

The treatise above entitled is divided into three main sections. The *first* consists of introductory matter which furnishes a brief account of the literature of Vertebrate Zoology from the earliest times to the present—from the writings of ancient and medieval zoologists, Aristotle, Pliny the Second, Dioscorides, Averroës, *et al* to the more important treatises and monographs on ornithology, mammalogy, ichthyology, herpetology, and amphibiology of the twentieth century. Included are general treatises and numerous periodicals and serials, monographs on vertebrate palaeontology, zoogeography, ecology, psychology, bionomics, experimental zoology, &c., likely to interest the advanced student and the librarian.

Brief descriptions are also given of Natural History Societies, Museums, and Zoological Stations throughout the world; travelogues of naturalists; drawings of animal painters and illustrators, more than 5000 originals of which are in the McGill libraries.

It is hoped that *physicians* and *medical* libraries will find the work useful. As is well known, not only were the majority of ancient and medieval writers on natural history physicians, but many modern treatises on comparative and systematic zoology are the products of medical men.

The *second* section of this *Introduction* is an arrangement of the Library Contents (on Vertebrate Zoology) in both chronological and geographical order so that a work on any desired subject can be quickly found and delivered to the student by the librarian.

The *third* section is the largest and most valuable for both the research student and the librarian—a partially annotated *Catalogue* of the vertebrate zoological items in all the University libraries, forming a very large selection of important works on that vast subject.

The McGill libraries are particularly rich in incunabula and other fundamental treatises on vertebrate zoology, as will be seen by consulting Chapter xix, page 127, in which a number of rare and unique items are briefly described.

It may here be added that with the continual additions to the various University Libraries the collections now approach a total of 400,000 volumes.