

Oxfordian of the Częstochowa Area. I. Biostratigraphy

by

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Presented by W. POŻARYSKI on August 19, 1975

ry. An analysis of rich ammonite fauna enabled a subdivision of the Oxfordian of the Częstochowa area according to a modified Submediterranean zonal scheme. The Antecedens Subzone Plicatilis Zone is interpreted as a full zone and the Lower-Middle Oxfordian boundary dated at its base. The Bifurcatus Zone is divided into the Stenocycloides and Grossouvrei s and the base of the Bimammatum Zone is accepted as the base of the Upper Oxfordian. Lower-Middle and Middle-Upper Oxfordian boundaries accepted here coincide with the beginning of subsequent phases of size changes. Moreover, a modified correlation of the Subboreal (European) and Submediterranean zonal schemes is proposed.

roduction. The Częstochowa area is situated in the northern part of the Jura Chain or Kraków-Wieluń Upland [31—32]. The Upper Jurassic rocks of the area are either gently inclined (by c. 2—3°) to NE, towards the axial part of the Częstochów Basin, or they are locally disturbed owing to block tectonic. The rich ammonite fauna and a remarkable number of large quarries situated at the Częstochowa have for a long time focused attention on this section of the Upper Jurassic. As a result, the Częstochowa section has been recognized as a reference section for contemporaneous rocks from the Polish Jura Chain and even from the whole country [31].

extensive literature on the stratigraphy of the Upper Jurassic of the Częstochowa area was recently summarized by Malinowska [20, 22—23]. References in the literature show that the Oxfordian ammonite fauna of that area was studied by several authors in the XIX c. but only Pusch [26] and Bukowski [7] have illustrated ammonite forms. Collections of Koroniewicz and Rehbinder [17] and Różycki [32] were destroyed during the 1st and 2nd World Wars, respectively. Subsequently, the study on the Oxfordian ammonites from this area were conducted by Malinowska, who monographed the ammonites in the series of papers [20, 22—23]. A large collection of ammonites was gathered in the course of graduate works conducted at the Institute of Geology of the Warsaw University, under the supervision of Assistant Professor J. Kutek, initiated in 1967 and covering the whole northern and most southern part of the Polish Jura Chain. The Częstochowa area was covered by the graduate works of Brochwicz-Lewiński (1969MS), Kulesza (1969MS), Haase (1970MS) and Strzelecki (1973MS). Some of the results of studies on the Oxfordian

ammonite faunas by the present author have already been published [2—6]. results of previous studies and remarks in the literature clearly show that the fauna from this area are rich and sufficiently preserved to yield a clue to a number of taxonomic, stratigraphic and paleobiogeographic problems.

Biostratigraphy of the Oxfordian of the Częstochowa Area. The majority of authors studying the Upper Jurassic of the Częstochowa area accepted Oplowicz [24] zonal scheme. The exceptions are here Roemer [29], who followed Quenstedt [27], and Różycki [32], who proposed a stratigraphic subdivision based on the fauna of that region, and Malinowska [20, 22—23] who accepted a modified division of Różycki for the Middle Oxfordian and a somewhat modified European zonation for the Upper Oxfordian. The present author accepted a modified Oplowicz's Submediterranean zonal scheme. The differences in respect to zonation applied by some Polish authors ([20—23] and references therein) are discussed previously [2, 19].

The uppermost Callovian and lowermost Oxfordian strata are missing in the Częstochowa area because of a sedimentary gap [25, 32, 20]. Somewhat condensed Lower Oxfordian strata are exposed in a number of localities along the quarry [32]. In the area studied, however, only in two localities near Żarki (localities 46 and 42; see map) they are sufficiently exposed for fauna exploitation and the Włoszowa locality [20] remains a reference point for the biostratigraphic analysis.

The Lower Oxfordian strata from Żarki yield numerous cardioceratids, including *Cardioceras (Scarburgiceras) bukowskii* Maire, numerous peltoceratids, including fragments of giant *Peltoceratoides*, *Peltomorphites* and *Parawedekindia ramelliceras polonicum* Malin., very large *T. pseudooculatum* Buk. and other ophioceratids and perisphinctids of the *Prososphinctes mazuricus-claromontanus* and "*Perisphinctes matheyi-mairei* (sensu [13]) groups. Such an assemblage appears typical of the datum Zone, the upper zone of the Lower Oxfordian. No forms indicative of the lower, Mariae Zone were found. In Poland, the genera *Peltoceratoides*, *Peltomorphites* and *Parawedekindia* seem to disappear markedly below the base of the Antecedens Zone, the basal Zone of the Middle Oxfordian as interpreted here.

A somewhat younger ammonite assemblage was recorded in the strata exposed in peasant quarries at Parchowołka and Serbin hills near Żarki (46 and 48, respectively), at the bottom of the Prędziszów quarry (11) and in excavations S of the Prędziszów hill. The assemblage comprises several *Plasmatoceras*, occasional *Guthrieoceras* and *Scoticardioceras*, *Neocampylites* and numerous minute *Otosphinctes* which disappear or become markedly scarcer in the above Antecedens Zone, well as some perisphinctids close to the *Kranaosphinctes promiscuus* gr. or to *Sphinctes (Dichotomosphinctes) rotoides* Ronch. or its allies typical of the above Antecedens Zone. No representatives of the genera *Peltoceratoides*, *Peltomorphites* and *Parawedekindia* were recorded here. Such a composition of that assemblage indicates that it may be referred to the Tenuicostatum Subzone of the Plicatilis Zone of French authors (see [10, 14]). However, any more accurate dating of these strata

peded by the fact that some important taxa of cardioceratids, i.e. *Vertebriceras*, *vertebriceras*, *Plasmatoceras* and *Scoticardioceras*, considered as typical of the Middle Oxfordian, occur in these or even older strata along with peltoceratids *Prososphinctes* typical of the Lower Oxfordian, similarly as in the Holy Cross ([45], pp. 141—142). This indicates that this phenomenon cannot be explained by the above-mentioned condensed character of the Lower Oxfordian strata.

The changes in the ammonite fauna appear to be much greater at the Tenuicosta-Antecedens boundary (sensu [10, 14]) than at the Cordatum/Tenuicostatum. The former include the disappearance of the peltoceratids, *Prososphinctes*, *ampylites* and other taxa typical of the Lower Oxfordian and the appearance of *Perisphinctes* sensu stricto and the allied subgenera, *Kranaosphinctes* (thanks to the courtesy of L. Malinowska the author could state that the Lower Oxfordian forms named by her to that taxon [20] presumably represent early *Passendorferia* and *Kranaosphinctes*), *Gregoryceras*, *Neoprionoceras* and others. Thus, the Antecedens Subzone is considered here as a full zone and the base of the Middle Oxfordian is delineated at the base of this zone. This interpretation is essentially the same as that of Malinowska ([23] and elsewhere), as the Antecedens Zone may be regarded as the equivalent of her *Perisphinctes chloroolithicus* and *Cardioceras tenuiseria* Zone (see below).

Strata referable to the Antecedens Zone are exposed at Zawodzie (1—5, beds 1), Mirów (10), Prędziszów (11), Biskupice (11—23), Choroń (32—37), Janik (43—45) and Żarki (48). A contact between this subzone and the under-Tenuicostatum? strata is observable at Prędziszów (11) and Żarki (48). The base of that zone is defined by the appearance of first *Kranaosphinctes* of the *K. liscuus* group, *Perisphinctes* (*Dichotomosphinctes*) *rotoides* Ronch. and its allies, *Arisphinctes* and *Neoprionoceras*. Subsequently, there appear first large *Dimorphosphinctes* of the *P. (Dichotomosphinctes) antecedens* group, *Subdiscosphinctes* and *S. (Aureimontanites)*, *Perisphinctes* s.s., *Proscaphites anar* (Opp.), *Glochisubclausum* (Opp.) and *Ochetoceras canaliculatum-hispidum* group. The share of cardioceratids (*Subvertebriceras*, *Scoticardioceras* and *Plasmatoceras*) in the ammonite spectrum markedly decreases, approaching zero in the uppermost Antecedens Zone.

There are distinct differences between the ammonite fauna of the lower and upper part of that zone, sufficient for distinguishing two horizons: *Perisphinctes rotoides* (lower) and *P. buckmani* (upper). The base of the former is defined just as the base of the Antecedens zone (see above), and that of the latter — by the first appearance of *Ochetoceras* and disappearance of *Kranaosphinctes*, mass occurrence of large *P. (Dichotomosphinctes) antecedens* Salf., *P. (D.) buckmani* Ark. and *P. (D.) dobrogensis* Sim. and the dominance of *Perisphinctes* s.s. among giant perisphinctids. Moreover, *Subdiscosphinctes* becomes common, while *Glochiceras* with a lateral furrow, *Glochisubclausum* (Opp.), seem not to appear below that horizon. The *P. buckmani* horizon is well-displayed by the Zawodzie (1—5) and Mirów (10) sections, and the transition to the Transversarium Zone by the former (beds 11—14).

The Transversarium Zone. Strata referable to this zone are exposed at Zawodzie (beds 16—23), Olsztyn (15), Skrajnica (18), Biskupice (22), Jarosław (31, beds 1—? 34) and Jaworzniak (51). Its base is defined by a sudden appearance of numerous *P. (Dichotomosphinctes) wartae* Buk., *P. (Perisphinctes) martelli* and their allies; what defines the whole zone is the replacement of *Cardioceras Amoeboceras*. It is fairly possible that *P. (P.) caustisnigrae* Ark. mainly (or only) occurs here (see below). *Larcheria* seems to be confined to the upper parts of the zone (Schilli subzone of French authors [10]).

The Bifurcatus Zone. Two subzones, *Stenocycloides* and *Grossouvrei*, may be distinguished. The lower, *Stenocycloides* subzone, may be traced at Zawodzie (1—5, beds 24—27), Olsztyn (14, 16), Skrajnica (18), Biskupice (26), Jarosław (31, beds 35—39) and Jaworzniak (52). Its base is well-defined by the transition from *Dichotomosphinctes* to *Dichotomoceras* and from *P. (P.) martelli* (Opp.) and its allies to *P. (P.) cf. panthieri* Enay, characterized by a U-shaped initial part of the rib-curve [6]. Moreover, *Larcheria* disappears and *Subdiscosphinctes* becomes scarcer. In euaspidoceratids the giant *Euaspidoceras paucituberculatum* Ark. is gradually replaced by smaller *E. oegir* (Opp.).

Strata referable to the *Grossouvrei* Subzone are exposed at Zawodzie (5, beds 28 onwards), Lipówki Dolne (17), Skrajnica (18), Biskupice (19, 26—27) and Czatachowa (50). This subzone is characterized by a gradual replacement of the *Perisphinctes (Dichotomoceras) bifurcatoides-stenocycloides* group by the smaller *P. (Dichotomoceras) bifurcatus* (Qu.) and its allies, and of *P. (P.) sphinctes* cf. *panthieri* Enay by the smaller *P. (P.) variocostatus* (Buckl.), and, finally, by *P. (P.) malinowskae* Brochwicz-Lewiński. Euaspidoceratids are fairly common, including *E. wildenbergense* (Dorn), *E. sublongispinum* (Dorn) as well as some forms close to *E. depereti* (Collot) or *E. sp. n.* Sequeiros [35], i.e. characterized by a more distinct costation and to a disappearance of tuberculation. More ancestral forms of the taxa typical of the above Bimammatum Zone do appear, including *Microbiplices* sp. A ([6], Pl. I, Fig. 1) and others,? *Orthosphinctes* sp., and *Taraxacoceras* referable to *T. costatum* (Qu.). This subzone is characterized by a further reduction in size of the ammonites [6, 11].

The top of the Bifurcatus Zone is delineated by the base of the Bimammatum Zone, the basal zone of the Upper Oxfordian [37, 19]. Strata of that age are exposed at Biskupice (19, 21, ? 27) where the Bifurcatus-Bimammatum contact may be observed, as well as at Kamyk (7), Osona (12), Olsztyn (13) and Biskupice (27, 18, ? 29). The Late Oxfordian age is indicated by numerous *Microbiplices*, *Ringsteadia*, *Orthosphinctes*, *Pseudoorthosphinctes*, *Progeronia*, *Taramelliceras costatum* (Qu.) and *T.(S.) tegulatum* (Qu.), *N. (Passendorferia) birmensdoerferi* (Oppenh. non Moesch), *Euaspidoceras hypselum* (Opp.), *Pseudowaagenia*, *Epipeltoceras* spp. as well as by a complete disappearance of *Perisphinctes* and other Middle Oxfordian taxa. The mass occurrence of the *Amoeboceras altiviale* group limited to one or two neighbouring layers in the lower part of the Oxfordian is of great importance as that (? single

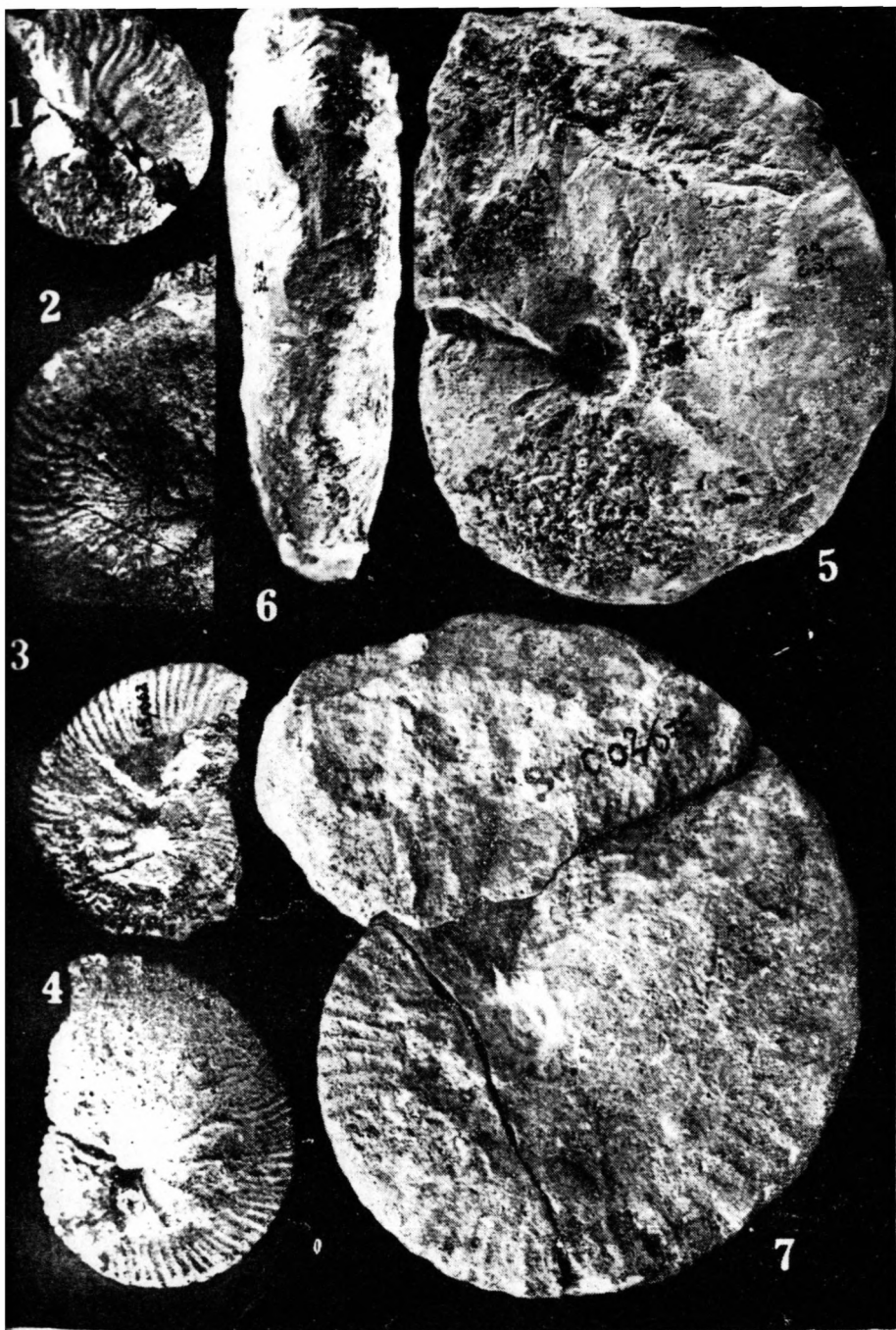


Plate 1. *Taramelliceras* (*Taramelliceras*) *bachianum* (Opp.): 1 — Br. 01-028, Zawodzie (1, bed 18), 'Transversarium' Zone; 2 — Kl 8/x/3, Przybynów (37), Antecedens Zone. *T. (Strebliceras) externodosum* (Dorn): 3 — Br 05/062, Zawodzie (5, bed 39), Bifurcatus Zone, Grossouvrei Subzone. *T. (T.) cf. callicerum* (Opp.): 4 — Br 05/102, Zawodzie (5), Bifurcatus Zone, ? Grossouvrei Subzone. *T. (T.) cf. costatum* (Qu.): 5—6 — Br 23/002, Olsztyn (16), 7 — Br C 02/075, Zawodzie (2, bed 31), Bifurcatus Zone, Stenocycloides and Grossouvrei subzones, respectively

All figures $\times 0.9$

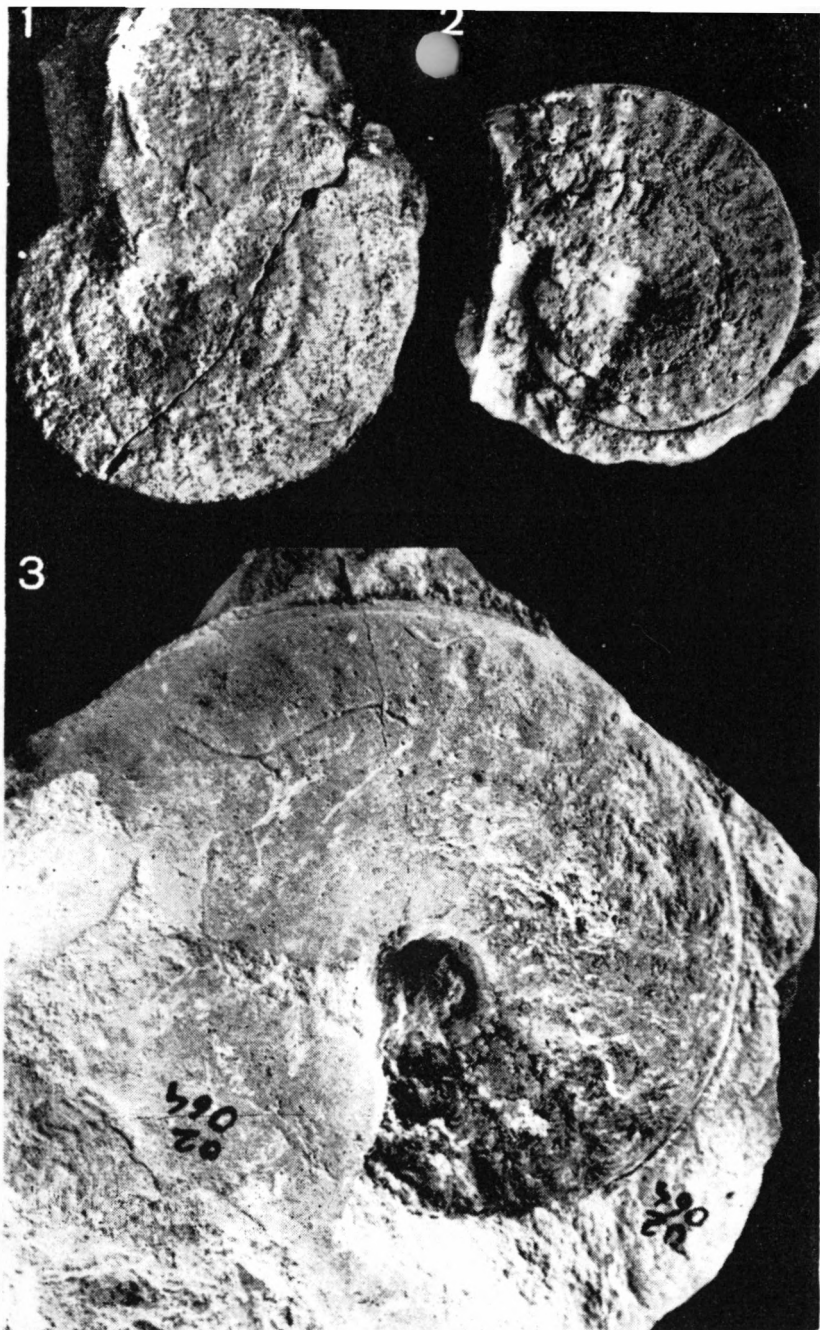
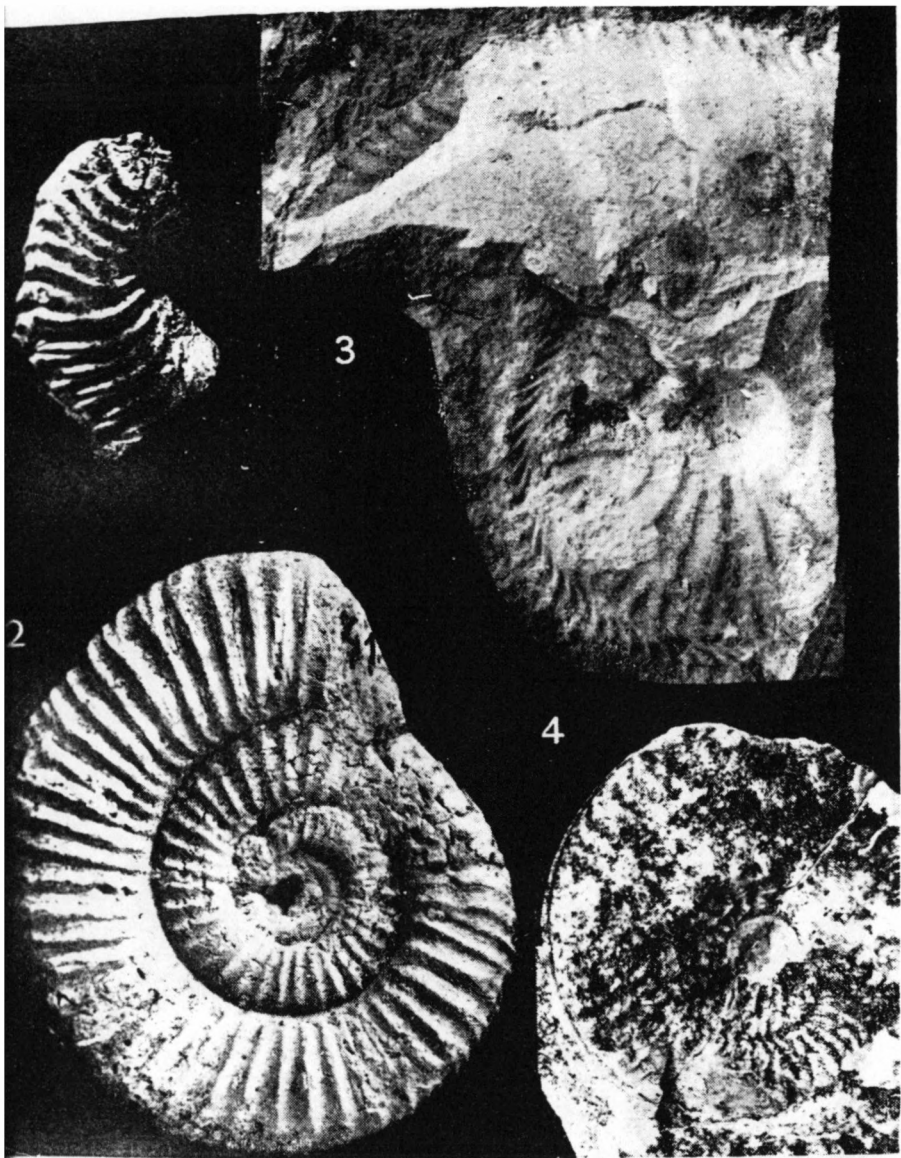


Plate. II. *Neoprioceras lautlingensis* Roll.: 1 — Br 10/43, Mirów (10), Antecedens Zone; Ha 53/2, Biskupice-Kąty (22), Antecedens or Transversarium Zone, 3 — Br 02/064, Zawo (2, bed 20), Transversarium Zone

All figures of natural size



III. *Gregoryceras* sp.: 1 — Br 11/010, Pędziszów (11), Antecedens Zone. *Perisphinctes* (*Diosphinctes*) *rotoides* Ronch.: 2 — Kl 41/x, Żarki (43 or 44), Antecedens Zone, *Rotoides* zone. *Cardioceras* (*Scoticardioceras*) cf. *gallicum* Maire: 3 — Sr 40/02, Żarki (48), ? lower part Antecedens Zone. *Neoprionoceras lautlingensis* Roll.: 4 — Ha 22/103, Biskupice (19), ? *Bimammatum* Zone

All figures $\times 0.9$

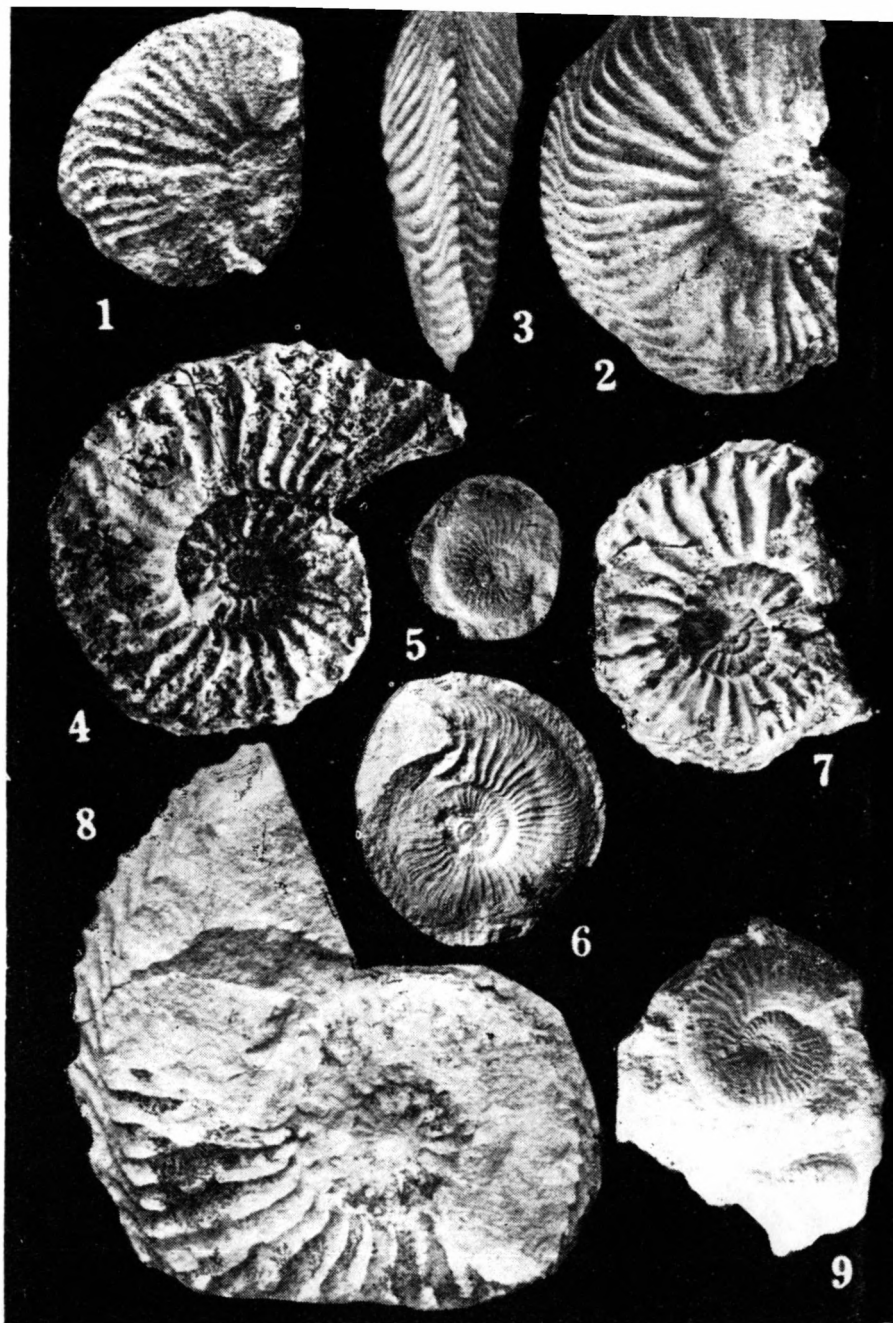
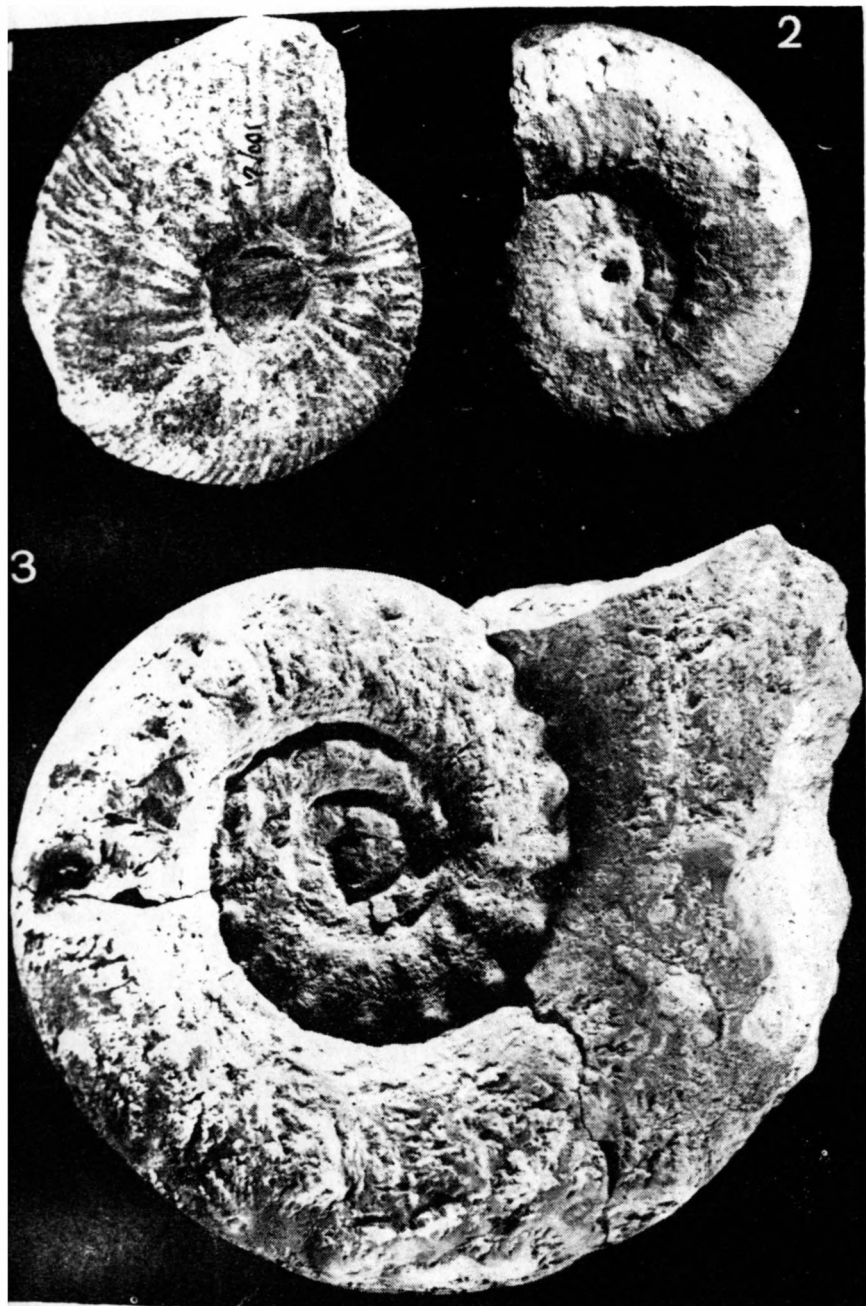


Plate IV. *Goliathiceras* (? *Pachycardioceras*) sp.: 1 — Sr 22/1, Żarki (48), ? lower part of Antecedens Zone. *Cardioceras* (*Scoticardioceras*) cf. *gallicum* Maire: 2—3 — Sr 32/2, same locality. *C. vertebriceras* *zenaidae* Illov.: 4 — Kl 16/11, Żarki (43), 7 — Br 11/017, Prędziszów (11), 8 — Kl 16/2/32, Żarki (44), Antecedens Zone, P. rotoides horizon. *C. (Plasmatoceras) tenuistriatum* (Nik.): 5 — Kl 16/1/11, Żarki (44), age as above. *C. (P.) tenuicostatum* (Nik.): 6 Kl 16/1/34a, Żarki (44), age as above. *Amoeboceras alternans-ovale* gr.: 9 — Br 7/31, Kamyk (7), Bimammatum Subzone



V. *Ringsteadia salfeldi* Dorn: 1 — Br 12/001, Osona (12), Bimammatum Zone, *Pseudowal-
a tietzei* (Neum.) 2 — Ha 22.81, Biskupice (19), age as above. *Euspidoceras sublongispinum*
(Dorn): 3 — Ha 20.55, Biskupice (21), Bifurcatus — ? Bimammatum Zone

All figures of natural size



Plate VI. *Perisphinctes (Arisphinctes) maximus* (Young & Bird), Br 11/027, Prędziszów (11),
cedens Zone, P. rotoides horizon

× 0.75

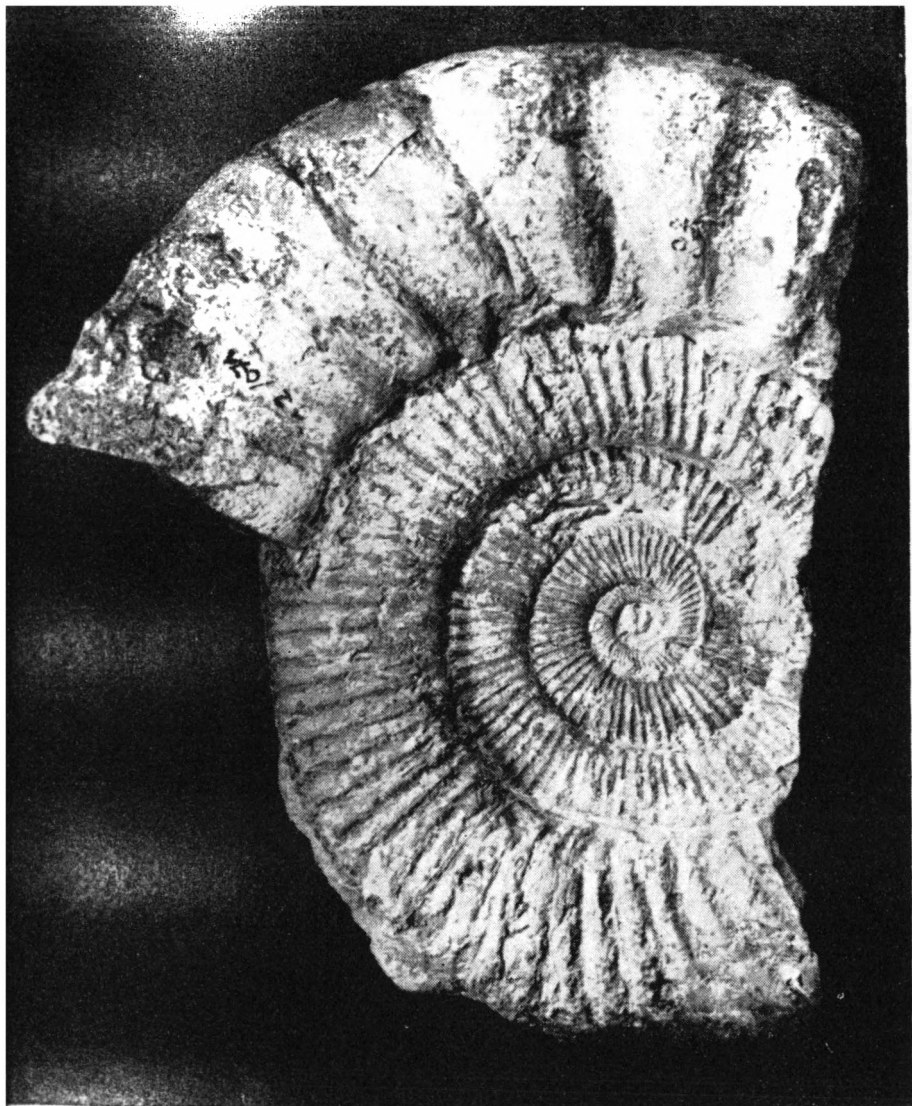


Plate VII. *Perisphinctes* (*Perisphinctes*) cf. *panthieri* Enay. Br 02/071, Zawodzie (5, bed 24), Bifurcatus Zone, *Stenocycloides* horizon

× 0.75

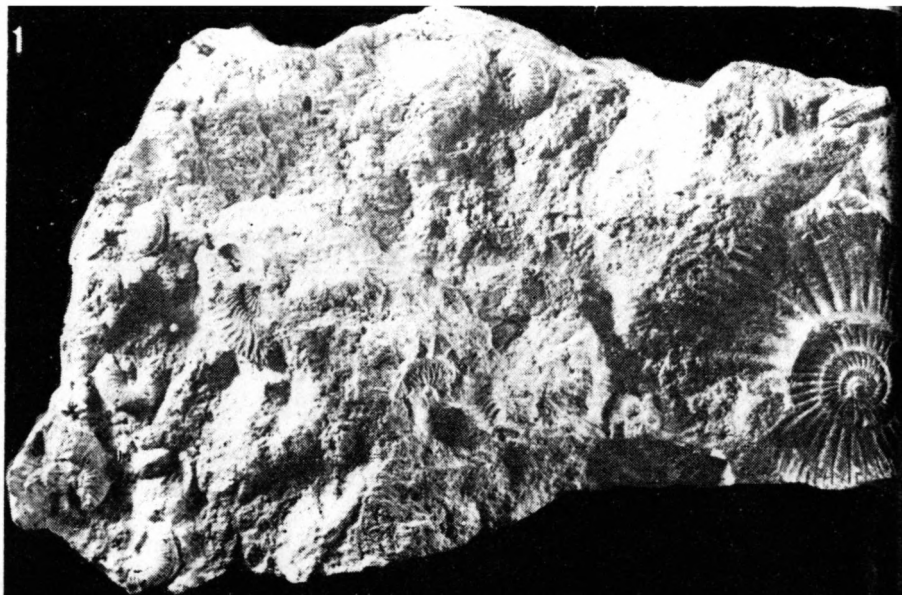
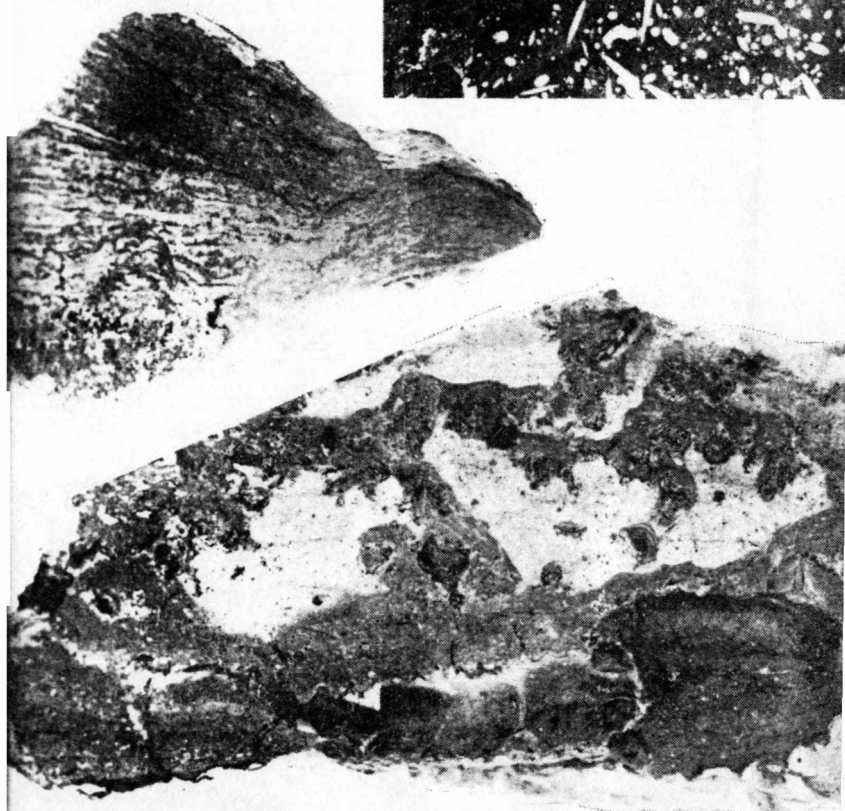
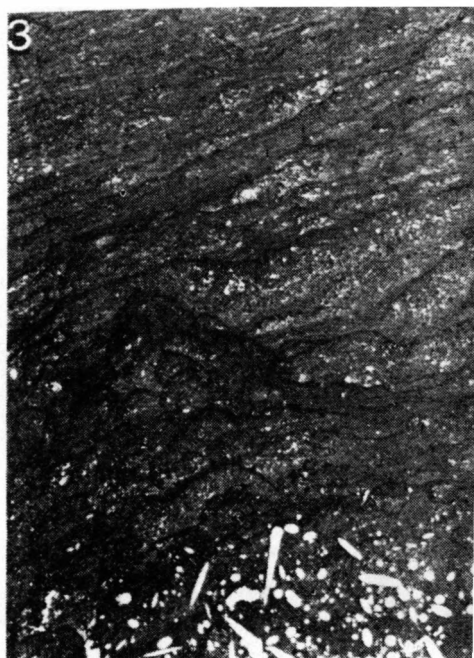
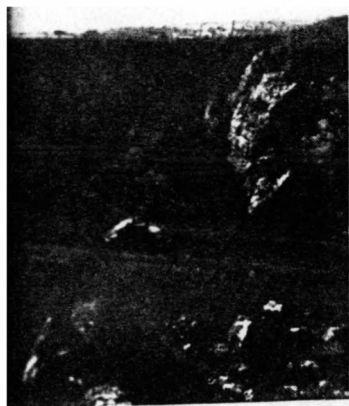


Plate VIII. 1 — limestone slab with about 18 representatives of *Amoeboceras alternans*-group and *Ringsteadia salfeldi* Dorn; Biskupice (27), Bimammatum Zone; $\times 0.6$ *Subdiscosphaera* (*Aureimontanites*) sp., Br 01/002, Tarnobrzeg (2), Transversarium Zone; opposite side of this specimen was figured in Brochwicz-Lewiński [1951], pl. 6 note irregular siliceous concretions penetrating phragmocone: $\times 0.6$



IX. 1 — Massive limestones, northern part of Prędziszów quarry (11). Note large blocks of limestones fallen from opposite wall of quarry. 2 — Subtidal stromatolite from limestone crag shown in Fig. 1. 3 — Thin section through stromatolite from Fig. 2. 4 — Developed on perisphinctid shell and various skeletal fragments, Zawodzie (2, bed 28)

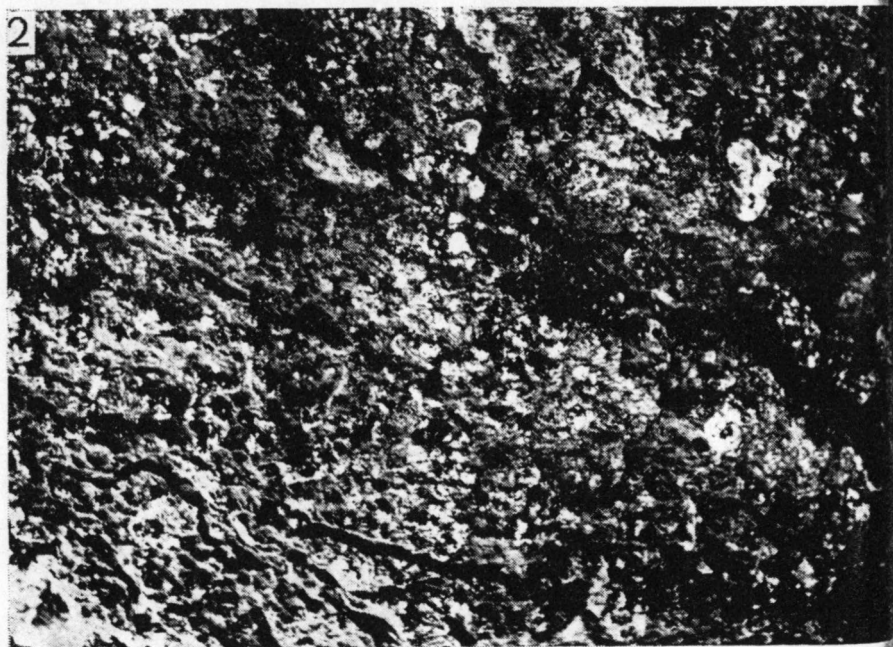


Plate X. 1 — New quarry at Mirów (10); platy limestones exposed on eastern and southern side of quarry and massive limestones in front. Arrowhead indicates top of bed 12. 2 — Top of bed 12, with ammonites and overgrowing oysters *Liostrea sorlinensis* (Lor.), burrows and traces of corrosion

relation of zonal schemes recently proposed for the Oxfordian of Submediterranean and Subboreal Europe

Zone		Poland [6]		France [10, 11, 11]	Poland [Majewski, 1962]
Zone	Subzones	Horizons	Subzones	Zones	Zones
MEIOZOZOIC				PLANULA	PSEUDOCORDATA
TRIFURCATUS				BIMAMMATUM	
TRIFURCATUS				BIFURCATUS	CAUTISNICRAE SI
TRANSVERSARIUM	Nummgl. Parandri		Schilli Parandri	TRANSVERSARIUM	P. WARTAE and A. ALTERNANS
PL. CORDATUS	Antecedens Vertebrale	Buckmani Rotoides		ANTECEDENS	P. CHLOROLITHICUS and C. TENUISERRATUM
CORDATUM				"Tenuicostatum"	C. EXCAVATUM
				CORDATUM	C. BUKOWSKII

are. Oxfordian of Częstochowa area, Polish Jura Chain (outline of outcrops and main lithological types, partly after S. Z. Różycki, Z. Mosoczy, and others)

outcrops of Callovian, 2 — outcrops of Oxfordian; main lithological types: 3 — spongy limestones with marly inclusions, 4 — platy limestones, 5 — massive limestones, 6 — chalky limestones; 7 — quarries; zones and subzones, Oxfordian: C — Cordatum Zone, Tn — Tenuicostatum beds, A — Antecedens Zone, T — Transversarium Zone, Menocycloides Subzone of Bifurcatus Zone, G — Grossouvrei Subzone of Bifurcatus Zone, B — Eimammatum Zone

frequency of *Amoeboceras* (over 80% share in ammonite spectrum) was found several localities.

The "acceleration" of evolution of the ammonites at the Bifurcatus-Bimammatum boundary seems to be related to the trend to an increase of shell size, marked from Bifurcatus-Bimammatum junction beds onwards (see [6]). The differentiation of the fauna is markedly reduced in the uppermost Oxfordian-Lower Kimmeridgian stage with another phase of shell size reduction.

Comparison with other ammonite faunas and zonal schemes. The ammonite sequence discussed above appears generally similar to that found in SE France [11, 13, 14], southern F.R.G. [42], Switzerland [15], Spain [35], Algeria [34], Yugoslavia [30] and northern Caucasus [18]. The ammonite fauna appears to be of Submediterranean type and it seems that the Submediterranean zonal scheme can easily be applied here. It should be noted that the so-called Submediterranean zonation is essentially a further elaboration of Oppel's [24] subdivision of the Jurassic, which was introduced in Poland by Zejszner [43] and accepted by the majority of authors. The subdivision used here is closest to these recently proposed in France [11, 14]. The principal differences between these zonal schemes are connected with the position of the Lower-Middle and Middle-Upper Oxfordian boundaries. The former boundary is delineated at the base of the Tenuicostatum Subzone of the Plicatilis Zone in the scheme proposed by Cariou *et al.* [10] and at the base of the Antecedens Zone (the upper subzone of the Plicatilis Zone of French authors) in the scheme proposed here, i.e. in the same way as in the scheme suggested by Malinowska [23]. The Middle-Upper Oxfordian boundary, delineated by Cariou *et al.* [10] at the base of the Bifurcatus Zone, is here delineated at the base of the Bimammatum Zone after Siemiradzki [37]. It should be noted that the boundaries proposed here coincide with the beginning of the phases of size changes [6, 11].

The pre-Antecedens strata are here roughly subdivided into the Cordatum Zone and the strata bearing an assemblage closer to that of the Tenuicostatum Subzone of the Plicatilis Zone of French authors [10] than to that of the Cordatum or Antecedens Zone. The application of the more detailed subdivisions of these strata [10, 14] is difficult because of the fact that the stratigraphic ranges of the majority of Cardioceratids on which these subdivisions were based appear to be much wider than it had been assumed (see also [45]). It is not excluded that the twofold subdivision of these strata into the *Cardioceras bukowskii* and *C. excavatum* zones of Malinowska [20] will appear the most suitable.

The Polish material suggests a possibility of further subdivision of the Antecedens Zone (i.e. Subzone of French authors [10]) into two horizons: *Perisphinctes rotoides* and *P. buckmani* horizons. The lower, *P. rotoides* horizon is characterized by the small-sized *Perisphinctes (Dichotomosphinctes) rotoides* Ronch. and its allies comparable to the subgenera *Dichotomosphinctes* and *Otosphinctes*, such as e.g. *P. (O.) siemiradzki* Enay, and by *Kranaosphinctes promiscuus* Buk. and other *Kranaosphinctes*, *Arisphinctes* and *Neoprionoceras*. The upper *P. buckmani* horizon is characterized by large to giant *Dichotomosphinctes* including *P. (D.) buckmani* Ark., *P. (D.)*

antecedens Salf. and *P. (D.) dobrogensis* Sim., first *Ochetoceras* and *Globo-*
subclausum (Opp.) and *Proscaphites anar* (Opp.) (see also above). The material available appears insufficient for a subdivision of the Transversarium Zone [10] into subzones, not to mention horizons. In turn, it is possible to treat the horizons of the Bifurcatus Zone [10, 14] as well-established subzones [11]. Differences between the faunal assemblages of these two horizons fully justify it.

The similarity of the Oxfordian ammonite faunas of the Polish Jura Chain and those known from the NW-European, Subboreal province ([16] and others) is often stressed by Malinowska [23]. This similarity is remarkable during the late Oxfordian and early Middle Oxfordian, but from the early Transversarium times the differences increase, the correlation of the Submediterranean and Subboreal zonation is debatable and "the zonal scheme by no means final" in the latter province [287]. On the basis of recent Polish, French and English papers [6, 10, 23, 287] and the author's data the following correlation is possible.

It is highly probable that the lower boundaries of the Pseudocordata and mammatum zones roughly coincide ([19, 41] and Table II herein). The Parandieri Subzone sensu Wright [40, 41] yields *Cardioceras* and the first *Amoeboceras* appears in the Nunningtonense Subzone, the upper subzone of the Transversarium Zone sensu Wright [41]. In turn, in France the first *Amoeboceras* appears in the "gaticeras" doublieri horizon, the basal horizon of the Parandieri Subzone, Transversarium Zone [10, p. 20]. In Poland cardioceratids are extremely scarce in the Transversarium Zone ("Cardioceras gap" [21, 2]), but, nevertheless, the first *Amoeboceras* was found in the body chamber of *Perisphinctes (P.) martelli* (Oppel) from the middle Transversarium Zone — Zawodzie, bed 22, about 6 m above the last *Cardioceras* (bed 12). Although a detailed paleontological study of *Cardioceras* and *Amoeboceras* is still needed, it seems improbable that the centre of evolution and dispersal of the Boreal genus *Amoeboceras* was situated in the Submediterranean province, rather evolved from *Cardioceras* in all, Boreal, Subboreal and Submediterranean regions simultaneously. Therefore it may safely be assumed that the lower boundaries of the Nunningtonense Subzone and Parandieri Subzone sensu Wright *et al.* [10] roughly coincide. Such an interpretation is supported by the fact that the Parandieri Subzone sensu Wright [40, 41] seems to correspond to the upper part (or horizon) of the Antecedens Subzone of French authors or Antecedens Zone as interpreted herein.

In turn, the Transversarium-Bifurcatus boundary (see Table II) is defined by a transition from *Dichotomosphinctes* to *Dichotomoceras*, the latter being characterized by a U-shaped initial part of the rib curve. Such a rib curve is also characteristic of *Perisphinctes (Perisphinctes) variocostatus* (Buckl.) and its allies occurring in the Bifurcatus Zone in France and Poland, but not of *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* An. An index of the Cautisnigrae Zone which has to cover the strata between the Transversarium and Pseudocordata zones in England [41, Table I]. There are no records of the latter species from both the Transversarium and Bifurcatus zones in the Submediterranean region. However, the records of this species from the Bifurcatus Zone are disputable. The specimen from the Bifurcatus Zone, Stenocycloides

of Zawodzie, previously identified as *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark. (see [2], Pl. 5) characterized by a sharp, prominent, loosely spaced ribbing on inner whorls presumably has a U-shaped initial part of the rib curve, typical of other congeneric perisphinctids, and it seems to be closely related to *P. (P.) panthieri*. Similarly, specimens from the upper Bifurcatus Zone in France, identified by Enay ([13], p. 390, Pl. 13, Figs. 2, 3) as *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark., most probably represent a separate species ([23], p. 61) and it may be inferred that Enay himself was not sure about this identification, as they are cited as *P. (P.) aff. cautisnigrae* in explanation to Text-fig. 109 ([13], p. 389). In turn, *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark. described by Malinowska ([23], p. 28, Pl. 11, Figs. 1—3) are actually derived from the Transversarium Zone or Transversarium-Bifurcatus junction beds, as it is indicated by the fauna she cited from the corresponding localities. The true *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark. displays features typical of perisphinctids of the Transversarium Zone, including a steeply rising initial part of the rib-curve, relatively densely-spaced rounded-crested ribs on inner whorls, large size, highly complex suture line. And it seems to be a transition from it to *P. (P.) martelli* Opp. via forms such as those described to *P. (P.) cuneicostatus* Ark. by Malinowska ([22], Pl. XIV). Moreover, *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark. may be an ancestor of *P. (P.) cf. panthieri* Enay, the earliest representative of the *P. variocostatus* group from the base of the Bifurcatus Zone. *Perisphinctes (P.) panthieri polonicus* Malin. ([23], Pl. 10) and *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* in [6], Pl. IV, Fig. 3 may represent a transition between the two species ([23]). It may be concluded that *P. (P.) cautisnigrae* Ark. and other Transversarium-type perisphinctids are replaced by the *P. variocostatus* group long before the base of the Bimammatum (=Pseudocordata) Zone. There is no unequivocal evidence that the former lived longer in the Subboreal province. Thus, similarly as in the case of the *Cardioceras-Amoeboceras* change, it may be assumed that the *P. variocostatus* group appeared in both Submediterranean and Subboreal areas simultaneously.

To sum up, it may be tentatively assumed that the Transversarium Zone sensu Enay *et al.* [10] is an equivalent of the English Nunningtonense Subzone of the Transversarium Zone and the Cautisnigrae Zone, delineated from below by the *Cardioceras-Amoeboceras* boundary and from above by the appearance of the *Perisphinctes variocostatus* group and *Dichotomoceras*. Therefore, the Parandieri Zone sensu Wright [40, 41] most probably roughly corresponds to the upper part of the Antecedens Zone as interpreted here. There remains the problem of the Polish equivalent of the Bifurcatus Zone. Wright [41] rejected the Decipiens Zone, so perhaps the Variocostatus Zone is the best solution? The Cautisnigrae Zone sensu Wright [41] is an alternative solution but it should be remembered that the Submediterranean equivalent to the Nunningtonense-Cautisnigrae boundary is not known at present and that these two units, Nunningtonense Subzone and Cautisnigrae Zone, would then correspond to the Transversarium and Bifurcatus zones and their subzones. Hence the latter solution would create a serious obstacle in the correlation of events between the two provinces. It should be noted here that Wright [41] proposing his Cautisnigrae Zone in place of the former Cautisnigrae

and Decipiens Zones sensu Arkell independently followed Malinowska [*Perisphinctes chloroolithicus* & *Cardioceras tenuiserratum* Zone of Malinowska] may safely be interpreted as an equivalent of the Antecedens Zone and what is used is a matter of convention. The situation is more complex in the case of the two upper zones of Malinowska. It follows from the above discussion that the *sphinctes* (*Dichotomosphinctes*) *wartae* Buk. and *Amoeboceras* almost simultaneously appear at the base of the Transversarium Zone as interpreted here. More is known that *P.* (*Dichotomosphinctes*) *wartae* Buk. most probably evolved from (*Dichotomosphinctes*) *antecedens* Salf. and gave rise to the *P.* (*Dichotomosphinctes*) *bifurcatoides-stenocycloides* group, typical of the lower part of the Bifurcatus Zone [6, 11]. Hence, it is possible to carry out the stratigraphical subdivision of a large part of the Oxfordian on the basis of the *Dichotomosphinctes*→*Dichotomosphinctes* evolutionary series. It should be mentioned here that the existence of an evolutionary series of *P. wartae* was suggested by Różycki ([31], p. 30). Therefore it is suggested that the Wartae Zone could be distinguished for both paleontological and stratigraphical reasons. However, the *P. wartae* & *A. alternans* Zone, as interpreted by Malinowska [22, 23], overlaps with the Cautisnigrae Zone herein sensu Malinowska and some ammonites typical of the Bimammatum Zone (and thus of the *cordata* Zone) were even cited by Malinowska as occurring in the *P. wartae* & *A. alternans* Zone ([44] p. 378). It is concluded that the *P. wartae* Zone would be an excellent stratigraphic unit if it were accepted that its upper boundary is defined by the lower boundary of the Bifurcatus Zone, Stenocycloides Subzone. In the case of the Cautisnigrae Zone should not be distinguished in Poland because its status is disputable, as shown above.

To sum up, there is no trouble with the application of the Submediterranean zonal scheme in the Polish Jura Chain, whereas the application of the NW-E (Subboreal) zonal scheme appears difficult, especially in the case of the Middle and Upper Oxfordian. This is not surprising, as the latter scheme is a subject of controversy because of the insufficient and still poorly known material on which it is based.

The paper is based on a doctoral thesis prepared at the Faculty of Geology, Warsaw University, under the guidance of J. Kutek and reviewed by L. Maliński and H. Makowski. Warm thanks are due to H. Callomon, E. Cariou, R. Enay, Gygi, W. C. Kowalski, J. Liszkowski, K. Pożaryska, Z. Różak, I. Sapuñe, Sequeiros, H. Tintant, A. Wierzbowski, A. Zeiss and B. Ziegler for fruitful discussions and comments and advice.

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Содержание. Анализ богатых сообществ аммонитов позволил расчленить оксфорд ностей Ченстоховы согласно модифицированной схеме подразделения оксфорда с терранского типа. Субгоризонт *Antecedens* горизонта *plicatilis* считается самостоятeльнoм горизонтом, и у его основания проведено границу между нижним и средним оксфoрдoм. Горизонт *Bifurcatus* подразделен на два субгоризонта: *Stenocycloide* и *Gros-Seuvtel*. Показано, что нижний предел этого горизонта совпадает с нижней границей верхнего ооксфорда. Выделенные здесь границы между нижним и средним, а также средним и верхним оксфoрдoм совпадают с началом последовательных циклов изменений величины аммонитов. Для того предложено модифицированную корреляцию подразделения оксфорда в суббoльшой (СЗ-европейской) и субмедитерранской провинциях.