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The author is fully aware of the many omissions and imperfections which must of necessity exist in a work of this kind, in consequence of the limited time at his disposal for reference and research, and he hopes that the attempt may stimulate some abler hand to complete the task.

If it should prove of assistance to the veterinary student in commencing the consideration of an important and often difficult subject, and thus indirectly serve the profession even to a slight degree, the author will feel that, his efforts have been amply rewarded.

18, Cook Street, Cork, December, 1894.