

of the character of that remarkable fossil, have been fully confirmed by the greatest living authority on the group of animals to which the specimens were assigned, and that this great discovery has been accepted as an unquestioned fact by all the leading minds in Geology.

Before leaving this part of our work, it is proper to state that the utility of our collection to students of Geology and Mineralogy has been much increased by the arrangement and display of our specimens of fossils, rocks and minerals, through the exertions of Mr. Whiteaves, aided by other members of the Society.

Among the numerous papers received on Zoölogy, Botany and Physical Geography, I may, without attempting any detailed notices, mention those of Mr. Jones on Ocean Drift, and on the fishes of Nova Scotia, communicated to our Journal by the Natural History Society of New Brunswick; of Mr. J. G. Bowles on *Pieris rapæ*; of Dr. Bowerbank on Canadian Sponges; of Prof. Brunet on the Travels of Michaux; of Prof. Lawson, Prof. Eaton, and Mr. McCord on Canadian Ferns; of Mr. Drummond on the Geographical Botany of Canada; of Hon. Mr. Sheppard on Canadian Timber trees; of Mr. Vennor on the Night Heron; of Mr. Whiteaves on Canadian Mammals; of Mr. Ritchie on the structure of Insects; and lists of plants of various localities in Canada contributed by Dr. Thomas, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Macoun, and other botanists. We owe also to the gentlemen of the Entomological club our cordial thanks for the generous donations which have filled our cabinet of insects with one of the most valuable collections of entomological specimens as yet accumulated in this city.

It is proper, on this occasion, to congratulate the Society on the completion of the first series of its Journal, the Canadian Naturalist, and on the commencement of the second volume of a new and improved series. The inception of the Canadian Naturalist is due to our colleague Mr. Billings, the palæontologist of the Canadian Survey; and the first volume was ably sustained by his unaided exertions. Adopted by the Natural History Society in 1857, it has now entered on its tenth year of publication, and contains in the volume already published a mass of information on the Natural