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REVISION OF THE GENUS ODONTOPTERIS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIAN OF
NORTH AMERICA.

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Of the 190 species of Odontopteris listed in the Fossilium Catalogus 59 have been reported from the Pennsylvanian of North America or used as manuscript names in collections. A revision of the genus based on all publications and all accessible specimens shows that 10 names are invalid, 16 forms were erroneously assigned to the genus Odontopteris, 9 "species" represent anomalous forms of the Neuropteris scheuchzeri group, 7 names were used but specimens with the characters of these species have NOT been found in North America, and in 7 species the specimens are so fragmentary that they have to be considered dubious. Of the remaining 10 species two are synonyms of other occurring species, and one has to be transferred to the genus Gondomaria which is morphologically quite similar to Odontopteris. The most common species of Odontopteris in North America is O. schlotheimii (= O. osmundaeformis). Biostratigraphical and biological conclusions concerning the genus Odontopteris make sense only after the removal of the extraneous data mentioned above.

PS: The assignement of one species to Gondomaria was based mainly on the presence of a midvein. Later we discovered that this "midvein" is a preservational feature in the species under consideration and we include it now in Odontopteris.