

of the State of Illinois, authorized and provided for by the Legislature in 1885, and will be prepared under the direction of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History.

In the autumn of 1890, the Editor had an opportunity of visiting Champaign, and was kindly shown over the entomological and botanical laboratories by Professors Forbes and Burrill, and is therefore able to form some idea of the excellent methods of work adopted at the University of Illinois, in the branches of research over which these gentlemen preside.

Having no doubt that some account of this splendid addition to the facilities for the prosecution of good natural history work in North America would be of interest to our readers, the editor wrote to Prof. Forbes, asking him to give some data concerning the Institution itself, and the dedicatory ceremonies. In reply to this request the following letter was received :

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS, U.S.A., November 18th, 1892.

Your kind note and the copy of the "OTTAWA NATURALIST" were duly received and especially appreciated. I am pleased that you thought of making some mention of our new building, and take pleasure in giving you such particulars as it seems to me you are most likely to want to use.

The building was put up at an expense of \$70,000, exclusive of furnishing, appropriated by the State Legislature. It is 134 feet in length by 94 in width, and three stories in height above the basement. There is a spacious, well-lighted central hall, around which on all sides are situated laboratories, lecture rooms, closets, store rooms, and dark rooms, a full series for each department.

As an example of the arrangement and equipment of this building a general description may be given of the provision for zoology. The students' laboratories in this department are three in number on the first floor—for elementary, advanced, and postgraduate work respectively. In the first, table room is given for thirty students: in the second, for sixteen; and in the last, for ten. Adjoining the first is the private laboratory of the Assistant in Zoology, and next this the lecture room. Directly over the Assistant's laboratory is that of the Professor