THE FIRST CHINESE LABYRINTHODONTS

Friedrich von Huene

(Tübingen University, Germany)

Recently Dr. C. C. Young had the kindness to send me for eventual determination the first: two specimens of fragmentary Labyrinthodont plates ever found in China. They are excellent coloured casts of the originals, And I am obliged to say a few words on them in this Journal. They come from the middle Triassic of south-eastern Shansi with Sinokannemeyeria and other Thromorphs.

The larger specimen is from Hishiwa, northwest of Lotzeyue near Wuhsiang. This sculptured plate is the anterior part of an interchylcle. It is little vaulted in the transverse direction. Laterally it shows the imprinted marks of the clavicular plates with
curved medial limits. In the longitudinal direction it is only half of the plate. The sculpture of the vaulted outside consists of radial furrows and central pits; as farther from the centre the pits become more or less elongated. The central pits are not round, but angular. Between the radial furrows are more or less sharp and prominent and partly branchiacted edges. The inner side of the plate is smooth and there—with horse-shoe-like limit—a thickening of the posterior part is visible.

The small fragment of the middle part of a skull comes from Niukouho near Lotse-yue, Wuhsiang. It has the same type of sculpture, sharper still than the interclavicile, but is too small for location in the skull-roof.

The type of sculpture is that of lower and middle Triassic Capitosaurids, as that of Haplosaurus cappellenis Wepfer in the German Bunter (Lower Triassic) or Mastodonsaurus in German middle Triassic, which also occurs in the Russian zone VII (upper Triassic). But it is similar to other Capitosaurids as Parotosaurus, Kestrosaurus, Hadrakiosaurus and others. The preserved fragmentary parts of the plates are not sufficient for an accurate determination of the genus.

**Literature**

Wepfer, E.: Der Buntsandstein des badischen Schwarzwalds u. seine Labyrinthodonten. Monogr. z. Geol. u. Pal. (Soergel), II, 1, 1923. (Fig. 30).


Fig. 1a. Incomplete anterior part of the interclavicle of a Capitosaurid Labyrinthodont from the middle Triassic of Heshiwa, Leye, Wujiang. Outside View, × 1.
Fig. 1b. Same as Fig. 1a. Inside View, × 1.
Fig. 2. Fragment of skull-roof of a Capitosaurid Labyrinthodont from the middle Triassic of Niukouho, Lozeyue, Wuhsiang, × 1.

Fig. 3. For comparison; Interclavicle of the Capitosaurid Labyrinthodont Heptasaurus cappelenii Wepfer from the lower Triassic of the Black Forest in South-Germany, ×1.25.