

THE
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I. INTRODUCTION.

THE CANADIAN NATURALIST, of which the present journal is a continuation, first appeared in February, 1856, under the title of *The Canadian Naturalist and Geologist*, with the name of E. Billings as editor, and was published at Montreal, bi-monthly. After the first year there was added to its title the words, "*and Proceedings of the Natural History Society of Montreal*," it being at the same time announced that it was conducted by a committee of this Society, Mr. Billings remaining one of the editors.

Of this, the first series of the journal, eight volumes appeared, the last in 1863. In 1864 began a new series with the same title as before, still published bi-monthly and conducted by a committee of the Natural History Society, Mr. D. A. P. Watt being the general editor. In 1866 only two numbers of volume III. were published, and but one in 1867, the remaining three numbers appearing in 1868; so that this volume extends over the three years 1866-1868, though the journal still purported to be bi-monthly. With volume IV. the title was changed to that of *The Canadian Naturalist and Quarterly Journal of Science*. This volume was