

**CATALOGUE OF THE  
MADREPORARIAN CORALS IN THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL  
HISTORY), VOL. VI THE FAMILY  
PORITIDAE. II. - THE GENUS PORITES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649270361

Catalogue of the madreporarian corals in the British Museum (Natural History), Vol. VI The family poritidae. II. - The Genus porites by Henry M. Bernard

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**HENRY M. BERNARD**

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CATALOGUE  
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VOLUME VI.

THE FAMILY PORITIDÆ.  
II.—THE GENUS PORITES.

PART II.—PORITES OF THE ATLANTIC AND  
WEST INDIES, WITH THE EUROPEAN FOSSIL FORMS.

THE GENUS GONIOPORA,  
A SUPPLEMENT TO VOL. IV.

BY  
HENRY M. BERNARD, M.A.

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LONDON:  
PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

SOLE BY  
LONGMANS & CO., 39 PATERNOSTER ROW;  
B. QUARITCH, 15 PICCADILLY; DULAU & CO., 37 SOHO SQUARE;  
KEGAN PAUL & CO., PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CHANCING CROSS ROAD;  
AND AT THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD, S.W.

1906.

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82266  
17/5/07

LONDON:  
PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, LIMITED,  
GREAT WINDMILL STREET, W., AND DUKE STREET, STAMFORD STREET, S.E.



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C738  
V.6

## P R E F A C E.

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THE present volume completes the description of the genus *Porites*, and contains also a descriptive list of *Goniopora*, supplementary to that given in Vol. IV.

The Museum collection is not extensive, and from the Atlantic basin there are only about 50 forms of *Porites*. A number, however, not in the collection, have been described by other naturalists; in order to study some of these, and especially the types of Lamarck, the Author paid a visit to Paris, where he received the most courteous assistance from the officers in charge, and especially from Dr. Gravier; later on, that gentleman most kindly superintended the preparation of a series of photographs of some of the more important types in the Paris Museum for this volume.

The volume has been edited by MR. F. JEFFREY BELL. He has in this volume left the Author's observations and modes of stating them much more in the Author's original words than in previous volumes, feeling that, as this is the last volume which will be published with the method of nomenclature here adopted, it is only right that the Author should express himself in his own way.

The genus appears to be comparatively recent, and this may be the explanation of the paucity of fossil types. MR. BULLEN NEWTON, of the Geological Department, has afforded MR. BERNARD all the advice and assistance he required.

E. RAY LANKESTER.

*British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road,  
London, S.W.*

*October 11th, 1906.*





## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

### THE GENUS PORITES.—WEST INDIAN AND ATLANTIC FORMS.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| INTRODUCTORY REMARKS .....   | page 1 |
| HISTORICAL .....   | 3      |
| MORPHOLOGICAL .....  | 12     |
| FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE METAMERIC GROWTH MENTIONED IN THE FORE-<br>GOING SECTION ..... | 20     |

### GEOGRAPHICAL ARRANGEMENT OF THE ATLANTIC AND WEST INDIAN PORITES.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| GROUP I. WEST AFRICAN COAST AND CAPE VERDE ISLANDS .....                       | 25  |
| GROUP II. BRAZILS .....  | 29  |
| GROUP III. WEST INDIAN ISLANDS PROPER .....                                    | 30  |
| GROUP IV. WESTERN SHORES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO .....                           | 67  |
| GROUP V. FLORIDA AND FLORIDA REEFS .....                                       | 71  |
| GROUP VI. BAHAMAS AND BERMUDA .....  | 76  |
| GROUP VII. SPECIMENS FROM UNKNOWN ATLANTIC AND WEST INDIAN<br>LOCALITIES ..... | 80  |
| GROUP VIII. EUROPEAN FOSSIL FORMS .....  | 107 |

### PORITES FROM NO RECORDED LOCALITY.

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| GROUP IX ..... | 112 |
|----------------|-----|

### ANALYTICAL TABLES OF THE RESULTS.

| TABLE I.   | Page |
|--|------|
| „ II. Summary of the Geological and Geographical Distribution of <i>Porites</i> from the<br>Atlantic, West Indian, and from the European Tertiary beds ..... | 129  |
| „ III. Analysis and Distribution of the known Variations in Growth-forms of the <i>Porites</i><br>from these same Regions .....                              | 130  |
| Appendix to Table III. ....  | 137  |
| „ IV. Analysis and Distribution of the more easily definable Types of Calicle .....  | 138  |
| Appendix to Table IV. ....   | 143  |
| Note on the blue colour of Individual Coralla .....  | 143  |

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF GONIOPORE.

(CONTINUED FROM VOL. IV.)

|   | Page |   | Page |
|---|------|---|------|
| PREPATORY NOTE .....  | 146  | WEST INDIAN. (Supplement to Group XIII. of Vol. IV. p. 155.)                          |      |
| FLU ISLANDS. (Supplement to Group I. of Vol. IV. p. 36.)      |      | Jamaica .....   | 159  |
| Ellice Islands .....  | 147  |   |      |
| Bay of Panama .....   | 151  | FORMS FROM NO RECORDED LOCALITY. (Supplement to Group XIV. of Vol. IV. p. 156.) ..... | 161  |
| AUSTRALIA. (Supplement to Group II. of Vol. IV. p. 48.)       |      |   |      |
| Great Barrier Reef .....                                      | 152  | LIST OF THE NEW FORMS DESCRIBED. (Continuation of Table I. of Vol. IV. p. 162.) ..... | 162  |
| Tortes Strait .....   | 154  |   |      |
| North-West Australia .....                                    | 155  | CHIEF FACTS OF MORPHOLOGICAL INTEREST REVEALED BY THESE ADDITIONAL FORMS              |      |
| INDIAN OCEAN. (Supplement to Group IV. of Vol. IV. p. 85)     |      | With regard to growth-forms .....   | 163  |
| Christmas Island .....  | 156  | With regard to the calicles .....   | 164  |
| Madagascar .....  | 157  |   |      |
| Zanzibar .....  | 158  |   |      |
| INDIA AND PERSIA. (Supplement to Group V. of Vol. IV. p. 92.) |      |   |      |
| Persia .....  | 159  |   |      |

CATALOGUE  
OF  
MADREPORARIA.

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VOLUME VI.

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The Genus **PORITES**.

Part II.

**PORITES OF THE ATLANTIC AND  
WEST INDIAN AREA.**

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I. INTRODUCTORY.

VOLUME V. contains a list with descriptions, analytical tables, and illustrations of the forms of this genus—the most ubiquitous of all reef-forming corals—which are known to belong to the Indo-Pacific region. Large as the list is, we may legitimately conclude that it represents but a small selection of the forms now inhabiting that vast area, while the few mentions of fossils supply little more than a hint as to the previous existence of many generations ancestral to those now living round its innumerable shores or building up its reefs.

This Volume is a continuation of our account of the genus, but contains the forms which are so far known living in the Atlantic Oceans, North and South, in the West Indian Islands and Gulf of Mexico on the west, and fossil in the Paris and Mediterranean Basins on the east.

The division of the genus into the Indo-Pacific and the Atlantic and West Indian forms each treated in a separate volume is morphologically justifiable, because the latter prove on examination to have characters of their own which constitute them a group apart. This point is especially interesting. It is in keeping with the conclusion at which our work has brought us: that while free-living organisms with highly developed powers of locomotion, such as fish or birds, may spread freely over the surface of the globe, and thus be largely independent of