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### On the term Muellieria as applied to a genus of Holothurians

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but we hardly see how it is to be entirely removed. In the case of the names of classes and orders indeed it would be easy to indicate what the words actually signify; but the much more numerous family names cannot be treated in this way, and they furnish the worst examples of "hard words." Fancy an unfortunate visitor to South Kensington, innocent of Greek, finding within a line and a half two such names as "*Amphignathodontidæ*" and "*Ceratobatrachidæ*"!

Prof. Flower, in arranging the General Guide to the Museum, has had no such difficulties to contend with as the one just mentioned. His task was a comparatively simple one; but he has executed it in such a manner as to produce a most admirable guide to the building the contents of which are under his charge, while at the same time it will serve for the correlation of the separate guides, to one of which we have called attention above. He commences with an historical account of the foundation and progress of the British Museum down to the removal of the collections to their present abode, and finally notices, seriatim, the various groups of objects exhibited, in the order of the galleries in which they are to be found. To aid the visitor in finding out where he is and in what direction to move in the labyrinth of rooms and galleries the book is illustrated with elaborate plans of the different floors, and on the whole no better guide to such an establishment could be desired. In the nomenclature of the objects popular terms are generally adopted, and when the names of classes or orders have to be employed, they are generally explained.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*On the Term Muelleria as applied to a Genus of Holothurians.*

By F. JEFFREY BELL, M.A.

HOWEVER reluctant one may be to perform the most disagreeable and thankless of the duties incumbent on a zoologist, there are times and occasions when one must propose the change of a generic term. The visitor to the Starfish Gallery of the Natural-History Museum who consults the index to the new popular guide to that gallery and to the collection of Mollusca will learn that the *Muelleria* he finds among the Holothurians is a freshwater oyster! The claims of Férussac (1823), who has ten years priority over Jaeger (1833), are such that the Holothurian must have a new name: as *Jaegeria* does not appear to be in use, and as its adoption will probably lead to less confusion than any other name, while, lastly, it will give us the opportunity of honouring a very thorough worker at Holothurian organization, I venture to propose *Jaegeria* to replace *Muelleria*, Jaeger; the definition of the genus will remain as in the latest monographs. I cannot but regret that the authors of two recent valuable monographs on the class generally should have left this little, but not unimportant, point uncorrected.