

short distance away and at a lower elevation were very much smaller. It would appear from this that the decrease in size toward the north is not constant and cannot be altogether dependent on climatic conditions.

The light-coloured variety of the Mountain Sheep ranges along the Rocky Mountains from the Arctic Ocean southward, so I am informed, to the great break in the chain through which the Liard flows (Lat. $59^{\circ} 30'$ N.). It is also found on all the higher mountain ranges of Alaska and the adjacent part of the North-Western Territory of Canada. It is not found east of the Rocky Mountains nor does it occur, according to the information I obtained from fur traders and others, in the continuation of the Rocky Mountains south of the Liard.

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NATURAL SCIENCE IN ILLINOIS.

The opening of the Natural History Hall of the University of Illinois, at Champaign, Ill., on 16th November last, shows the high appreciation of Economic Science in the Western States, where the "making of money" is supposed to be the sole consideration of all classes of society.

The building and equipment of such an Institution as is described below, proves that if even the most abstruse scientific investigations can only be shown to be of public utility, the necessary money will be forthcoming for their prosecution. This Natural History Hall may be considered to be a monument to Prof. S. A. Forbes, the eminent State Entomologist of Illinois, to whose unceasing and well directed efforts its completion is so largely due. Prof. Forbes is too well known as an accomplished investigator in various fields of Natural History, to make a detailed notice of his work necessary here. He was appointed to his present position in 1882, and, in addition to his official reports as State Entomologist, has issued many valuable papers in scientific publications. His studies of the food habits of birds and fishes are of the highest merit. He is now engaged in the preparation of the second volume of the Ornithology of Illinois. Part I, already issued, is a Descriptive Catalogue (520 pages, 33 plates), by Dr. Robert Ridgway; Part II, Economic Ornithology, will be the work of Prof. Forbes. These volumes are the first of a series on the Zoology and Cryptogamic Botany