

herpetology, "Poisonous Snakes of North America" (1895; reprinted 1975), "Herpetology of Porto Rico" (1904), and the classic "Herpetology of Japan and Adjacent Territory" (1907), which is still a regularly-consulted monograph on Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and coastal mainland China. In 1917, together with Thomas Barbour, he issued the first of five editions of "A Check List of North American Amphibians and Reptiles" (later editions in 1923, 1933, 1939, and 1943). These had a profound influence on stabilizing nomenclature and, at the same time, revealed numerous problems for further study which, in turn, contributed to the rapid growth of herpetological study in North America.

Stejneger's interest in nomenclature was probably based on his early schooling in the classical languages and to his later formal legal training. In 1898 he was elected a member of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature and became a strong proponent of universal rules and procedures, although his critics argued that he was sometimes overly legalistic. As an example of the extreme positions that he sometimes took, he practically required the author of a 1809 paper, in which the type species of *Trionyx* was designated, to follow the exact wording of the 1930 "Code," in order for that designation to be valid!

Stejneger remained a productive scientist to the end of his very long life. When in 1921 he attained the normal age (70) for retirement from government service, he was requested to continue his research and administrative duties. Frank N. Blanchard had joined him as Aide in 1918, to assist with the herpetological collections, but resigned the next year and was replaced by Doris M. Cochran, who eventually succeeded Stejneger as curator. In 1932 Stejneger was exempted from mandatory retirement by order of President Hoover, and he continued in office until his death in Washington on 28 February 1943, at the age of 92.

During his lifetime Stejneger was honored by organizations in his adopted country as well as abroad. Norway made him Knight First Class of the Order of St. Olav (1906), and the University of Oslo (formerly Kristiania) awarded him an honorary Ph.D. in 1930. In 1923 he was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and in 1931 the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, which he had served as President during the period 1918-1923, made him Honorary President for life. Despite his many duties, Stejneger always gave strong encouragement and advice to many aspiring young herpetologists, among them Thomas Barbour, Frank N. Blanchard, Emmett R. Dunn, and Alexander G. Ruthven, who in their turn provided the main impetus for scientific study of amphibians and reptiles in the 1920s and 1930s in the United States.

• *References:* "Leonhard Stejneger," by A. K. Fisher, *Copeia*, 1931: 74-83, 1931; "Dr. Leonhard Stejneger," by P. Bartsch, *Science*, 98: 51-54, 1943; "A Herpetological Bibliography of Leonhard Stejneger (1851-1943)," by W. L. Necker, *Herpetologica*, 2: 87-92, 1943; "Leonhard Stejneger," by A. K. Fisher, *Copeia*, 1943: 137-141, 1943; "Biographical Memoir of Leonhard Hess Stejneger," by A.

Wetmore, *Biogr. Mem. U.S. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 24: 142-195, 1947; Schmidt, 1955 (pp. 608-610); "Leonhard Stejneger," by W. L. Schmitt, *Syst. Zool.*, 13: 243-249, 1964; "Leonhard Hess Stejneger," by E. N. Shor, *Dict. Sci. Biogr.*, 13: 25, 1976. • *Portrait* (1902): Courtesy Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. • *Signature* (1916): Adler collection.

PHILIPPI, Rodolfo Amando (1808-1904).

Born Rudolph Amandus Philippi on 14 September 1808, in Charlottenburg, near Berlin, where his father had a position at the Prussian court, Philippi became one of Chile's leading naturalists. He developed an interest in natural history as a boy and studied medicine at the University of Berlin, graduating in 1830, where his teachers included the naturalists Hinrich Lichtenstein, H. F. Link, A. F. A. Wiegmann, and even Alexander von Humboldt. Beginning in 1835 he was a professor at a school in Cassel but this ended due to his connection with the political disturbances of 1848-1850.

Philippi emigrated to Chile in 1851 to join his brother, becoming Professor of Natural History at the University of Chile in 1853 and, concurrently, Director of both the National Museum and the Botanic Gardens. In such positions he strongly influenced the study of natural history in Chile and arranged numerous expeditions to remote regions of Chile including the Strait of Magellan and Chile's oceanic islands. He participated in the expedition to the Atacama Desert of northern Chile in 1853, about which he later published "Viaje al Desierto de Atacama" (1860). He retired from most of his administrative positions in 1883 and, finally, at the age of 88, as Director of the National Museum (1896). He died in Santiago on 23 July 1904.



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