedenhafen, East Africa (p. 729).

Probably the Central American fish is a Cichlid of the genus *Heros*, and the East African, one of the genus *Tilapia*. *Chromis* is now reserved by all the best authorities for a salt-water genus of the family of Pomacentrids.

The host of *Argulus doradis* called *Doras niger* (p. 734) is now known as *Oxydoras niger*. The host of *Argulus africanus* (p. 727) called *Claria* is a catfish of the genus *Clarias*.

The host of *Dolops reperta* of Guiana (734) called '*Aymara*' is an Erythrinid now known as *Macrodon tareira* or by the earlier but extremely inappropriate name *Macrodon mala-*

*baricus*, due to a blunder of Bloch committed more than a century ago.

The host of *Dolops striata* (p. 735) and *Dolops bidentata* (p. 736) of Guiana, called 'a species of *Anguilla*,' is probably a species of a different order named *Synbranchus marmoratus*. No *Anguilla* has been recorded from Guiana.

The host of *Dolops discoidalis* designated as a species of *Platystoma* has been for nearly forty years universally called *Sorubim*.

Another fish, the common alewife, on the same page is called *Clupea vernalis* and *Pomolobus pseudoharengus*.

Dr. Wilson's bibliography is well digested, but he seems to have overlooked a few articles. Among such are three of minor importance by Reinhardt (1864), Frauenfeld (1870) and Dambeck (1877), besides one of considerable importance by von Nettovich (1900) of thirty-two pages and two plates.

One other defect should be remedied. No habitat except 'Wiedenhafen' is given for *Chonopeltis inermis*. As Wiedenhafen is not noticed in current gazetteers (it is not in the latest edition of Lippincott's) it was deemed necessary to refer to the original description but the only reference to the place of description was 'Thiele, 1901,' the rest of the line sufficient for the page being left blank. On reference to Thiele's article in the *Zoologischer Anzeiger*, it appeared that Wiedenhafen is in East Africa. The name of the host is no guide.

The other lapses are not of sufficient importance to demand special attention here.

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THE GREAT NEED IN AMERICAN ZOOLOGY.

At the present day the zoologists of the United States of America can point to a considerable number of well-equipped laboratories, and of others in course of construction; of libraries, such as that of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, which is probably not excelled; of an annually increasing number of fellowships and free scholarships to enable students to investigate; and of the aid of the government in maintaining such