

tainty, a pen and ink label on white paper has been permanently attached, but where the identification is doubtful, the name and locality of the species is only written in pencil on the blue tablet. Of those mounted permanently the following is a general analysis:

411 species are marine gasteropods (univalve).

Over 300 species are land or fresh water gasteropods.

324 species are lamellibranchiate bivalves.

Referring only to that part of my collection at present in Canada, and omitting fossils entirely, one thousand species being mounted, I should estimate the remainder unmounted at about 2500 species.

With regard to the scientific arrangement to be ultimately adopted, there are some difficulties in the way. Dr. Woodward's manual, though excellent as far as it goes, represents only the state of our knowledge of the subject some fifteen or twenty years ago. On the other hand the Messrs. H. & A. Adams and Dr. Gray in their elaborate treatises unfortunately disregard the well-known and well-established laws of zoological nomenclature. In the meantime, until the whole collection is mounted, the arrangement is one of mere convenience. In mounting my own shells, all the duplicates are put into the Society's collection, and in this way over fifty species have been added.

It is hoped that the duties of Secretary have been efficiently attended to; as in past years copies of our proceedings have been sent to the leading English Journals, in whose columns they have been reprinted.

The delays that have arisen in regard to the issue of the *Canadian Naturalist*, have been partly due to the printer, and in a large measure to the difficulty of getting a sufficient amount of original matter in time.

I have to regret also the somewhat large number of typographical errors in the present volume, over and above those which are almost unavoidable except by a proof-reader of great experience. The work of editing the Journal has led this year to a much larger amount of general correspondence than last, and has of course taken up time that would otherwise have been devoted to work in the Museum. Under many disadvantages and difficulties, and with many deficiencies and shortcomings to regret, it is yet hoped that the work done during the past session has not been altogether barren of results but that it may have tended in some small degree to help to popularize the study of the natural sciences in the city.

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