

SHORT COMMUNICATION

THE LOWER CRETACEOUS AMMONITE GENERA PROPOSED BY C. JACOB IN 1907

by M. K. HOWARTH

ABSTRACT. It is confirmed that the Lower Cretaceous ammonite genera *Jauberticeras*, *Kossmatella*, *Latidorsella*, *Leymeriella*, and *Uhligella* were proposed by Jacob in a paper first published in June 1907 giving them priority over their publication by Kilian in October 1907.

DURING revision for the ammonoid volume of the Treatise of Invertebrate Paleontology investigations were made into the five Lower Cretaceous ammonite genera *Jauberticeras*, *Kossmatella*, *Latidorsella*, *Leymeriella*, and *Uhligella* said to have been proposed by Jacob in 1907. The traditional view (e.g. Spath 1925, pp. 75, 83; Casey 1957, p. 30; Casey 1961, p. 160) that they were first published in 1907 by Jacob in his paper in *Trav. Lab. Géol. Univ. Grenoble*, vol. 8, fasc. 2, pp. 280–590, was found to be erroneous because that paper was published in 1908, as is indicated by the date printed on the cover of fasc. 2. All five generic names appeared in Kilian (1907), the publication date being 26 October 1907, as printed on the cover and confirmed by the date received stamp of 9 November 1907 on the copy in the library of the Palaeontology Department of the British Museum (Natural History). Thus the date of Kilian's work is not in doubt and clearly antedates Jacob's paper, so further investigations were made into the publication of Jacob's work.

This was Jacob's thesis and was entitled 'Études paléontologiques et stratigraphiques sur la partie moyenne des terrains crétacés dans les alpes françaises et les régions voisines'. It was set in type by Allier Frères of Grenoble and appeared in four different versions (all have 6 plates and about 314 pages, and the same typographical details in the three published versions show that they were all printed-off from the same type):

1. Some copies were distributed as his thesis, which he submitted in Paris on 13 June 1907 (Casteras and Laffitte 1964, p. 691). This version is not a publication for purposes of zoological nomenclature, but a copy was seen by the compilers of the *Zoological Record* (vol. 45 for 1908, Mollusca p. 124) and led to quotations of Jacob's generic names with wrong page numbers, e.g. '*Jauberticeras*—Ann. Univ. Grenoble, 19, p. 65'.

2. Jacob (1907): *Annls Univ. Grenoble*, vol. 19, fasc. 2, pp. 221–534, 6 pls. The only copy of this volume in the British Isles was lent to me by Trinity College, Dublin, but the original wrapper for fascicule 2 is missing and there is no evidence for its exact date of publication. However, Dr. J.-P. Thieuloy of Grenoble University has kindly informed me that there is evidence at Grenoble that fascicule 2 was published in June 1907. This settles the priority of Jacob's publication of the generic names over their publication by Kilian in October 1907.

3. Jacob (1908a): *Trav. Lab. Géol. Univ. Grenoble*, vol. 8, fasc. 2, 1908, pp. 280–590, 6 pls. The date 1908 is printed on the cover of fascicule 2. This is the version of Jacob's paper always quoted hitherto, usually wrongly quoted as published in 1907.

4. Jacob (1908b): *Bull. Soc. Statist. Sci. nat. Arts ind. Dép. Isère*, Grenoble, ser. 4, vol. 10, pp. 201–514, 6 pls. Dated 1908 on the cover, and was probably late in 1908 because the volume contains a report of a meeting held on 27 January 1908.

Longer descriptions and figures of the five genera appeared in Jacob (1908c).

Modern taxonomic details of the five new ammonite genera which appeared in the first version (Jacob 1907a) of Jacob's paper are as follows:

1. *Jauberticeras* Jacob, 1907, p. 285: type species *Ammonites jaubertianus* d'Orbigny, 1850, p. 200, by original designation.

2. *Kossmatella* Jacob, 1907, p. 285; type species *Ammonites agassizianus* Pictet, 1847, p. 303, subsequently designated by Roman, 1938, p. 43.

3. *Uhligella* Jacob, 1907, p. 293; type species *Desmoceras clansayense* Jacob, 1905, p. 403, subsequently designated by Kilian, 1907, p. 63.

4. *Latidorsella* Jacob, 1907, p. 295; type species *Ammonites latidorsatus* Michelin, 1838, p. 101, by tautonomy.

5. *Leymeriella* Jacob, 1907, p. 311; type species *Ammonites tardefurcatus* d'Orbigny, 1841, p. 248, subsequently designated by Spath, 1925, p. 75.

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