

# Biodiversity Heritage Library

## Climbing a 40-Million Page Mountain (& Living to Tell the Tale)

Rebecca Morin

Head Librarian

California Academy of Sciences San Francisco, CA



Biodiversity  
Heritage  
Library

Special Libraries Association  
2013 Annual Conference  
June 10, 2013



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The Biodiversity Heritage Library works collaboratively to make biodiversity literature openly available to the world as part of a global biodiversity community.

BHL also serves as the foundational literature component of the Encyclopedia of Life (EOL).



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**Trichobatrachus robustus** Boulenger, 1900 **TRUSTED**

 Zirkus, Breda

Source: African Amphibians Lifedesk

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IUCN threat status: **Least Concern (LC)**

### Comprehensive Description

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#### Summary

*Trichobatrachus robustus* is a large, West African species that is well known for the hair-like dermal papillae found in males. This species is also notable for having claw-like terminal phalanges on their

### Found in 4 classifications


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Species recognized by NCBI Taxonomy:

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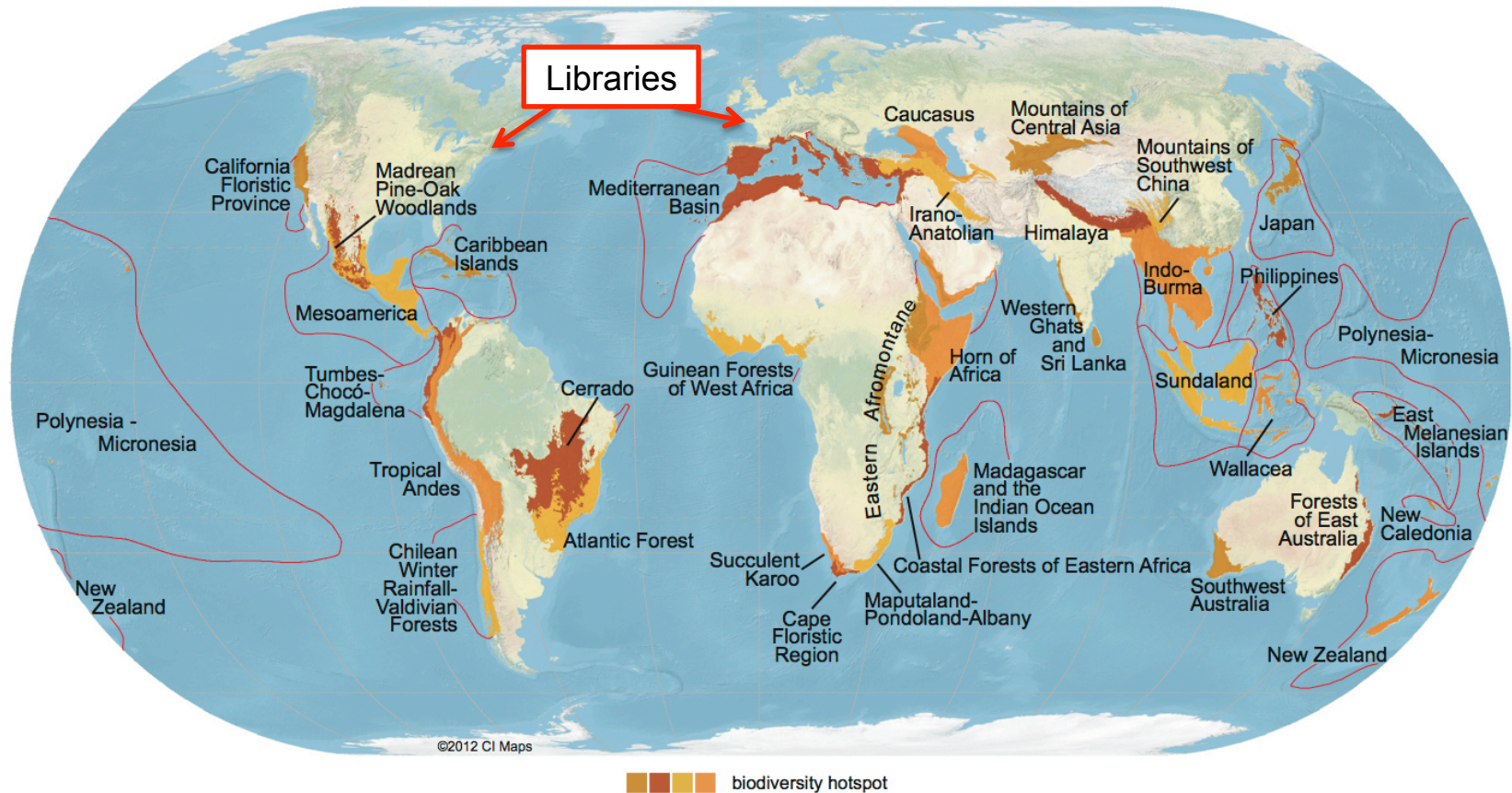




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v. 1 1833/35

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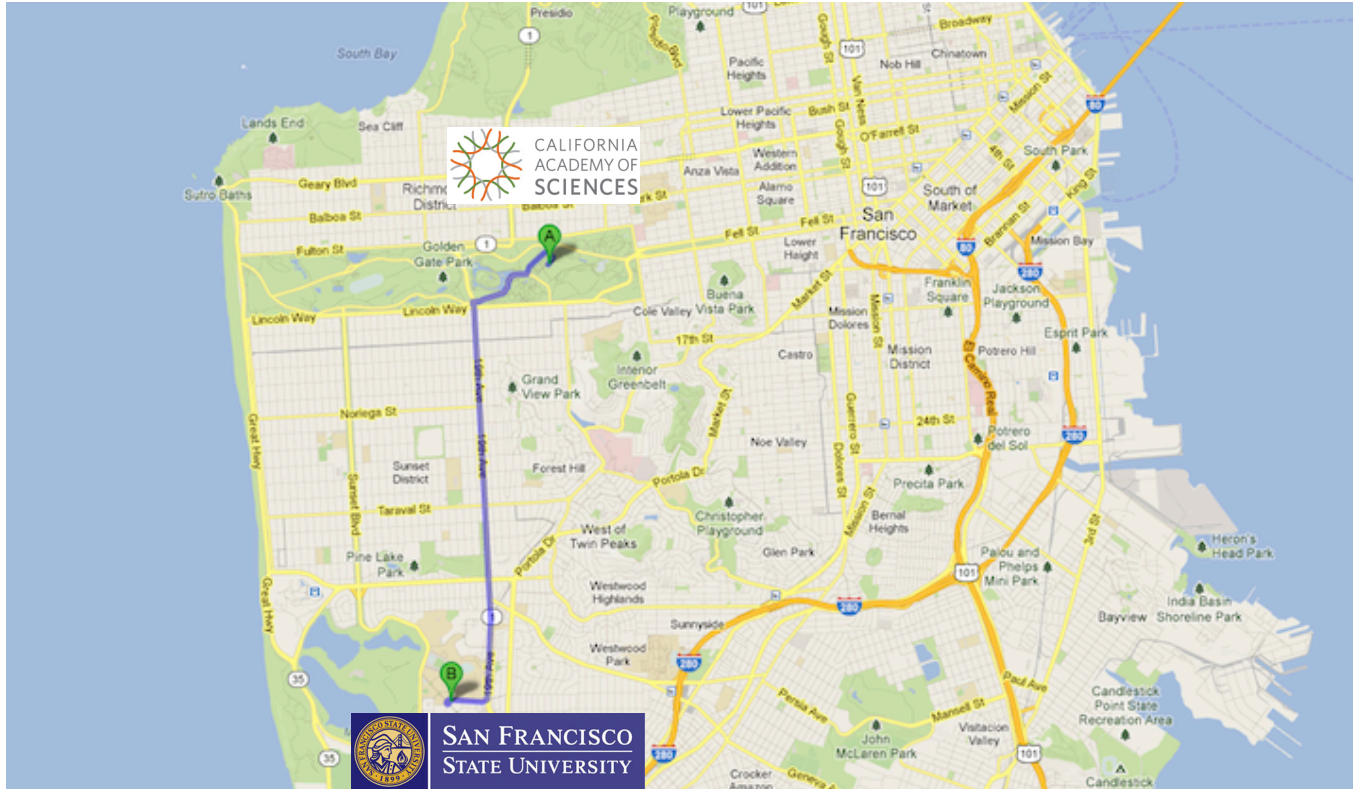
V. *On the Characters and Description of a new Genus of Carnivora, called Cynictis.*  
By W. OGILBY, Esq., A.M., F.L.S., R. Ast. S., Z.S., &c.

Communicated March 12, 1833.

**T**HAT the work of Creation was originally complete and perfect in all its parts, that no hiatus existed among natural bodies, or, in other words, that no individual stood completely apart from surrounding groups, but that all were connected by a uniform gradation of intermediate forms and characters, is a law of natural history which every



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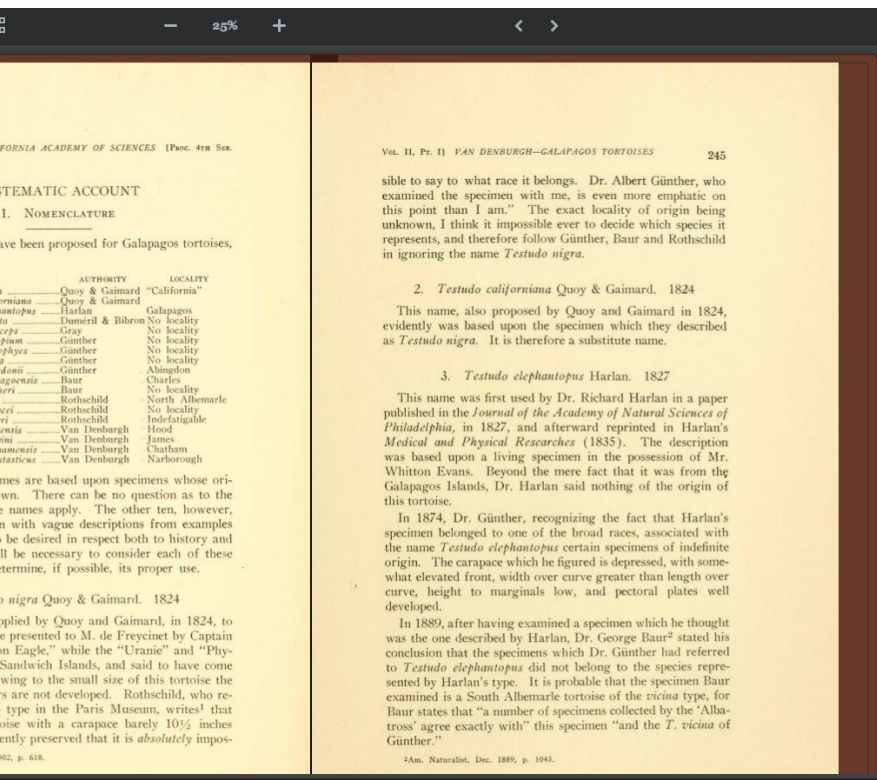


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**Author:** [Zoological Society of London](#)  
**Volume:** Volume 1  
**Publisher:** London  
**Year:** 1835  
**Possible copyright status:** NOT\_IN\_COPYRIGHT  
**Language:** English  
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**Collection:** [biodiversity](#)  
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**Full catalog record:** [MARCXML](#)

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#### Description

Incorporated by: Journal of Zoology : Series B

ZOOLOGY - Vol. 1-37 (1833-1984)

ENTOMOLOGY - 1833-1953 (incomplete)

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Vol. 1 (1833) - vol. 37 (1984)

2 5 6

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Brehms Thierleben : Allgemeine Kunde des Tierreichs.

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Gulo urva

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# Taxonomic Namefinding



Transactions of the Zoological Society of London.

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By W. OGILBY, Esq., A.M., F.L.S., R. Ast. S., Z.S., &c.

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Monograph/Item	<a href="#">Blood immunity and blood relationship:</a>	Nuttall, George Henry Falkiner, Graham-Smith, G. S. Strangeways, T. S. P.	<a href="#">(go to volume)</a>	1904	<a href="#">Page 236</a>	
Monograph/Item	<a href="#">Brehms Thierleben :</a>	Brehm, A. E. Schmidt, Taschenberg, Ernst Ludwig,	2	1876	<a href="#">Page 50</a>	
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Monograph/Item	<a href="#">Brehms Tierleben.</a>	Brehm, Alfred Edmund,	<a href="#">Bd. 12</a>	1911	<a href="#">(go to page)</a>	

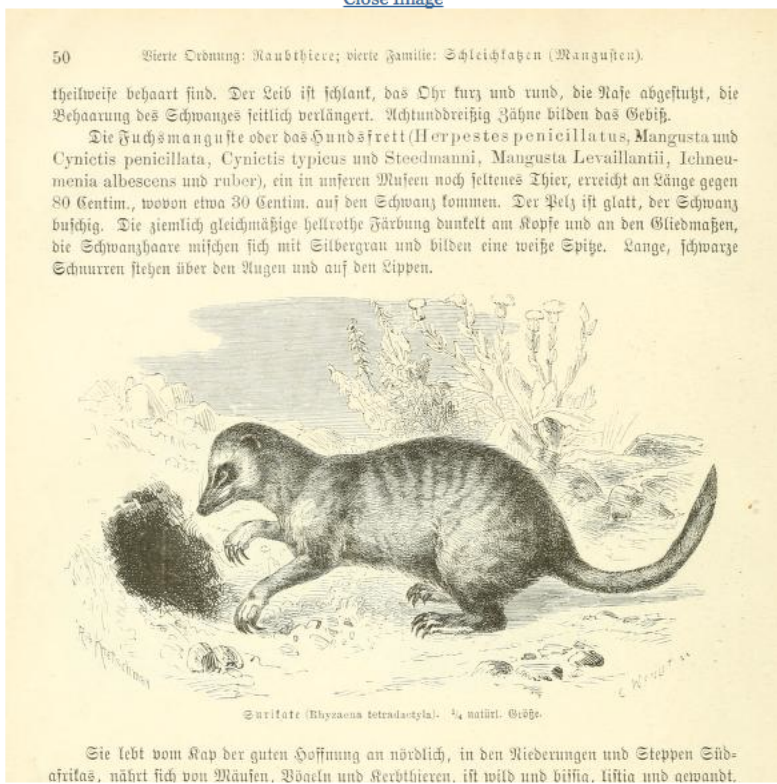
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# Taxonomic Namefinding



## Brehms Thierleben : Allgemeine Kunde des Thierreichs.

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[Herpestes penicillatus](#)  
[Levallantii](#)  
[Suricata](#) [EOL]



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Da die bisher genannten Säugethiere nicht mehr einige Thiere an, welche gleichsam als Sub- und nebstfalsche Uebergänge von jenen erdieren. Der Hauptunterschied liegt in der Fortbildung, die die letzteren höher hat, die letzteren vier Arten haben die Zehen keine Klauen, 4 Zehen ist

50 Diese Gattung: Säugethiere; von Familie: Schleichfüßer (Mungabe)  
theilweise behaart hat. Der Leib ist klein, das Ohr kurz und rund, die Nase abgestumpft, die Schwanz des Schwanzes endlich verlängert. Achtzehnbisige Zähne bilden das Gebiß.  
Die Füßmangeln oder das Hundsfrett (*Herpestes penicillatus*, *Mungosta* und *Cynictis penicillata*, *Cynictis typicus* und *Stoolmanni*, *Mungosta Levallantii*, *Ichneumonoma albocinctus* und *rufus*), die in mehreren Arten nach diesem Thier, erreicht an Länge gegen 80 Centim., wovon etwa 30 Centim. auf den Schwanz kommen. Der Pelz ist glatt, der Schwanz korbig. Die ziemlich gleichmäßige hellere Färbung bedeckt ein Kopf und an den Gliedmaßen, die Schwanzhaare bilden sich mit Silbergrün und bilden eine weiße Spitze. Lange, schwarze Schwanzhaare sitzen über den Augen und auf den Lippen.



Sie lebt vom Nap der guten Nahrung an nördlich, in den Niederungen und Steppen Südafrikas, nicht nur vom Nap, Säugethiere und Säugethiere, ist nicht sehr häufig, häufig und gemein, wird aber wenig oder nicht gejagt und hat deshalb noch keine Beobachter gefunden, welche uns über ihre Leben und Treiben, ihre Sitten und Gewohnheiten ausführlich berichten konnten.

Zur Gattung über die Säugethiere (*Rhynchona tetradactyla*, *R. typica*, *exposita* und *sericea*). *Rhynchona tetradactyla* und *sericea*, *Rhynchona* und *Rhynchona*. Die Art die gemein



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### Developer Tools

BHL is building APIs to allow individual users and data providers to remix and reuse BHL content. The following APIs are currently available or under development. To suggest an API or enhancement, please use our [Feedback](#).

### APIs

The BHL Application Programming Interface (API) is a set of REST-like web services that can be invoked via HTTP queries (GET/POST requests) or SOAP. Responses can be received in one of three formats: JSON, XML, or XML wrapped in a SOAP envelope.

#### 1. Version 2:

The documentation for the latest version of the API can be found at <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/api2/docs/docs.html>. The first version of the API was limited to data related to scientific names found in the BHL collection; version 2 adds access to title, author, volume, and page information. Please note that users are required to obtain an API Key from <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/getapikey.aspx> in order to use version 2 of the API. This is the preferred version of the API. Version 1 (formerly the BHL Name Services): Updated documentation for the first version of the API can be found at <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/api/docs/docs.html>. *This version of the API is provided solely to maintain backwards compatibility.*

#### 2. Citation Linking: BHL provides access to its content via an OpenURL Resolver, as documented and described here:

<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/openurlhelp.aspx>  
BHL's OpenURL Resolver is a popular tool used by biodiversity databases for linking into citations and exact pages of scanned materials.

Data providers can also include links to literature using our stable URLs for scanned pages. The URL is displayed below "Link to this page". For example, to cite the original

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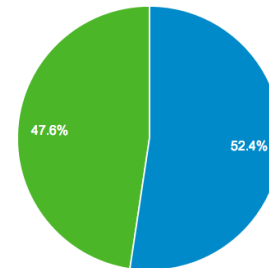
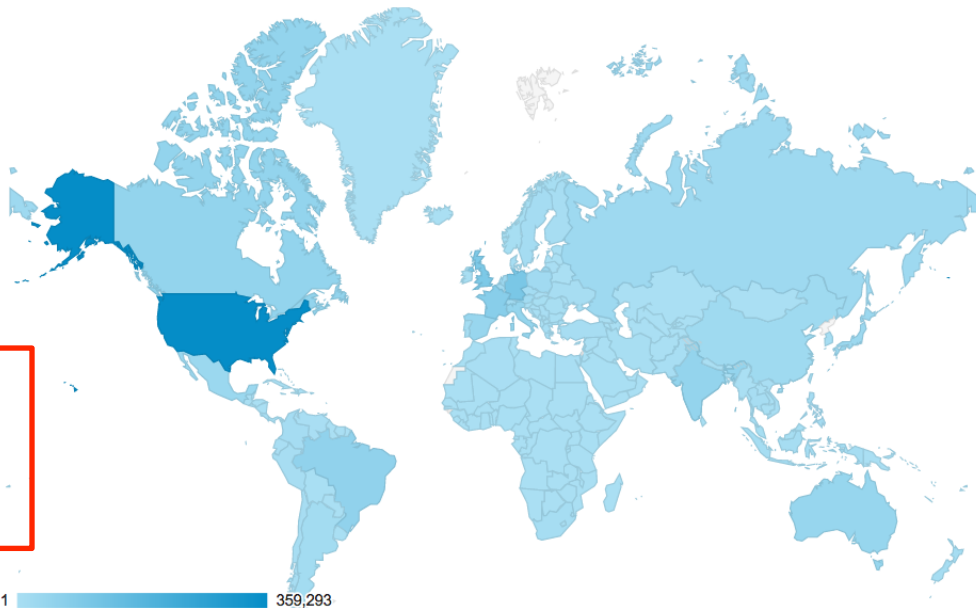
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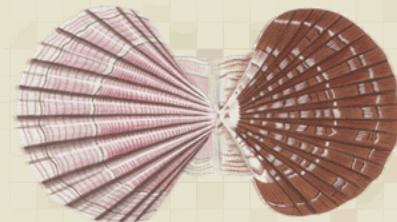
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## About the Biodiversity Heritage Library

Ten major natural history museum libraries, botanical libraries, and research institutions have joined to form the Biodiversity Heritage Library Project. The group is developing a strategy and operational plan to digitize the published literature of biodiversity held in their respective collections. This literature will be available through a global "biodiversity commons."

### Participating institutions:

- American Museum of Natural History (New York, NY)
- The Field Museum (Chicago, IL)
- Harvard University Botany Libraries (Cambridge, MA)



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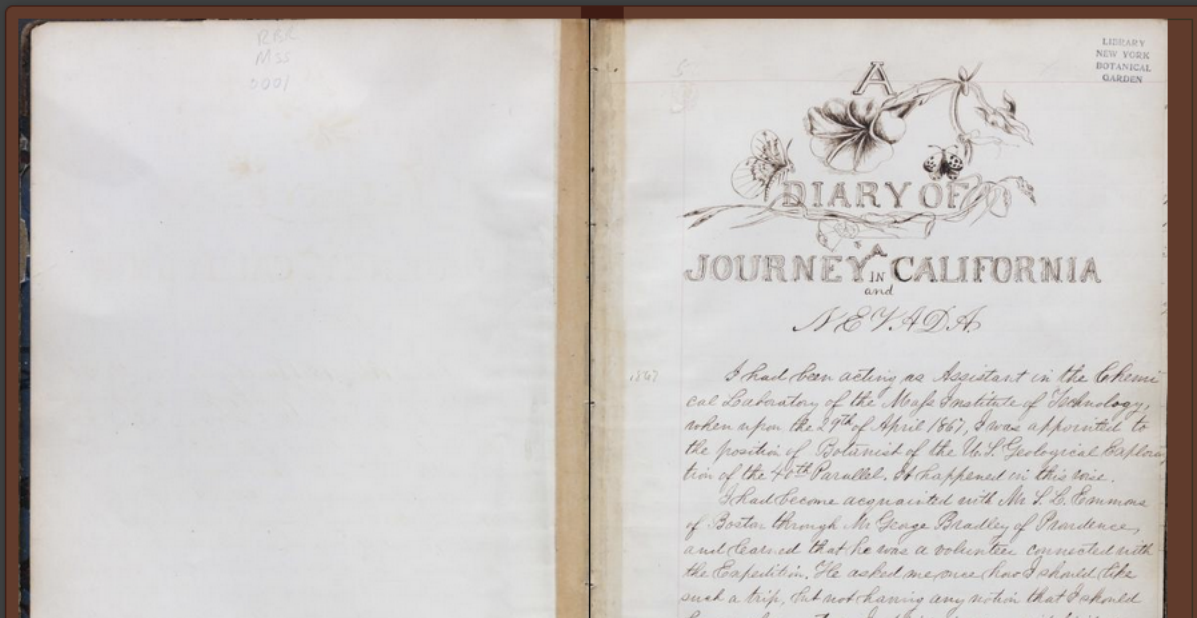
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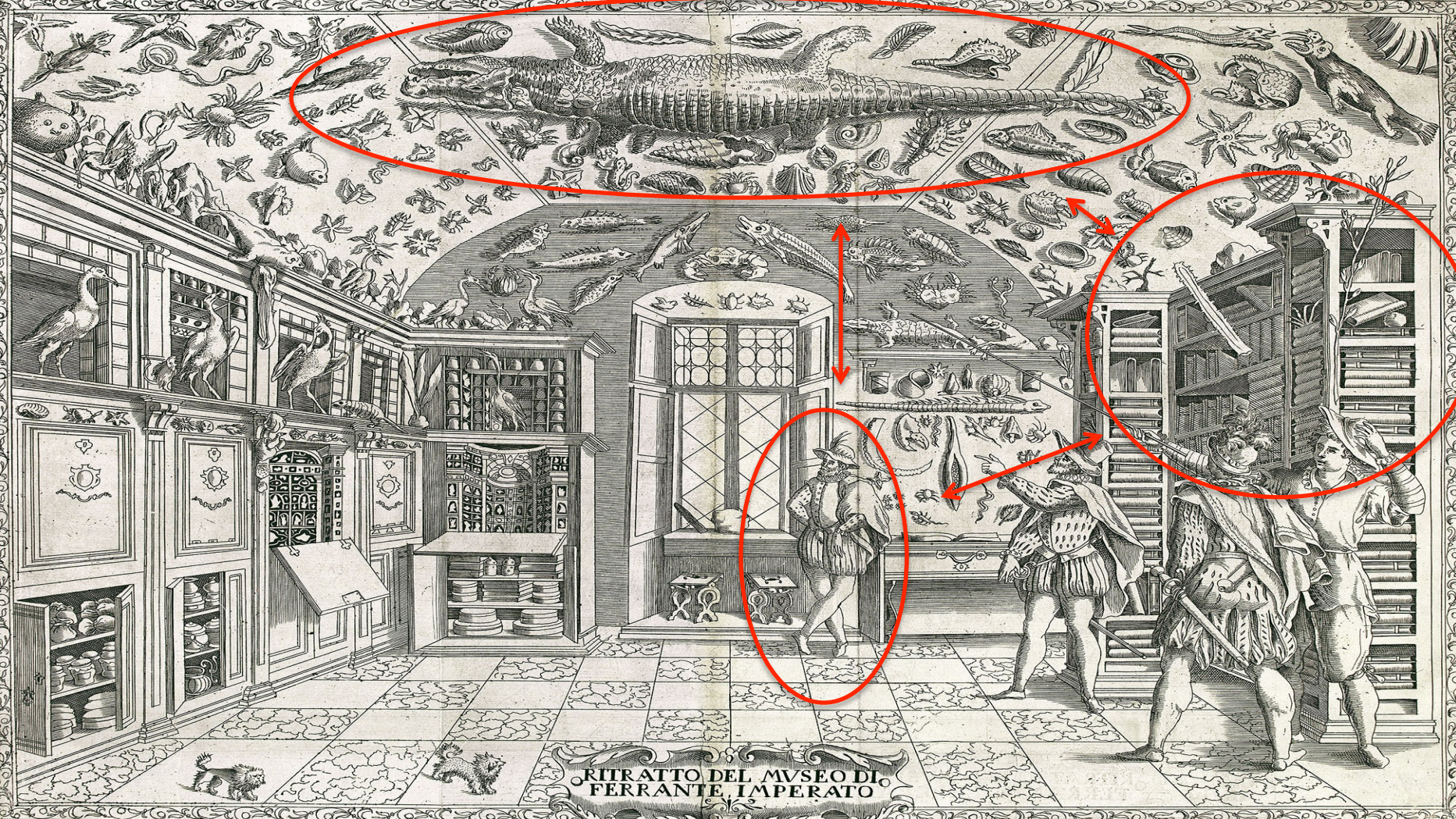
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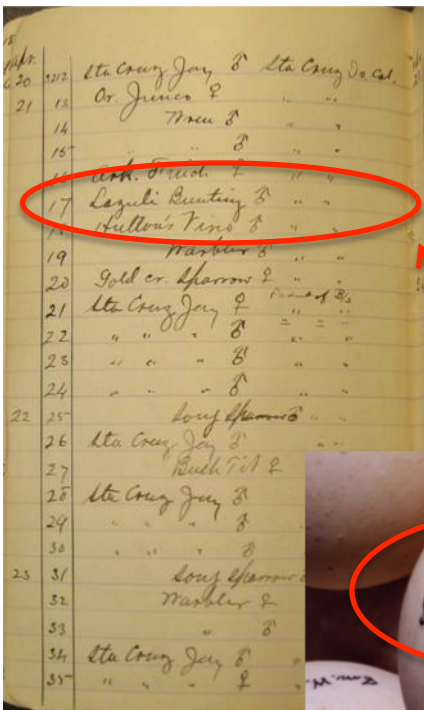




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The gigantic land tortoises of the Galapagos Archipelago, by John Van Denburgh.

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Vol. II, Pt. I] VAN DENBURGH—GALAPA

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

1. NOMENCLATURE

Eighteen names have been proposed for Galapagos tortoises, as follows:

DATE	NAME	AUTHORITY	LOCALITY
1. 1824	<i>Testudo nigra</i>	Quoy & Gaimard	"California"
2. 1824	<i>Testudo californiana</i>	Quoy & Gaimard	
3. 1827	<i>Testudo elephantopus</i>	Harlan	Galapagos
4. 1835	<i>Testudo nigra</i>	Dumeril & Bibron	No locality
5. 1855	<i>Testudo planiceps</i>	Gray	No locality
6. 1875	<i>Testudo</i>	Günther	No locality
7. 1875	<i>Testudo microphyes</i>	Günther	No locality
8. 1875	<i>Testudo vicina</i>	Günther	No locality
9. 1877	<i>Testudo abingdonii</i>	Günther	Abingdon
10. 1880	<i>Testudo</i>	Bass	No locality
11. 1889	<i>Testudo guntheri</i>	Bass	No locality
12. 1901	<i>Testudo beckii</i>	Rothschild	North Albemarle
13. 1902	<i>Testudo wallacei</i>	Rothschild	No locality
14. 1904	<i>Testudo porteri</i>	Rothschild	Indefatigable
15. 1907	<i>Testudo hondensis</i>	Van Denburgh	Hood
16. 1907	<i>Testudo darwini</i>	Van Denburgh	James
17. 1907	<i>Testudo chathamensis</i>	Van Denburgh	Chatham
18. 1907	<i>Testudo phantasticus</i>	Van Denburgh	Narborough

Eight of these names are based upon specimens whose origin is definitely known. There can be no question as to the races to which these names apply. The other ten, however, were proposed, often with vague descriptions from examples which leave much to be desired in respect both to history and to condition. It will be necessary to consider each of these names in turn to determine, if possible, its proper use.

20429  
St. Albemarle Is.  
Galapagos  
Oct. 1906

3. *Testudo elephantopus*

This name was first used by Dr. published in the *Journal of the Acad Philadelphia*, in 1827, and after *Medical and Physical Researches* was based upon a living specimen Whitton Evans. Beyond the men Galapagos Islands, Dr. Harlan said this tortoise.

In 1874, Dr. Günther, recogniz specimen belonged to one of the b the name *Testudo elephantopus* ec origin. The carapace which he figu what elevated front, width over cu curve, height to marginals low.

# Enhanced Discovery



Wiki: Tips and Information for our Users

guest

Visit the [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#) collection



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## Main

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## Technical

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- Developer Tools and API
- BHL & Gaming
- Art of Life: Image

## Art of Life

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### The Art of Life: Data Mining and Crowdsourcing the Identification and Description of Natural History Illustrations from the Biodiversity Heritage Library

This project, which has been generously funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and runs from May 2011-April 2014, seeks to liberate natural history illustrations from the digitized books and journals in the online Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) through development of software tools for automated identification and description of visual resources. BHL is an international consortium of the world's leading natural history libraries, including Missouri Botanical Garden Library, that have collaborated with publishers, rights holders, and other interested parties to digitize the public domain literature documenting the world's biological diversity within member libraries' collections. BHL has partnered with Internet Archive for -effective and efficient mass scanning and storage of its digital library, resulting in the standards-based digitization and open access dissemination of more than 110,000 volumes and 40 million pages of core historic literature.

Contained within BHL's digitized texts are millions of visual resources (plates, illustrations, figures, maps, and other images), many of which were produced by the finest botanical and zoological illustrators in the world, including the likes of John James Audubon, Georg Dionysus Ehret, and Pierre Redouté. These images are currently minimally described at a structural page level, enabling citation resolvers and human users to navigate to illustrations by page numbers, but the images lack sufficient descriptive metadata to enable dynamic filtering and inquiry based on factors like image type, color content, subject matter, or even names of the organisms depicted in the images.




A selection of illustrations from BHL's Flickr photostream


A full list of BHL sets at Flickr can be found at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/biodivlibrary/sets/>

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Resources: Becky Morin

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Versions Affected: None

Risk Level: No Risk

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Visibility: Everyone

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Due Date: ?

Percent Complete: 

Name  
Email

Type: Book  
Title: Neue Wirbelthiere zu der Fauna von Abyssinien gehörig  
Year: 1835-40  
Volume: All 4 volumes  
OCLC: 9367659  
Author: Rüppell, Eduard  
Publisher: Frankfurt am Main, In commission bei S. Schmerber  
Language: German

Note: Call #: RF-76-K Rare Folio, AMNH Library (4 v. in 2) Also Academy of Natural Science Library, Phila.  
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“Heeding the Call: User Feedback Management and the Digital Library.”  
Grace Costantino, Bianca Crowley, Rebecca Morin, and Erin Thomas. 2011.  
*Microform & Digitization Review* 40(4): 129-175.  
DOI:[10.1515/mdr.2011.019](https://doi.org/10.1515/mdr.2011.019)

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**↑ 345%**  
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**↑ 222%**  
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California Academy of Sciences



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# Thank You!

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