

ately so planned and for which alternative title-pages were made available. The main variations may be summarized as:

**Official** (as the Atlas for the *Règne animal*)

- Vol. 1. Planches des Animaux Vertébrés. fts. + 222 pls.
- Vol. 2. Planches des Animaux Invertébrés. fts. + 226 pls.
- Vol. 3. Texte Explicatif. (about) 930 pp.

**Simple** (as a work in its own right; vol. 3 being very frequent)

- Vol. 1. Vertébrates. fts. + 144 pp., 222 pls.
- Vol. 2. Invertébrates (less Ins.). 176 pp., 116 pls.
- Vol. 3. Insects. fts. + 576 pp., 110 pls.

**Specialist**

- 10 Volumes: a separate one for each Class; sizes varying from 24 pp., 11 pls. (Reptiles) to 576 pp., 111 pls. (Insects).

There are also alternative ways of opening. All texts for each Class start at pp. [5], 6-. As originally printed, this followed the individual title-pages. Those are often discarded and the work is bound with the late title [IV pp.], followed by the dedication to Cuvier, Latreille and Delessert [p. V] and the *Avant-propos* (-XVI), with the *Avis* (4 pp.) immediately preceding the text proper. A formula for citing the whole work, or any part of it, is suggested at the conclusion below. It omits any reference to volumes as liable to confuse. In the collation of each Class the Index is separated off by a comma to help in following the discussion of the signatures.

## NOMENCLATURE

The stated object of the work ensured that it would be replete with new names, and Guérin was at pains to provide dates when possible. But as there was no firm Code in existence there were differing views on validity. Boisduval owned a widely respected insect collection and his followers accepted his label names. Guérin's plates, here and elsewhere, all bore names (often "Boisd. ms."), which he regarded as valid as soon as published. Then there was a considerable circle which only recognized written descriptions as valid. In 1838, when completing the insect text for the *Coquille* voyage, Guérin was prepared to waive priority of names on his 1830-31 plates for others published with written descriptions by Boisduval in 1832 for the same species. The basic text of the *Iconographie* reflects the same uncertainty. But Guérin's view gradually prevailed. In 1843 he could not resist inserting a mild rejoinder (Ins.: p. 498) about certain butterfly plates in Roret's *Suite à Buffon* which "are going to be described in the text, which has not yet appeared". The unnamed author was Boisduval, and the date 1836. Of course, names subscribed on plates are now regarded as perfectly valid, and dating of plates is vital.

Controversy had another repercussion on nomenclature. For some reason Guérin, a founder member of the Société Entomologique de France, resigned in 1836. At the same time he both founded the Société Cuvierienne, and changed his name to Guérin-Méneville. We may continue here to use the familiar Guérin, but formally he should be given the longer name.