

## **Berthold Hatschek and his forgotten manuscript „Vergleichende Osteologie der Wirbeltiere“ (Comparative Osteology of Vertebrates)**

**Sabine Hindinger**

sabine.hindinger@gmx.at

*Diploma student*

*Advisor: Manfred Walzl*

*Department of Integrative Zoology, University of Vienna*

Berthold Hatschek, who studied at the University of Vienna (1872-1875), became Head of the Second Zoological Institute at the University of Vienna in 1896. His famous *Trochophora Theory* and his studies on amphioxus' development are still highly relevant in modern zoological society, especially in the field of comparative invertebrate morphology. However, hardly anyone is familiar with Berthold Hatschek's studies on comparative vertebrate morphology. By accident, several photographic plates documenting parts of Hatschek's work on comparative anatomy of acipenser skulls and various handwritings were found among the scientific heritage of his student and later Head of the Department of Morphology, Wilhelm Marinelli.

In the course of our research in cooperation with the Zoological Collection of the University of Vienna (ZCUV) we found out that the figures of Hatschek's studies on Comparative Osteology on Vertebrates have never been published, because he destroyed the completed manuscript entitled "Vergleichende Osteologie der Wirbeltiere" in a moment of doubt and depression. Yet, the figures of the destroyed work have been conserved on photographic plates of which we found 28 references in the index card system of the ZCUV and 13 respective photographic plates in the ZCUV. Nevertheless, comparing handwritten texts found in Marinelli's heritage and documents written by Hatschek himself could not provide any evidence of having ever been part of the destroyed manuscript. In a further step we are planning to search the ZUV for preserved specimen, which could have potentially been models of the found figures in Hatschek's manuscript. Furthermore, the ZCUV wants to create an online platform allowing to publish the identified figures found, the references of the index card system and further information on Berthold Hatschek's work.