

had some of them published. Several new genera and species were named in these posthumous papers, but Friedrich Boie is usually credited with the new names under the prevalent interpretation of the "International Code of Zoological Nomenclature" (1985). Alas, Heinrich Boie's "Erpétologie de Java" was not among those manuscripts that were published, a great loss to our early knowledge of the rich herpetofauna of that region.

• *References*: "Levensschets van Hendrik Boie," by J. A. Susanna, P. M. Warnars, Amsterdam, 288 pages, 1834; "Die Familie Boie," by K. Boie and R. Boie, *Zeitschr. Gesellsch. Schlesw.-Holst. Gesch.*, 39: 102-106, 1909; E. Stresemann, 1975 (pp. 133-137). • *Portrait*: From Susanna, 1834, courtesy Marinus S. Hoogmoed. • *Signature*: Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, courtesy Rainer Günther.

WIED-NEUWIED, Maximilian zu (1782-1867).

Alexander Philipp Maximilian, prince of Wied-Neuwied, one of the great explorer-naturalists and ethnologists of the 19th Century, was also a specialist on reptiles. Born in Neuwied, along the Rhine River near Koblenz, Prussia, on 23 September 1782, his early interest in natural history was encouraged by his mother. He became a student of J. F. Blumenbach at the University of Göttingen, with an intended career in science, but the Napoleonic era intervened. Wied served in the Prussian army, was captured by the French at the Battle of Jena (October 1806), and later repatriated. Resuming military service, he rose to the rank of major-general and entered Paris with the Allied armies (1814), but soon resigned to resume his original interests.

Wied's first exploration was in Brazil, where he spent the period 1815-1817 studying the natural history and primitive Indian tribes of the forested areas in the coastal states north of Rio de Janeiro. His collections there were rich in reptiles, especially snakes. On returning to Neuwied he published his observations in three large works: a semi-popular account of the journey ("Reise nach Brasilien," in two volumes, 1820-1821, with appendix in 1850) which was translated into several languages, a scientific treatise on the vertebrates in a magnificent atlas of handcolored plates in folio ("Abbildungen," in 15 parts, [1822-]1823-1831), and a separate scientific text ("Beiträge," in four volumes, 1825-1833, with herpetology mainly in volume one).

Prince Max, as he was known to his contemporaries, was the first well-trained naturalist to explore Brazil, and these books established his reputation as a biologist and ethnologist of the first rank. The 90 plates in the "Abbildungen," 56 of them on reptiles, were taken from originals drawn and colored by the prince himself, and these formed the basis for his descriptions of many new species. Most of his specimens are now in New York City, at the American Museum of Natural History, which purchased his zoological collections.

In 1832, his Brazilian adventure completed, Wied embarked on his second exploration, a journey to the United States to compare the Indians and natural history of North



America to those of South America. With his artist, Carl Bodmer, he spent time with the naturalists Thomas Say and Charles A. LeSueur at New Harmony, Indiana, collecting local reptiles and amphibians. Then, in the spring of 1833, Wied and Bodmer departed St. Louis for a 4400-km journey up the Missouri River, then the most treacherous of American rivers, to Fort McKenzie, near the present-day city of Great Falls, Montana. On returning, they spent the winter of 1833-1834 at a fort in central North Dakota. This was a particularly brutal winter, with temperatures sometimes below -40°C , that very nearly cost Wied his life.

Eventually, however, Wied returned to Europe (1834) and spent the rest of his life studying his North American collections. His accounts of the trip are second in importance only to those of the American explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as a record of the trans-Mississippian region. Wied's report ("Reise in das innere Nord-America," published in 20 parts, 1838-1841, and translated into several languages) was justly renowned and Bodmer's watercolors are only today being recognized for their great historical and artistic value.

Wied described a number of America's commonest amphibians and reptiles—*Hyla crucifer* and *Pseudemys scripta elegans* among them—from specimens obtained on this trip. His major report on the reptiles ("Verzeichniss der Reptilien, welche auf einer Reise im nördlichen America beobachtet wurden," 1865, reprinted 1978), illustrated with seven beautifully handcolored plates of turtles and salamanders by Bodmer, was published shortly before the prince's death, in Neuwied, on 3 February 1867.