

Geological Survey Department.

In Zoology, 462 specimens of birds and small mammals, from Indian Head, Assiniboia, have been received from Mr. W. Spreadborough. During the past year, Mr. S. Herring, the taxidermist to the Survey, has mounted nine specimens of mammals, eighty-three of birds and two of turtles, but most of these are intended for the Banff Museum. He has also cleaned and numbered the whole of the mounted specimens of mammals and birds in the cases in the Museum. The skin of the Pacific Walrus, referred to in last year's report, has been skilfully mounted at Prof. Ward's Natural Science Establishment at Rochester, N. Y., and is now on exhibition in the Museum. Among the more interesting specimens of native mammalia and birds received during the year are a magnificent example of the Wood Buffalo (*Bison Americanus*, var.) from the District of Athabasca or its vicinity, presented by Warburton Pike, Esq., the only specimen of the kind known to be preserved in any museum, and a pair of Whooping Cranes (*Grus Canadensis*) from near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. While attending the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in August last, at Rochester, N. Y., Prof. Ward's establishment was frequently visited and numerous specimens of interest (especially a skeleton of the Bald Eagle and one of the Great Blue Heron) were secured for the museum of the Survey, either by purchase or in exchange.

During part of the time that the director was absent from Ottawa, on field work, the duties of acting director have devolved upon me and, in addition to the correspondence entailed thereby, about 150 official letters have been received and the same number, many of them of the nature of reports, written.

Mr. Weston reports that since the 15th of January last, most of his time has been devoted to museum work in the palæontological and archaeological divisions. He has arranged and classified many new specimens and incorporated them into their proper positions in the cases. He has labelled and developed many fossils for study and exhibition, and has superintended the mounting of various specimens. He has also prepared and examined many microscopical sections of rocks and fossils. During the months of July and August he spent a short time at Baie St. Paul, collecting specimens of garnetiferous gneiss, which were wanted for college collections, and obtained an interesting series of fossils from the Trenton rocks of the vicinity, among which are several species new to this locality. Part of these months were spent with Dr. Selwyn in investigating several features of the geology at and around Quebec City. Most of the exposures were examined and the details of their structure worked out. Dr. Selwyn and Mr. Weston succeeded in obtaining from the Mountain Hill escarpment, several species of fossils which have not previously been recorded from these rocks.

Dr. Henry M. Ami reports that during the earlier months of the year, as well as during the last two months of the same, his time was chiefly occupied in examining and determining the species of fossils from various collections in different provinces of the Dominion, which were entrusted to him. These organic remains range from the Cambrian to the Post-Tertiary. The intervening summer months, with the exception of four days spent at the meeting of the Geological Society of America, held at Rochester, N. Y., were chiefly devoted to the classification and arrangement of duplicates and to the preparation of collections for educational institutions. Of these the largest sent was a systematic collection of fossils which contained four hundred and sixty-six specimens of one hundred and fifty different species from various formations in Canada. This collection was labelled and forwarded to the Biological Department of the University at Toronto, Ont. Another collection of sixty-five specimens of Mesozoic and Tertiary fossils, was sent to the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton. These were duly acknowledged by the authorities concerned.

Classified lists of fossils were prepared for the field geologists from whose collections the specimens were identified, as follows:—for Dr. R. W. Ells—lists from Lot 20, R. VI., Stanbridge; Clarenceville; one-half mile E. of Lacolle; Missisquoi Bay south of Phillipsburg, Phillipsburg, Mystic, all in the province of Quebec; and of another exten-