Correction to: In search of historical roots of the extraterrestrial impact theory, II: Two unknown German pioneers from the 1850s, Ludwig Pfeil and Karl Reichenbach

Grzegorz Racki¹ · Christian Koeberl² · Michał Michalak¹

Published online: 10 December 2021
© Geologische Vereinigung e.V. (GV) 2021

Correction to:
International Journal of Earth Sciences (2021) 110:
1109–1115
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00531-021-02004-0>

Due to erroneous information in the pictorial material available on the Internet in 2019–2020, a major amendment for Fig. 1 is required. The alleged portrait of count Ludwig von Pfeil, a land-owner from Lower Silesia, actually depicts Fürst (prince) Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher (<https://www.alamy.de/fotos-bilder/prinz-bl%C3%BCcher.html?blackwhite=1>), Prussian field marshal, a hero of the Napoleonic Wars (also related with Lower Silesia)! Fortunately, the quoted source of this image – “Illustrierte Zeitung” from 1856—was digitized by the Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek in 2021 (<https://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=izl>). Thus, we can now exhibit lithographic likeness of true Ludwig Pfeil, an unknown German pioneer of the extraterrestrial impact theory.

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00531-021-02004-0>.

✉ Grzegorz Racki
racki@us.edu.pl

¹ Faculty of Earth Sciences, University of Silesia, ul. Będzińska 60, 41-200 Sosnowiec, Poland

² Department of Lithospheric Research, University of Vienna, Althanstrasse, 1090 Vienna, Austria

Fig. 1 Ludwig Pfeil [born in Pilgramsdorf (Pielgrzymka, Złotoryja district, modern Poland), 19 March 1803; died in Hirschberg (Jelenia Góra, modern Poland), 1 January 1896]. His full name and titles were Carl Friedrich Ludwig Fabian von Pfeil-Burghauss or von Pfeil und Klein-Ellguth, the count and laird of the land estate Lasaan (=Łažany) in Lower Silesia, hereditary member of the Prussian

manor house and of the House of Representatives of the Prussian State Parliament. He was a conservative politician, publicist and naturalist (portrait from “Illustrierte Zeitung”, 26, 1856, p. 412). Shown is the title page of his provocative essay from 1854 (note a motto from Alexander Humboldt’s ‘Kosmos’)