

those made in Ceylon and the Celebes by Paul B. Sarasin and his cousin, Fritz Sarasin, amateur naturalists who published a classic monograph on *Ichthyophis glutinosus* (in four parts, 1887-1890) that, a century later, is still the most comprehensive study of any caecilian species. Müller's last herpetological publication (1894, in two parts) was a report on the Sarasin collections from the Celebes.

• *References*: "Dr. Fritz Müller †," by T. Lotz, *Correspond.-Blatt Schweiz. Aerzte*, 1895(11): 1-5, 1895; "Dr. Friedr. Müller," by T. Lotz and L. Rüttimeyer, *Verh. Naturf. Gesellsch. Basel*, 11: 259-283, 1897. • *Portrait*: Universitäts-Bibliothek Basel, courtesy Christine Stocker. • *Signature*: Adler collection.

### BEDRIAGA, Jacques von (1854-1906).

Jacques Vladimir von Bedriaga (in its Russian form, Jacob Vladimirovich Bedriaga, sometimes Bedryagha), a specialist on Eurasian herpetology, was born of Russian nobility in 1854 at his mother's estate in the village of Kriniz, near Voronezh, nearly 500 km south of Moscow. He entered the University of Moscow in 1872 where he studied with A. P. Bogdanov, but had to leave Russia in 1873 because of serious health problems. In Germany he had the good fortune to work with two eminent comparative anatomists, the leaders of the Darwinian revolution in Germany. At the University of Jena, Bedriaga studied with Ernst Haeckel, a former pupil of Johannes Müller and Carl Gegenbauer. He received his Ph.D. degree in 1875, for a thesis on the urogenital organs of reptiles, and then proceeded to



*Dr. J. von Bedriaga*

Heidelberg for postdoctoral work with Gegenbauer whose broad anatomical interests included the anatomy of amphibians and reptiles.

Bedriaga's earliest publications (beginning in 1874) dealt with captive animals, but soon he began his frequent trips to Italy, Greece, and other Mediterranean areas where he made extensive collections, particularly of lizards. In 1881, to improve his health, he moved to Nice, along the French Riviera, which became his home base for many years, and later he moved to Florence, Italy. He died in 1906.

Bedriaga's first major work was "Die Amphibien und Reptilien Griechenlands" (1880, published in Moscow in three parts; reprinted 1882, and corrections in 1883), the first monograph of the herpetology of Greece. His special interest for many years was lacertids and in 1886 he published, in Frankfurt (Main), his book "Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Lacertiden-Familie." Thereafter his interests turned more to amphibians, resulting in an extensive monograph, published in five parts in Moscow, entitled "Die Lurchfauna Europa's" (frogs in 1889, reprinted 1891; salamanders in 1896-1897, reprinted 1897), which contained a wealth of life history information, much of it personally collected by him.

From time to time Bedriaga visited Russia and in particular St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) where he was informally associated with A. M. Nikolsky and the Zoological Museum. There he was asked by the museum authorities to study the enormous numbers of amphibians and reptiles collected by Russian explorers in "Central Asia"—that is, Mongolia and northern China—as an adjunct to their military expeditions to expand the Russian Empire. Alexander Strauch had reported on the earliest collections (1876), but much more had accumulated, particularly from the several expeditions by N. M. Przewalski and his lieutenants in 1876-1888, which Bedriaga covered in two short papers full of new taxa, published by the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg (1905 [1906]), and monographed in a large book of nearly 800 pages, in quarto (published in four parts, 1898-1912). The book is in parallel German and Russian texts (Nikolsky translated it into the Russian) and the ten highly-detailed plates were drawn by Italian artists.

• *References*: "Esboço Biographico do . . . Dr. Jacques Wladimir de Bedriaga," by A. M. Seabra d'Albuquerque, *Imp. Univ., Coimbra*, 8 pages, 1891; "Jacob Vladimirovich Bedryaga," *In A. P. Bogdanov, Materials for the History of Scientific Activity in Russia on Zoology*. *Newsbull. Imper. Moscow Univ.*, 70 (*Trans. Dept. Zool.*, 6), Moscow, 1891. • *Portrait*: From Bogdanov, 1891, courtesy Natalia B. Ananjeva. • *Signature* (1876): Carnegie Museum, courtesy C. J. McCoy.

### VAILLANT, Léon (1834-1914).

Léon-Louis Vaillant, noted French ichthyologist and herpetologist, was born in Paris on 11 November 1834. He graduated from the Collège d'Arras in 1854, where he showed an aptitude for drawing and natural history. Thus when he returned to Paris and began his medical studies he naturally attended courses in zoology as well. In 1861 he