

## OBITUARY.

DR. FELIX ANTON DOHRN,  
FOR. MEMB. R. S.

BORN DECEMBER 29, 1840.

DIED SEPTEMBER 26, 1909.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of an old and valued friend and fellow-worker, Dr. Anton Dohrn, Founder and Director of the famous Zoological Station at Naples, an institution for the study of marine organisms, the existence and maintenance of which were largely due to his genius and energy, and upon which he must have expended a considerable amount of his own private means. Born at Stettin in 1840, son of the well-known entomologist Carl August Dohrn, and brother of Dr. Heinrich Dohrn, who devoted himself to the study of malacology, Anton Dohrn was educated at Königsberg, Bonn, Jena, and Berlin, and paid especial attention to invertebrate zoology, having at the age of 27 established himself as a private teacher of zoology at Jena.

As early as 1858-60 Anton Dohrn had published various short treatises on the Hemiptera, and took his degree as a Doctor in science in 1865 by a work on the anatomy of foreign Hemiptera, published in 1866-8. During his residence at Jena, Dr. Anton Dohrn also paid considerable attention to fossil insects, and published important papers on them and upon other Arthropoda, particularly on the development of *Limulus polyphemus*, etc.—

“*Eugereon boekingi*, eine neue Insectenform aus dem Todtliegenden” (*Paleontographica*, vol. xiii, pp. 333-40, Taf.), 4to, Cassel, 1866.

“*Eugereon boekingi* und die Genealogie der Arthropoden” (*Stett. entom. Zeit.*, Bd. xxviii, pp. 145-53, pl. i [xli]), 8vo, Stettin, 1867.

“Zur Kenntniss der Insecten in den Primarformationen” (*Paleontographica*, vol. xvi, pp. 129-34, Taf. viii), 4to, Cassel, 1867.

“Die embryonale Entwicklung des *Asellus aquaticus*” (*Zeitschr. Wissensch. Zool.*, xvii, 1867, xvii, pp. 221-77).

“Zur Embryologie und Morphologie des *Limulus polyphemus*” (*Jenaischen Zeitschrift*, Bd. vi, Heft iv, p. 639), Jena, 1871.

In 1870 he visited Naples and shortly afterwards founded the Zoological Station, in which he received the aid of the leading zoologists in Germany and England, and later the powerful support of the then Crown Prince of Germany, the Berlin Academy of Sciences, the British Association, and afterwards by the German Government itself. The lasting services rendered to Biological Science by Dohrn through the establishment of the Naples Zoological Station are well known. He dedicated all the best energies of his life to this work, and had in these last years been energetically supported by the German Emperor.

As the Zoological Station became more and more widely known, and the work carried on as a research laboratory for biological students better understood, the greater became the number of visitors, and the institution received considerable support from American as well as from European Universities and men of science.

In 1875 Dr. Dohrn published a work *On the Origin of Vertebrate Animals* and *On the Morphology of the Pantopoda of the Gulf of*

*Naples.* From 1881 to 1907 he published, in twenty-four parts, a primæval history of the Vertebrata (*Studien zur Urgeschichte des Wirbelthier Körpers*). Besides these he wrote various reports and essays on zoological stations, particularly upon that of Naples. The Royal Society's Catalogue gives the titles of fifty-nine papers by Dr. Dohrn up to 1883.

In addition to the valuable observations and records published by the Zoological Station at Naples, and the unrivalled opportunities afforded to students from colleges and universities, to whom tables for special work have been granted from time to time, the skilled scientific staff of the station have been engaged for years in the preparation and preservation of all the most delicate, difficult, and rare forms of invertebrata, such as the Cœlenterata, the pelagic forms of Mollusca, Starfishes, and Crinoidea, the Jelly-fish, Corals, Sponges, etc.; these and an infinite number of other exquisite forms of marine life have been mounted and elaborately arranged, expanded as in life, in glass jars suitable for exhibition in museums. These are some of the services to science which for nearly forty years Dr. Dohrn and his staff have carried out at Naples Zoological Station.

Numerous honours were bestowed upon Dr. Dohrn, especially by the various Scientific Societies, of many of which he was made a foreign member. The city of Naples created him an Honorary Citizen. Honorary degrees of Doctor in Science and Laws were conferred upon him from Halle, Breslau, and Cambridge. Professor von Hildebrand had just executed a bas-relief portrait of Dr. Dohrn, which his friends had intended to present to him on his 70th birthday (December, 1910).

Dr. Dohrn's health had been in a very precarious state during the past year from heart trouble. He died at Munich on September 26, and was buried at Jena on October 3. The Emperor and many of the German Princes have sent personal messages of sympathy to Dr. Dohrn's family, who have also received numerous addresses from scientific bodies in all parts of the world. We are glad to learn that his son, Dr. Reinhard Dohrn, who has represented him there during the last two years, will succeed his father in the direction of the Zoological Station at Naples. Dr. Anton Dohrn's life has been one of strenuous labour, but we may say of him, now that he has concluded his life's work, *Palmas qui meruit ferat*.

[Partly supplied by Dr. Paul Mayer and in part by a translation from the Munich *Neuste Nachrichten*, September 30, 1909.]

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#### MISCELLANEOUS.

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ADDENDUM.—In Mr. Donald MacAlister's paper, "Association of Cassiterite and Specular Iron in the lodes of Dartmoor" (see September number, 1909, pp. 402-9), on p. 406, to legend to text-illustration, "Fig. 3.—Microphotograph of Specular Iron-Tinstone from Birch Tor," *add* magnified 28 times.

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