

1554. RONDELET, GUILLAUME, born 1507, died 1566 (Biographie Universelle).

Libri de piscibus marinis in quibus veræ piscium effigies expressæ sunt. Lugduni, M.D.LIII. pp. 534-577.

Liber xviii., De Piscibus, quæ dicantur Crustacea, contains chapters on Stalk-eyed and Sessile-eyed Crustacea and on Echinoderms. Chapter xxvii., De Pulice marino, begins: "Cum Maris purgamentis aliquoties reperi bestiolam tenui crusta intectam, quam hic depinximus, quæ facie homunciones ridiculè pictos vel simiam repræsentat aliis partibus locustæ similis est, in cauda appendiculas habet locustæ et squillæ modo, tam exigua est ut particulæ corporis nisi ab oculato discerni possint, ob parvitatem negligitur. Hanc puto esse ψύλλον θαλάττιον, id est, pulicem marinum, de quo Aristoteles, quum de piscium somno agit." He then proceeds with a translation of the passage from Aristotle, lib. iv. ch. 10. Boeck thinks he means some species of *Gammarus*. The accompanying woodcut will give a fair idea of Rondelet's drawing, which has the special interest of being, I believe, the earliest known figure of an Amphipod, whether the original were a *Gammarus*, or, as seems equally possible, an *Orchestia*. In saying that its *facies* "represents a human being caricatured or a monkey," Rondelet has probably mistaken the tail for the head.

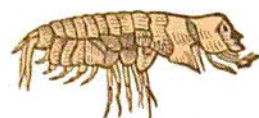


Fig. 1.

In ch. xxviii., De Pediculo Marino, he gives the figure of an Isopod, but explains that the φθειρ θαλάττιος of Aristotle applies not only to this, but also to a species, "qui in mari, quod est à Cyrena ad Ægyptum circa delphinum est, qui omnium pinguissimus fit pabuli copia, quæ delphini opera suppeditatur." The οστρος of Aristotle, from the fins of the thunny, like a scorpion, and of the size of a spider, is not to be confused, he says, with these φθειρες.

1558. GESNER, CONRAD (or GESSNER, KONRAD), born 1516, died 1565 (Encycl. Brit., 9th Ed.)

Conr. Gesner, medici Tigurini: Historiæ animalium Liber IV, qui est de piscium et aquatilium animalium natura cum iconibus singulorum ad vivum expressis fere omnib. dccvi. Continentur in hoc volumine Gulielmi Rondeletii quoque medicinæ professoris Regii in Schola Montpeliensi & Petri Bellonii Cenomani, medici hoc tempore Lutetiæ eximii, de aquatiliis singulis scripta. Tiguri, MDLVIII.

Boeck, De Skand. og Arkt. Amph., p. 19, gives the date of this work as 1548, and he says, p. 32, that it repeats on p. 994 Rondelet's text without any addition of importance, under the heading *De pulici marino Rondeletico*. Since the date 1548 was inconsistent with the reference to Rondelet, and the first edition of Gesner's work was not to be met with in England, I sought information from Copenhagen, and Mr. G. E. C. Gad has had the kindness to send me the full title and the date as above given of the first edition in question, from the Royal Library in Copenhagen. The first volume, he tells me, is dated 1551, the fourth volume 1558, and in this latter the heading "De publice [pulice] marino Rondeletius" occurs not on page 994, but on page 894. In the 2nd Edition, 1620, the notice occurs on pp. 759-760. To Rondelet's account is added "Gignuntur et in stagnis marinis similes," and a "Corollarium" about the uses of the *psyllus marinus* which leaps about on the shore. The reference in the Index to the account of the *Pediculus marinus* of Rondelet is given wrongly as p. 649 instead of 694.