

Garman also authored two book-length monographs on reptiles. In 1883, he published "The Reptiles and Batrachians of North America. Part 1. Snakes," an extensive work with detailed descriptions of genera and species from north of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in Mexico, and also including extralimital species from as far afield as South America; no further parts appeared. "The Galapagos Tortoises," Garman's last herpetological publication (1917), described and figured in 42 quarto plates the large series of tortoises amassed by Louis Agassiz on the *Hassler* expedition and also those collected by Georg Baur, among others.

It should be noted that Garman's younger brother, Harrison Garman, also published on herpetology (1890-1897), including the first summary of the amphibians and reptiles of Illinois (1892).

• *References*: "Samuel Garman—1843-1927," by D. S. Jordan and T. Barbour, *Science*, 67: 232-233, 1928; "Samuel Garman," by H. L. Clark, *Dict. Amer. Biogr.*, 7-8: 154, 1946. • *Portrait and signature*: Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, courtesy Roxane Coombs.



STEJNEGER, Leonhard (1851-1943).

Leonhard Hess Stejneger (before 1870, Steineger), the dean of American herpetologists after the death of Edward D. Cope, was born in Bergen, Norway, on 30 October 1851. He had an early interest in birds and later, in Berlin, he briefly studied medicine, but turned to law (graduating from the University of Kristiania in 1875) in order to assist in his father's mercantile business. The business went bankrupt in 1880, so in 1881 Stejneger, who by this time had published 22 papers on birds, the study of which was then merely a hobby, emigrated to the United States. He proceeded to the Smithsonian Institution where he was promptly hired by Spencer F. Baird to assist in ornithology. Baird soon arranged for him to accompany a government party to Alaska and adjacent Siberia (1882-1883) to set up weather stations, but Stejneger's main function was to collect vertebrates. His important monographs on birds (1885) and fur seals (1896, 1899) resulted from this and several later expeditions to the region, the last in 1922 at the age of 70. Through these expeditions, which included visits to the Japanese fur seal islands, Stejneger developed a major interest in Japanese birds and, later, reptiles.

In 1889, when Henry C. Yarrow resigned as Honorary Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles at the National Museum, Stejneger was asked to assume charge. Thus, at the age of 37, with an excellent reputation as an ornithologist, he switched to herpetology and began a new career. His first paper on reptiles was published later that year. The need to completely reorganize a department that had been without regular curation since that of Charles F. Girard in the 1850s led to overwork, and he was assigned to join a field party under C. Hart Merriam that was conducting a survey of the San Francisco Mountains in Arizona, where Stejneger quickly recuperated. This was also his first serious field experience with amphibians and reptiles.

Although Stejneger continued to publish on birds (146 of his 411 titles are on ornithology, 152 on herpetology), he quickly immersed himself in his new area of study and published numerous careful taxonomic studies in which he described many new genera and species. Some of the most distinctive North American genera were named by him, including the tailed frog *Ascaphus*, the blind cave salamanders *Typhlomolge* and *Typhlotriton*, the skink *Neoseps*, and the snake *Phyllorhynchus* of southwestern deserts. Most of his papers dealt with North America, but other areas of special interest included Japan, China, the Philippines, Central and South America, the West Indies, and Africa.

Stejneger's studies were characterized by a critical, scholarly approach, in which he reformed the practices of Edward D. Cope and of George A. Boulenger by introducing detailed descriptions of identifiable individuals and careful designations of type specimens and type localities. Besides his museum work, Stejneger participated in several expeditions, including Puerto Rico (1900), which had recently come under American control following the brief Spanish-American War (1898), the American West, and Japan.

In 1911 Stejneger was promoted to Head Curator of Biology at the National Museum, and thereafter administrative duties increasingly occupied his time. Previously, he had published his major works in