

PREFACE.

This volume is fourth and last of a descriptive catalogue of the fishes and fish-like vertebrates of North and Middle America. Part I, *Branchiostomatidae* to *Priacanthidae* inclusive (pp. 1 to 1240), was published October 3, 1896; Part II, *Lutjanidae* to *Cephalicanthidae* inclusive (pp. 1241 to 2183), was published October 3, 1898; Part III, *Callionymidae* to *Ogcocephalidae* inclusive, including also "Addenda," an "Artificial Key to the Families of the True Fishes," a "Glossary of Technical Terms," and an "Index" complete for Parts I, II, and III (pp. 2183a to 3136), was published November 28, 1898; and Part IV, the present volume, appears on June 26, 1900.

Since the publication of Part III, investigations by Dr. Jordan, in Mexico, and by Dr. Evermann, in Puerto Rico, have added greatly to our knowledge of the fishes of those regions, and have made it desirable to incorporate in the present volume still further addenda.

Recent studies by Dr. Günther, of certain Linnaean types, show that some changes in nomenclature are necessary, which are also included.

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