

INTRODUCTION.

THIS work is designed to aid the student in getting a clear idea of the animal kingdom, as a whole, by the careful study of a few typical animals.

Most of the animals selected are abundant in the interior States, and are easily collected.

These guides to the study of animals have been used several years, and put into the hands of each pupil, together with the specimens themselves.

The general plan of study is as follows:—

1. Directions are given for collecting and preserving the specimens.
2. The live animal is studied.
3. The external features are noted.
4. The animal is dissected.
5. The development of a few forms is traced.
6. After studying each animal, its relations to other animals are considered (classification).

The aim is, not to describe for the student, thus robbing him of the opportunity to develop his own powers of description, but to name the parts, telling merely enough to enable him to recognize and apply the names to them. This makes a real connection between words and things.

It is thought best for the student to make many of the definitions for himself. A definition, thought out by the