

May 14, 1940

Dr. C. Wythe Cooke
U. S. Geological Survey
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Cooke:

Please find enclosed a manuscript entitled "Generic position of the Eocene dibranchiate cephalopod *Belemnosella floweri* (Palmer) = *Advena floweri* Palmer 1937 = *Anevda floweri* Palmer 1940." This manuscript is for inclusion in the *Journal of Paleontology*.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel, Geologist

HBS:jw
enc.

Generic position of the Eocene dibranchiate cephalopod Belemnosella floweri (Palmer) = Advona floweri Palmer 1937 = Anevda floweri Palmer 1940.

H. B. Stenzel

K. V. W. Palmer described in 1937 a highly interesting and exceedingly rare dibranchiate cephalopod from the middle Eocene Gosport sand of Alabama. This fossil, a single specimen, was described as Advona floweri Palmer, n. gen., n. sp., and was made the type of the genus Advona Palmer 1937.^{1/} According to Palmer the genus Advona includes only two species, the genotype species and Advona americana (Meyer & Aldrich),^{2/} originally described as Belemmosis americana Meyer & Aldrich, n.sp. The latter species too is known from a single specimen only, which may have become lost by now.

Recently it has been pointed out that the generic name Advona is preoccupied by Advona Gude 1913.^{3/} Therefore, Palmer^{4/} proposed Anevda Palmer 1940 as a substitute for Advona Palmer 1937 not Gude 1913.

The two generic names, Advona Palmer 1937 and its substitute Anevda Palmer 1940, seem superfluous because an older and presumably valid generic name is available for this rare dibranchiate cephalopod genus. Naef^{5/} proposed in 1922 the generic name Belemnosella with Belemmosis americana Meyer & Aldrich as the monotype species. The species described by Palmer is then the second species of this rare genus and should go under the name Belemnosella floweri (Palmer).

The chief purpose of this paleontologic note is not so much to correct the generic names as to point out the importance of Naef's work for the understanding of the anatomy and structure of the Tertiary dibranchiate cephalopods, although some of the reconstructions of the shells made by Naef may be faulty. It is to be regretted that Tertiary dibranchiate cephalopods are so rare that it is rarely possible for a single investigator to obtain enough material for comparison of the various genera. Naef has presumably had greater opportunity to study and compare the different genera than anybody else.

1/ Palmer, K. V. W., 1937, The Claibornian Scaphopoda, Gastropoda and dibranchiate Cephalopoda of the southern United States: Bull. Am. Paleontology, vol. 7, No. 32, pp. 510-512, pl. 76, figs. 10-12, 15.

2/ Meyer, Otto, and Aldrich, T. H., 1886, The Tertiary fauna of Newton and Wautubbee, Miss.: Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist., Jour., vol. 8, no. 2, p. 47, pl. 2, figs. 26, 26a.

3/ Gude, G.K., 1913, Definitions of further new genera of the Zonitidae: Mal. Soc. London, Proc., vol. 10, p. 391.

4/ Palmer, K. V. W., 1940, Anevda, new name for Advena Palmer, 1937, not Gude, 1913: Jour. Pal., vol. 14, no. 3, p. 285.

5/ Naef, Adolf, 1922, Die fossilen Tintenfische, Verlag von Gustav Fischer, Jena, pp. 48-50. Naef lists accidentally Belemnosella americana Meyer & Aldrich as coming from "Missouri." It is of course from Mississippi.

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