

study of Nature, to become contributors to scientific knowledge ;—to assist in determining the range of species, and to call attention to hitherto undescribed forms.

There may be branches of Natural History in which the advances already made, as well as the extent and general interest of the subjects, would warrant the publication of volumes specially dedicated to their illustration. I have already announced my desire, restrained only by necessary considerations of prudence, of publishing from materials now in my hands, a *Flora Canadensis*, the utility of which I think cannot be doubtful ; though no one can be more conscious than I am how much remains to be done in the way of diligent herborisation throughout all parts of the Province, and it is in promoting this interesting labour, that I think the work I propose would be especially useful. The birds which annually visit us are beginning to be well known. We have public and private museums of considerable richness. A French-Canadian gentleman—M. Lemaire—has published in his own language, a good popular account of them, which has met with well-deserved success ; and we know that he has proposed to our highly-valued friend, T. W. Cottle, Esq., of Woodstock,—whom nobody excels in a familiar practical acquaintance with the birds of Canada,—to translate his work into English, with such modifications as his own judgment might suggest ; thus producing an Ornithological manual for Canadians using the English language, which could not fail of giving a great impulse to this attractive branch of Zoology. Even our own means, from the extensive collection of the University, aided by local catalogues and occasional notices, would enable us to do much in relation to the birds of Canada, and we may possibly attempt a sketch of their arrangement ; but for particulars respecting species, their distinctions, and their habits, we should gladly come as learners to such an authority as we have named, and we earnestly hope that he will be induced to engage in the undertaking we have referred to. We could easily name a friend who possesses admirable materials for working out several of the more difficult orders of Canadian Insecta ; and there are not wanting considerable materials for the illustration of the land and fresh-water Mollusca. How far it may seem expedient to proceed with these papers we cannot yet judge ; but the following fragment relating to Neuropterous Insects will at least shew what we propose, and what means are at our disposal for working out our plan.

The great class *Insecta*, includes articulate animals with jointed