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THE GENERA OF THE ODONTOPLEURIDAE.

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Odontopleura (*Acidaspis* auct.) is essentially a Bohemian genus, as may be seen if one contrasts the 40 species listed by Barrande with the 2 species of Esthonia, the 12 or 15 species of Scandinavia, and the same number in Great Britain.

Practically the only attempt at a subdivision of the Odontopleuridae is that of Dr. John M. Clarke.* He recognized six subgenera of the genus *Ceratocephala*, viz., *Ceratocephala* s. s., *Acidaspis*, *Odontopleura*, *Dicranurus*, *Selenopeltis* and *Ancyropyge*. I adopted this classification in the second edition of the Eastman-Zittel text book (1913), raising the subgenera to generic rank, and grouping them under Burmeister's family name Odontopleuridae. Recently I have had occasion to study the very large collection of trilobites of this family in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and while I have been able to continue the use of the names listed above, I find that the definitions and limits of the genera *Odontopleura*, *Ceratocephala* and *Acidaspis* must be very considerably modified.

Dr. Clarke's definitions of the three genera were as follows: *Odontopleura*, occipital ring smooth or with a central tubercle; *Acidaspis*, occipital ring with a single straight median spine; *Ceratocephala*, occipital ring with two straight divergent spines. This scheme was, of course, simplicity itself, and, so long as applied to the American species alone, seemed to work very well. If, however, one turns to plate 38 of Barrande's "Système Silurien du Centre de la Bohême," and looks at the three figures (22, 25 and 30) at the bottom of the plate, he sees at once that this classification is not a natural one. The figures represent *Acidaspis dormitzeri* Hawle and Corda, *A. dujrenoyi* Barrande, both from the Silurian, and *A. hoernesii* Barrande, from the Lower Devonian of Bohemia. In glabella, free cheeks, thorax and pygidium, these species are exceedingly alike, yet the first has a neck tubercle, so would be called *Odontopleura*, the second

*Notes on the Genus *Acidaspis*. 10th Rept. N.Y. State Geologist, 1891, p. 61.