PREFACE.

equally valuable discipline—the tracing of the modifications of form throughout less nearly allied groups. A good deal of space has, accordingly, been devoted to this aspect of Zoology, although other aspects which may excite the interest of the young student have not been neglected. For example, the chapters on the Reptiles and Birds give prominence to the remarkable geological history of these classes ; that on the Mammals, to the correlation of form and habit in the group ; while the last chapter aims at showing the connection of the various subdivisions of zoological study.

Experience alone will show, what form zoological instruction in the Secondary Schools ought to assume, so as not to interfere with other departments of study: the text-books on the "type-system" seemed to be too advanced for the present purpose, and also not to afford as wide an acquaintance with the forms of Animal Life as is 'esirable, while many elementary, systematic text-books prepared for school use do ret demand the actual examination of types, so necessary for the formation of clear conceptions. It is hoped that the present volume which endeavors to combine the advantages of both systems may prove adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

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TORONTO, July, 1889.