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DATES OF PUBLICATION FOR SHAW'S GENERAL ZOOLOGY (1800–1826)

NEAL L. EVENHUIS



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Dates of publication for Shaw's *General Zoology* (1800–1826)

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Abstract. Dates of publication are presented for the parts and volumes of Shaw's *General Zoology* based on notices and advertisements in contemporary newspapers and the periodical literature.

INTRODUCTION

Among the many illustrated works published by George Shaw (1751–1813) was his *General Zoology* (1800–1826). The work was published in 14 volumes, with two parts per volume. Each volume had both constituent parts issued simultaneously except one (Volume VII). Shaw wrote the descriptive text, which was accompanied by a plethora of plates per volume. Shaw died in 1813, after which there was a delay in publication, until it was taken over by J.F. Stephens, who saw it to completion with the publication of volumes IX through XIV.

Dating of the work has not been researched for any except the Aves volumes. Sherborn (1922: cxv) claimed that the dates were not to be found, so he used the title pages which, as shown here, are sometimes misleading. Mathews (1919, 1920, 1925) gave dates for the Aves volumes, based on information supplied by C.W. Richmond. No further dating research has been conducted on any of the parts until now.

METHODS

A number of digital copies online of contemporary periodicals and newspapers were examined for book notices, reviews, and publisher's advertisements concerning publication of the *General Zoology*. The ones that had such notices that contained the earliest dates of publication found or that had information relevant to the publication history of this work are listed here (abbreviations used in parentheses): *Bent's Monthly Literary Advertiser* (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*); *The Courier* (*Courier*); *Gentleman's Magazine* (*Gen. Mag.*); *Literary Gazette and Journal* (*Lit. Gaz. & J.*); *London Star* (*Lond. Star*); *London St. James Chronicle and General Evening Post* (*Lond. St. James Chron.*); *Monthly List of New Publications* (*Mon. List. New Publ.*); *The Monthly Magazine* (*Mon. Mag.*); *New Times* (*New Times*); *The Porcupine* (*Lond. Porcupine*).

ANALYSIS OF THE WORK

The method of issue for the work was in parts with two parts per volume, issued simultaneously. Only one volume (Vol. VII) was found with each part having been issued separately (i.e., the last page of part I states that part II will be published on 1 May 1809). Two types of title pages were prepared: a decorative title page with an illustration and the volume number and year (e.g., Fig 1); and (2) a plain title page for each separate part of the volume (e.g., Fig. 2). For the most part, the year printed on the title pages are the same as

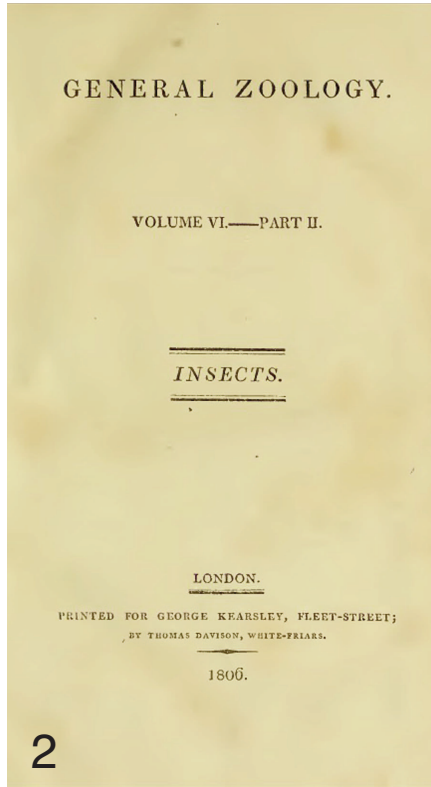


Figure 1–2. Title pages of *General Zoology*. **1.** Example of a decorative title page with an illustration and the volume number and year. **2.** Example of a plain title page that accompanied each separate part of the volume.

the notices and advertisements of publication; however, there are three instances where dates differ and these are discussed below. Dates of publication found are given below for each part (earliest indicated in **boldface**) and summarized for all parts in Table 1.

Volume I, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. I. Part 1. Mammalia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1800.

Date of publication: 31 May 1800 (*Lond. Star*).

Remarks. The four parts to the first two volumes are also advertised as “A history of quadrupeds”.

Volume I, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. I. Part 2. Mammalia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1800.

Date of publication: 31 May 1800 (*Lond. Star*).

Remarks. The four parts to the first two volumes are also advertised as “A history of quadrupeds”.

Volume II, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. II. Part 1. Mammalia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1801.

Date of publication: 27 March 1801 (*Lond. Porcupine*); 4 April 1801 (*Lond. Star*).

Remarks. The four parts to the first two volumes are also advertised as “A history of quadrupeds”.

Volume II, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. II. Part 2. Mammalia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1801.

Date of publication: 27 March 1801 (*Lond. Porcupine*); 4 April 1801 (*Lond. Star*).

Remarks. The four parts to the first two volumes are also advertised as “A history of quadrupeds”.

Volume III, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. III. Part 1. Amphibia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1802.

Date of publication: 1 July 1802 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Volume III, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. III. Part 2. Amphibia. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1802.

Date of publication: 1 July 1802 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Volume IV, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. IV. Part 1. Pisces. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1803.

Date of publication: [31] August 1803 (*Mon. List New Publ.*); 1 September 1803 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Table 1. Dating for volumes and parts of Shaw's *General Zoology*.

Volume	Part	Subject	Title page	2nd title p.	Earliest Date
1	1	Mammalia	1800	1800	31 May 1800
1	2	Mammalia	1800	1800	31 May 1800
2	1	Mammalia	1801	1801	4 Apr 1801
2	2	Mammalia	1801	1801	4 Apr 1801
3	1	Amphibia	1802	1802	1 Jul 1802
3	2	Amphibia	1802	1802	1 Jul 1802
4	1	Pisces	1803	1803	31 Aug 1803
4	2	Pisces	1803	1803	31 Aug 1803
5	1	Pisces	1804	1804	23 Feb 1805
5	2	Pisces	1804	1804	23 Feb 1805
6	1	Insecta	1806	1806	11 Jan 1806
6	2	Insecta	1806	1806	11 Jan 1806
7	1	Aves	1809	1809	[31] Aug 1808
7	2	Aves	1809	1809	10 Mar 1809
8	1	Aves	1812	1811	6 Feb 1812
8	2	Aves	1812	1811	6 Feb 1812
9	1	Aves	1815	1815	31 May 1816
9	2	Aves	1815	1816	31 Mag 1816
10	1	Aves	1817	1817	9 Aug 1817
10	2	Aves	1817	1817	9 Aug 1817
11	1	Aves	1819	1819	29 Jun 1819
11	2	Aves	1819	1819	29 Jun 1819
12	1	Aves	1824	1824	28 Jan 1825
12	2	Aves	1824	1824	28 Jan 1825
13	1	Aves	1825	1826	18 Feb 1826
13	2	Aves	1825	1826	18 Feb 1826
14	1	Aves	1826	1826	11 Dec 1826
14	2	General Index	1826	1826	11 Dec 1826

Volume IV, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. IV. Part 2. Pisces. London Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1803.

Date of publication: [31] August 1803 (*Mon. List New Publ.*); 1 September 1803 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Volume V, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. V. Part 1. Pisces. London Printed for G. Kearlley, Fleet Street. 1804.

Date of publication: 23 February 1805 (*Courier*).

Volume V, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. V. Part 2. Pisces. London Printed for G. Kearley, Fleet Street. 1804.

Date of publication: 23 February 1805 (*Courier*).

Volume VI, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath & Mrs. Griffith. Vol. VI. Part 1. Insecta. London Printed for G. Kearley, Fleet Street. 1806.

Date of publication: 11 January 1806 (*Lond. St. James Chron.*).

Volume VI, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mr. Heath & Mrs. Griffith. Vol. VI. Part 2. Insecta. London Printed for G. Kearley, Fleet Street. 1806.

Date of publication: 11 January 1806 (*Lond. St. James Chron.*).

Volume VII, Part 1.

General zoology, or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. VII. Part 1. Aves. London, Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1809.

Date of publication: [31] August 1808 (*Lond. Star, Mon. Mag.*).

Remarks. Although both the *London Star* and *The Monthly Magazine* notice clearly state this part was published in August 1808, there are plates in this part dated 1 September 1808. The last page of this part as well as the 1 September 1808 issue of the *Monthly Magazine* says that Part II will come out in May 1809. This is apparently the only volume in which the parts were not published simultaneously.

Volume VII, Part 2.

General zoology, or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. VII. Part 2. Aves. London, Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street. 1809.

Date of publication: 10 March 1809 (*Lond. Star*).

Volume VIII, Part 1.

General zoology, or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. VIII. Part 1. Aves. London, Printed for Kearsley, Wilkie and Robinson, Walker, Stockdale, Lea, Jeffry, Crosby, Longman Hurst Rees Orme & Brown, Scholey, Booth, Bagster, Gale & Curtis, Baldwin, Lowe, and Davidson. 1812.

Date of publication: 3 February 1812 (*Lond. Star*); 6 February 1812 (*Courier*).

Volume VIII, Part 2.

General zoology, or systematic natural history by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. VIII. Part II. Aves. London, Printed for Kearsley, Wilkie and Robinson, Walker, Stockdale, Lea, Jeffry, Crosby, Longman Hurst Rees Orme & Brown, Scholey, Booth, Bagster, Gale & Curtis, Baldwin, Lowe, and Davidson. 1812.

Date of publication: 3 February 1812 (*Lond. Star*); 6 February 1812 (*Courier*).

Volume IX, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. IX. Part I. Aves. by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for G. Wilkie, J. Walker, J. Stockdale, J. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, E. Jeffery, Sherwood, Neeley & Jones, Law & Whittaker, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, R. Scholey, J. Black, W. Lowe, J. Booth, Gale & Fenner, S. Bagster, J. Robinson, J. Rodwell, Walker & Edwards, and Harper & C^o. 1815.

Date of publication: 31 May 1816 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Remarks. Although the title page has the date “1815” there have been no records of it found in this study as having been published in that year. Since all the other volumes (except volume VII) had the two part of each published simultaneously, it is treated here as having both parts of the volume published simultaneously. Mathews (1919) said both parts of this volume came out between July 1816 and March 1817. Mathews (1925) gave August 1816 for both parts of this volume.

Volume IX, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. IX. Part II. Aves. by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for G. Wilkie, J. Walker, J. Stockdale, J. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, E. Jeffery, Sherwood, Neeley & Jones, Law & Whittaker, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, R. Scholey, J. Black, W. Lowe, J. Booth, Gale & Fenner, S. Bagster, J. Robinson, J. Rodwell, Walker & Edwards, and Harper & C^o. 1816.

Date of publication: 31 May 1816 (*Mon. Mag.*).

Remarks. See above for dates given by Mathews (1919, 1925).

Volume X, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. X. Part I. Aves. by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for G. Wilkie, J. Walker, J. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, E. Jeffery, Sherwood, Neeley & Jones, Law & Whittaker, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, R. Scholey, J. Black & Son, W. Lowe, J. Booth, R. Fenner, S. Bagster, J. Robinson, Rodwell & Martin, Walker & Edwards, and J. Harper. 1817.

Date of publication: 9 August 1817 (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*).

Remarks. Mathews (1919) gives only the year printed on the title page. Mathews (1925) gives September 1817.

Volume X, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. X. Part II. Aves. by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for G. Wilkie, J. Walker, J. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, E. Jeffery, Sherwood, Neeley & Jones, Law & Whittaker, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, R. Scholey, J. Black & Son, W. Lowe, J. Booth, R. Fenner, S. Bagster, J. Robinson, Rodwell & Martin, Walker & Edwards, and J. Harper. 1817.

Date of publication: 9 August 1817 (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*).

Remarks. Mathews (1919) gives only the year printed on the title page. Mathews (1925) gives September 1817.

Volume XI, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. XI. Part I. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for J. Walker, Longman & Co., J. & A. Arch, E. Jeffery, Baldwin & Co., R. Scholey, Sherwood & Co., Whittaker & Co., J. Black & Son, W. Lowe, J. Booth, S. Bagster, J. Mawman, R. Fenner, Ogle & Co., Rodwell & Co., J. Robinson, and J. Harper. 1819.

Date of publication: 29 June 1819 (*New Times*); 10 July 1819 (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*); August 1819 (Mathews 1925); October 1819 (Mathews 1919).

Volume XI, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. XI. Part II. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. Printed for J. Walker, Longman & Co., J. & A. Arch, E. Jeffery, Baldwin & Co., R. Scholey, Sherwood & Co., Whittaker & Co., J. Black & Son, W. Lowe, J. Booth, S. Bagster, J. Mawman, R. Fenner, Ogle & Co., Rodwell & Co., J. Robinson, and J. Harper. 1819.

Date of publication: 29 June 1819 (*New Times*); August 1819 (Mathews 1925); October 1819 (Mathews 1919).

Volume XII, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by Mrs. Griffith. Vol. XII. Part I. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. &c. Printed for I. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst & Co., E. Jeffery & Son, I. Mawman, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, I. Booth, Sherwood & Co., G.B. Whittaker, R. Scholey, S. Bagster, Rodwell & Martin, R. Saunders, Hamilton, Adams & Co., Simpkin & Marshall, I. Duncan, T. & I. Allman, C. Smith & G. Wightman. 1824.

Date of publication: 28 January 1825 (*Lond. St. James Chron., Lond. Morn. Post*; "Ready for delivery"); [31] January 1825 (*Gen. Mag.*).

Remarks. Although the date of the title page of both parts is "1824", there is no evidence that either part came out in that year. The 28 January 1825 notices in the *London Morning Post* and the *London St. James Chronicle and General Evening Post* each state that the

“twelfth volume, in two parts, is ready for delivery” and that “The thirteenth volume is in considerable tardiness, and will complete the work.” This former statement of being “ready” is not considered here as proof of publication although it may have been intended to be. The notice in the *Gentleman’s Magazine* for January 1825 (here treated as the last day of January) is definitive and can be taken as the earliest confirmed date of publication. Mathews (1919) gave the notice in the *Gentleman’s Magazine* as the date of publication.

Volume XII, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. XII. Part II. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. &c. Printed for I. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst & C^o., E. Jeffery & Son, E. Jeffrey & Son, I. Mawman, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, I. Booth, Sherwood & C^o., G.B. Whittaker, R. Scholey, S. Bagster, Rodwell & Martin, B. Saunders, Hamilton, Adams & C^o., Simpkin & Marshall, I. Duncan, T. & I. Allman, C. Smith & G. Wightman. 1824.

Date of publication: 28 January 1825 (*Lond. St. James Chron.*; “Ready for delivery”); [31] January 1825 (*Gen. Mag.*).

Remarks. See above for dating details for Part I of this volume, which also pertain to Part II.

Volume XIII, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. XIII. Part I. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. &c. Printed for I. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst & C^o., E. Jeffery & Son, E. Jeffrey & Son, I. Mawman, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, I. Booth, Sherwood & C^o., G.B. Whittaker, R. Scholey, S. Bagster, Rodwell & Martin, B. Saunders, Hamilton, Adams & C^o., Simpkin & Marshall, I. Duncan, T. & I. Allman, C. Smith & G. Wightman. 1825.

Date of publication: 18 February 1826 (*Lit. Gaz.*, Mathews 1925); 28 February 1826 (*Lond. St. James Chron.*).

Remarks. Although the title page has the date as “1825”, the second title page has “1826”. Mathews (1919) gave a later date (26 March 1826), when it was noticed at a meeting of the Linnean Society.

Volume XIII, Part 2.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. XIII. Part II. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. &c. Printed for I. & A. Arch, Longman, Hurst & C^o., E. Jeffery & Son, E. Jeffrey & Son, I. Mawman, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, I. Booth, Sherwood & C^o., G.B. Whittaker, R. Scholey, S. Bagster, Rodwell & Martin, Saunders & Hodgson, Hamilton, Adams & C^o., Simpkin & Marshall, I. Duncan, T. & I. Allman, W.I. & I. Maynard and Wightman & Cramp. 1825.

Date of publication: 18 February 1826 (*Lit. Gaz.*, Mathews 1925); 28 February 1826 (*Lond. St. James Chron.*).

Remarks. Although the title page has the date as “1825”, the second title page has “1826”. Mathews (1919) gave a later date (26 March 1826), when it was noticed at a meeting of the Linnean Society.

Volume XIV, Part 1.

General zoology or systematic natural history commenced by the late George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. &c. With plates from the first authorities and most select specimens engraved principally by M^{rs}. Griffith. Vol. XIV. Part I. Aves, by J.F. Stephens, F.L.S. &c. Printed for I. & A. Arch, Longman & C^o., E. Jeffery & Son, E. Jeffrey & Son, I. Mawman, Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, I. Booth, Sherwood & C^o., G.B. Whittaker, R. Scholey, S. Bagster, Rodwell & Martin, Saunders & Hodgson, Hamilton, Adams & C^o., Simpkin & Marshall, I. Duncan, T. & I. Allman, W.I. & I. Maynard and Wightman & Cramp. 1826.

Date of publication: 11 December 1826 (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*); 19 December 1826 (*New Times*).

Remarks. Mathews (1919, 1925) gave a date of 6 February 1827, when both parts of this volume were donated to the Linnean Society.

Volume XIV, Part 2.

General index to the zoology; by George Shaw, M.D. &c. and James Francis Stephens, F.L.S. &c. London: Printed for J. & A. Arch; Longman, Rees, and C^o.; E. Jeffery & Son, E. Jeffrey and Son; J. Mawman; Baldwin, Cradock, and Joy; J. Booth; Sherwood and C^o.; G.B. Whittaker; R. Scholey; S. Bagster; Rodwell and [sic] Martin; Saunders and Hodgson; Hamilton, Adams, and C^o.; Simpkin and Marshall; J. Duncan; T. and J. Allman; W.J. & J. Maynard; and Wightman and Cramp. 1826. 34 pp.

Date of publication: 11 December 1826 (*Bent's Mon. Lit. Advert.*); 19 December 1826 (*New Times*).

Remarks. Mathews (1919, 1925) gave a date of 6 February 1827, when both parts of this volume were donated to the Linnean Society.

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This paper is dedicated to the memory of my good friend, and colleague in bibliographic research, Lucius G. Eldredge, who reviewed an early draft of this work and helped with some resources enabling completion of the study, which has lingered for many years.

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