

Lesson is one of the naturalists who had the best opportunities for observing the Acalephs. Embarked with Garnot on board the *Coquille*, he made the voyage around the world with Captain Duperrey, and prepared many beautiful illustrations of Acalephs for the zoological atlas of that expedition. On his return he made the most extensive collection of drawings of these animals ever brought together, with the intention of publishing a complete Iconography of this class; but the magnitude of the undertaking prevented its execution, and nothing was published but a "Prodrome d'une Monographie des Méduses," with a short notice of two hundred and thirty-seven species, arranged in seventy genera. Some of the plates were afterwards introduced in the "Centurie Zoologique," and the text appeared, in 1843, among the "Suites à Buffon," under the title of "Histoire naturelle des Zoophytes, Acalèphes." To this day, this is the chief work of reference for the study of the Acalephs; but it is much to be regretted that it is neither methodical in its plan nor critical in its details. It is rather a compilation than an original work; and yet it contains much that cannot be found elsewhere. Edw. Forbes has the following just but severe criticism of this extraordinary production: "This work is one of the most useful, and yet one of the most provoking, in its department of Natural History: useful, because it brings together, *verbatim*, every thing that has been written upon the Medusæ in France; provoking, because every attempt in it at an arrangement or digest of the matter so collected serves only to make the obscure more obscure and the crude more crude. It is executed without any judgment, though with considerable industry. Of what has been done outside of France it is a most imperfect account."¹

CLASSIFICATION OF LESSON, 1843.

Like his predecessors, Lesson does not allude to the Hydroids in connection with the Acalephs.

1st Family. BEROIDEÆ.

1st Division. *Ciliobranches* or *Iriptères*.

1st Tribe. Cestoideæ: Cestum, Lemniseus.

2d Tribe. Callianiræ: Callianira, Chiaia, Polyptera, Mnemia, Bucephalon, Bolina.

3d Tribe. Leucothoecæ: Leucothoea.

4th Tribe. Calymmæ: Calymma, Eucharis, Alcinoe, LeSueuria, Axiotima.

5th Tribe. Neisidæ: Neis.

6th Tribe. Ocyroæ: Ocyroe.

7th Tribe. Cydippæ: Mertensia, Anais, Eschscholtzia, Janira, Cydippe.

8th Tribe. Berocæ: Beroc, Idya, Medea, Cydalisia, Pandora.

2d Division. *Acils*.

False Beroids: Galeolaria, Doliolum, Rosacea, Sulculeolaria, Praia, Noctiluca, Appendicularia.

¹ EDW. FORBES. A monograph of the British Naked-eyed Medusæ, London, 1818, p. 98.