Preoccupied names in Polyplacophora: addenda

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In a short note 'On two preoccupied names in Polyplacophora (Mollusca)' (Basteria 44: 69, 1980), I proposed the new name Chiton rudelsdorfensis for Gymnoplax bohemicus De Rochebrune, 1883, now Chiton s.s. bohemicus, and hence a junior secondary homonym of Chiton bohemicus Barrande, 1867. This proceeding seemed logical to prevent possible confusion between Chiton bohemicus Barrande as originally described, even though presently classified in the genus Chelodes, and Chiton bohemicus (De Rochebrune) as presently accepted.

Unfortunately, it had slipped my attention that some imperative changes of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1964) had been published in the Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature for 1973, and it now appears that the substitute name is superfluous. Indeed, under a new article 59 (b)(ii) (Bull. zool. Nom. 31: 83, 1973), it is stipulated that: 'If a situation of secondary homonymy has been overlooked, or if the junior name has not been replaced [Art. 60], and the taxa in question are no longer considered congeneric, the junior name is not to be rejected, even though one name was originally proposed in the current genus of the other'. Thus, Chelodes bohemicus (Barrande, 1867) and Chiton bohemicus (De Rochebrune, 1883) must both be considered valid names, and Chiton rudelsdorfensis Van Belle, 1980, becomes a junior objective synonym of the last one named.

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