

DOCUMENTS

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grateful acknowledgments as well for the uniform kindness with which I have been received, as for the valuable information and assistance which has been rendered to the work in progress, by the citizens of our state.

DOUGLASS HOUGHTON.

State Geologist.

DOCUMENTS.

(No. 1.)

Report of Doct. Abm. Sager, Zoologist of Geological Survey.

Detroit, January 12, 1839.

To DOUGLASS HOUGHTON, State Geologist.

SIR—In conformity to the provisions of an act approved March 22, 1838, providing for a geological survey of the state, the undersigned respectfully submits the following report of the progress made in the zoological department.

Previous to submitting the result of the investigation in this department during the past year, permit me, for the satisfaction of those whose liberality and zeal for the interest of our state authorized the survey, to present a condensed view of the objects and anticipated results of the investigation in this department.

To investigate as far as practicable the mode of existence, the relative position, office and influence in the sentient organic world of every animal native to our state, from the insect of ephemeral existence, the worm that wends its way darkling through a brief and simple life, to the quadruped of most varied and complicated structure and functions, more especially their relation to and influence, either direct and obvious, or indirect, upon the interest and happiness of man: operating by the development of our intellectual and moral natures, and ministering to our physical necessities,—to ascertain if possible the means of rendering them directly subservient to our interests and avert the evils arising from an excessive development of the species,—to collect, preserve and systematically arrange, in order to display affinities of structure, specimens of every species, and materials illustrative of their habits and instincts, the whole with a view to excite and disseminate a taste for the interesting and important study of zoology:—These appear to have been the objects contemplated by the legislature that framed and enacted the bill authorizing the investigation.

It must be obvious to every reflecting mind, that no well directed or availing efforts can be made, either to improve the advantages or avert the evils growing out of our connection with

the animal world, without an intimate acquaintance with their structure, capabilities and habits. Destitute of this knowledge, we but strike in the dark, and are more likely to impair than promote our interests.

It will be seen at a glance that the subject is of vast extent; and surely if the study of the phenomena of the inorganic world, with a view to determine its general laws, of which to avail ourselves to advance our interest, is worthy of encouragement as of last importance, not less so are those manifold and varied manifestations of the Infinite that constitute the phenomena of the organic world, and the proper study of the Botanist and Zoologist. Nor should we anticipate less important results when those studies have been prosecuted to the educing those general principles that rule the organic creation, than we already derive from an acquaintance with those by which the inorganic world is directed and governed. As intellectual pursuits, in moral interest and sublimity, they do not concede the palm of superiority to any other subjects whatever. Surely the mind that can view from the pinnacle of the temple of science, at a glance, the whole organic world outspread beneath him, can comprehend its vast and intricate machinery, and behold it moving by a few simple, uniform and unvarying principles, is favored with a prospect not less sublime than that to whose intellectual vision the whole inorganic world is revealed.

As early in the season as the necessary arrangements and preparations would permit, we commenced our labor, the results of which will, in part, be found in the subjoined catalogue. Of many of the species contained in the catalogue, the requisite number of species have been preserved; of some other species, a much larger number than was required have been collected, with a view to foreign exchanges, and in consequence of the rarity of others, not a sufficient number have been secured. Besides the species enumerated in the catalogue, a very considerable number belonging to the inferior classes have been obtained, but do not yet admit of arrangement in a catalogue. Although a considerable amount of materials have been collected towards forming a history of the subjects of our investigation, yet much remains to be accomplished before the subject can be said to approach completeness.

ABM. SAGER, *State Zoologist.*

CATALOGUE.

CLASS MAMMALIA.

Order Quadrumana

Fam. Vespertilionidae. Gray. Bats

Sub-fam. Vespertilioninae. Gray.

Vespertilio arcuatus. Say.

Order Ferae. Linn.

Fam. Felidae

Lupus occidentalis. Rich. Wolf*Vulpes fulvus.* L. Red fox

Fam. Mustelidae. Sw.

Sub-fam. Ursinae. Sw.

Procyon lotor. L. Raccoon

Sub-fam. Mustelinae. Sw.

Putorius lutreola. Cuv. Mink

Fam. Soricidae. S.

Sorex parvus. Say. Shrew*Scalops canadensis.* Cuv. Canada mole*Condylura macroura.* Harl. Star nosed mole

Order Glires. Linn.

Div. 1st. Claviculata

Fiber zibeticus. L. Musk rat*Arvicola* ———*Meriones canadensis.* Ill. Jumping mouse*Spermophilus Hoodii.* F. Cuv.*Sciurus vulpinus?* Gm. Fox squirrel*carolinensis.* L. Gray squirrel*Sciurus hudsonius.* L. Chickaree*niger.* L. Black squirrel*Tamias striata.* Kl. Ground squirrel

Div. Inclaviculata

Lepus americanus. Gm. American hare

CLASS AVES.

Order Raptores

Fam. Falconidae

Sub-fam. Aquilinae. Eagles

Pandion americanus. Sw. Fish eagle*Aquila leucocephalus.* Bald eagle

Sub-fam. Buteoninae. Buzzards

Buteo Sancti Johannis. Gm. Black hawk*lagopus?* Roughed legged hawk*lineatus,* Aud. Red breasted hawk

- Circus cyaneus*. L. Marsh hawk
 Sub-fam. Falconinae. Falcons
Falco peregrinus. Gm. Wandering falcon
sparverius. L. Amer. sparrow hawk
columbarius. L. Pigeon hawk
 Sub-fam. Accipitrinae. Hawks
Accipiter pennsylvanicus. Sw.
Cooperi. Nutt. Cooper's hawk
Astur borealis. Sw. Red tailed hawk
 Fam. Strigidae Owls
Scotophilus acadica. Sw. Little owl
Otus brachyotus. Sw. Short eared owl
vulgaris. Sw. Long eared owl
Asio virginiana. Sw. Great horned owl
Ulula nebulosa. Cuv. Barred owl
Nyctea candida. Sw. Snowy owl
Surnia funerea. Dum. Hawk owl
 Order Insectores—Perchers
 Tribe Dentiostres
 Fam. Laniidae
 Sub-fam. Lanianae
Lanius septentrionalis. Gm. Shrike
 Sub-fam. Tyranninae
Tyrannus intrepidus. Sw. Great crested king bird
crinita. Sw. King bird
inornata. Nutt
Tyrannula fusca. Sw. Phebe
virens. Sw. Wood pewee
acadica. Sw. Little pewee
Traillii. Sw. Traill's pewee
 Fam. Merulidae
 Sub-fam. Merulinae
Orpheus polyglottis. Sw. Mocking bird
rufus. Brown thrush
felivox. Sw. Cat bird
migratorius. Sw. American robin
mustelinus. Sw. Wood thrush
aurocapillus. Golden crowned thrush
aquaticus. Water thrush
 Fam. Sylviidae
 Sub-fam. Saxicolinae
Sialia Wilsonii. Sw. Blue bird
 Sub-fam. Sylvianae
Culicivora coerulea. Sw.
 Sub-fam. Parianae
Setophaga ruticilla. Sw. Amer. redstart
canadensis. Sw. Canada flycatcher

- Setophaga cucullata*. Sw. Hooded flycatcher
Dumecola (?) Wilsonii. Sw. Wilson's flycatcher
Sylvicola americana. Sw. Blue yellowbacked flycatcher
 discolor. Sw. Prairie warbler
 coronata. Sw. Yellow crowned warbler
 castanea. Sw. Baybreasted warbler
 icterocephala. Sw. Chesnutsided warbler
 Blackburnae. Sw. Blackburnian warbler
 virens. Sw. Summer yellowbird
 Canadensis. Blackthroated blue warbler
Vermivora pinus. Sw. Pine warbler
 chrysoptera. Sw. Goldenwinged warbler
 rubricapilla. Sw. Nashville warbler
Mniotilta varia. Veill. Black and white creeper
Parus palustris. L. Black cap tit
Trichas personatus. Sw. Maryland yellow throat
Fam. Ampelidae
 Sub-fam. Vireoninae
 Vireo olivaceus. Wils. Redeyed greenlet
 Vireo flavifrons. Veill. Yellowthroated greenlet
 noveboracensis. Bon. White eyed greenlet
 Sub-fam. Bombycillinae
 Bombycilla carolinensis. Briss. Cedar bird
 Sub-fam. Garrulinae
 Cyanurus cristatus. Sw. Bluejay
Fam. Sturnidae
 Sub-fam. Scaphidurinae
 Quiscalis versicolor. Veill. Crow blackbird
 Scolecophagus ferrugineus. Sw. Rustle grakle
 Sub-fam. Icterinae
 Icterus Baltimore. Daud. Golden oriole
 spurius. Bon. Orchard oriole
 Sub-fam. Aglainae
 Dolichonyx orizivora. Sw. Rice hunting
 Agelaius phoeniceus. Bill. Swamp blackbird
 Molothrus pecoris. Sw. Cowpen
 Sturnella collaris. Bill. Meadow lark
Fam. Fringillidae
 Sub-fam. Coccothraustinae
 Coccybatorus ludovicianus. Sw. Redbreasted grosbeak
 Carduelis americana. Sw. Yellow bird
 Sub-fam. Tanagrinae
 Phoenisoma rubra. Sw. Summer red bird
 Pipillo erythroptalmus. Veill. Towee bunting
 Sub-fam. Fringillinae
 Fringilla graminea. Wils. Ground sparrow
 juncorum. Lath. Field sparrow

- Zonotrichia savannarum*. Sw. Savanna finch
leucophrys. Sw. White crowned sparrow
pennsylvanica. Sw. Whitethroated sparrow
melodia. Sw. Song sparrow
Ammodramus palustris. Sw. Swamp sparrow
Chondestes strigata. Sw. Lark finch
Emberiza canadensis. Sw. Tree sparrow
americana. Wils. Black throated bunting
cyanea. Sw. Indigo bird
Plectrophanes nivalis. Selb.
 Sub-fam. Alaudinae
Alauda cornuta. Wils. Lark
 Sub-fam. Motacillinae
Anthus aquaticus. Bech.
 Tribe 3d—Scansores
 Fam. Picidae
Picus villosus. L. Hairy woodpecker
pubescens. L. Downy woodpecker
Dendrocopus varius. Sw. Yellow bellied woodpecker
Dryotomus pileatus. Sw. Log cock
Colaptes auratus. Sw. Flicker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus. Sw. Redheaded wood-
 pecker
Centurus carolinus Sw. Carolina woodpecker
 Fam. Certhiidae
 Sub-fam. Certhiinae
Certhia familiaris. L. Creeper
 Sub-fam. Sittinae
Sitta carolinensis. L. White bellied nuthatch
 Sub-fam. Trogloditinae
Thryothorus palustris. Veill. Marsh wren
Troglodytes europeus. Winter wren
 Fam. Cuculidae
 Sub-fam. Cuculinae
Erythrophrys domenicus. Sw. Blackbilled cuckoo
Coccyzus americanus. Sw. Yellowbilled cuckoo
 Tribe 4th—Tenuirostres
 Fam. Trochilidae
Trochilus colubris. L. Humming bird
 Fam. Halcyonidae
Ispida alcyon. Sw.
 Fam. Caprimulgidae
Caprimulgus vociferous. L. Whippoorwill
Chordeiles americana. Sw. Night jar
 Fam. Hirundinae
Cypselus pelagius. Temm. Chimney swallow
Hirundo purpureus. L. Purple martin

- Fam. *Hirundo rufa*. Gm. Barn swallow
 Hirundinae
Hirundo bicolor. Veill.
- Order Rasores
 Fam. Tetraonidae
Bonasia umbellus. Bon. Ruffed grouse
Tetrao cupido. L. Prairie hen
canadensis. L. Canada grouse
Ortyx virginiana. Steph. American quail
- Fam. Columbidae
Ectopistes carolinensis. Sw. Turtle dove
migratorius. Sw. Passenger pigeon
- Order Gallatores. Waders
 Fam. Ardeidae
Ardea herodias. L. Blue heron
Egretta americana. Sw. Egret heron
Butor americana. Sw. American bittern
exilis. Sw. Least bittern
- Fam. Rallidae
Fulica chloropus. Gm. Common gallinule
atra. Wils. Common coot
Rallus virginianus. L. Virginian rail
noveboracensis. Bon.
- Fam. Scolopacidae
Scolopax minor. Gm. Woodcock
griseus. Gm. Red breasted snipe
Wilsonii. Bm. Wilson's snipe
Limosa fedoa. Veill. Marbled godwit
Tringa pectoralis. Bon. Pectoral sand-piper
minuta. Leisl. Small sand-piper.
Wilsonii. Nutt. Wilson's sand-piper
cinerea. Knot
Totanus melanoleucus. Veill. Tell-tale
flavipes. Veill. Lesser yellow shanks
Bartramius. Temm. Bartram's tattler
macularius. Temm. Spotted sand-piper
chloropygius. Veill. Green rump sand piper
Streptilas interpres. Ill. Turnstone
 Charadriidae
Charadrius vociferus. L. Kildeer plover
pluvialis. L. Golden plover
Squatarola melanogaster, Bech.
- Order Natatores
 Fam. Anatidae
 Sub-fam. Anserinae
Cygnus musicus. Bech. Swan
Anser Canadensis. Veill. Canada goose

- Anser hyperboreus*. Pall. Snow goose
 Sub-fam. Anatinae. River ducks
Mareca americana. Leach. American widgeon
Dendronessa sponsa. Sw. Tree duck
Chauliodus strepera. Sw. Gadwall
Anas clypeata. Sw. Shoveller
Boschas domestica. Sw. Mallard
 crocca. Sw. Greenwinged teal
 discors. Sw. Bluewinged teal
 obscura. Sw. Dusky duck
Dafila caudacuta. Leach. Pintail duck
 Sub-fam Fuligulinae
Fuligula ferina. Steph. Pochard
 valisneri. Steph. Canvasback
 marilla. Steph. Scaup duck
 rufitorques. Bon. Ringneck
Clangulla albeola. Rich. Buffhead
Harada glacialis. Sw. Longtailed duck
 Sub-fam. Merganidae
Mergus merganser. L. Gooseander
 serrator. L.
 cucullatus. L. Crested merganser
 Fam. Colymbidae
Podiceps rubricollis. Lath. Rednecked grebe
 cornutus. Lath. Horned grebe
Dasyptilus carolinensis. Sw. Pied dobchick
 Fam. Alcadae
 Sub-fam. Laridae
Sterna Hirundo. L. Swallowtailed tern
 Sub-fam. Larus Bonapartii. Sw. Bonaparte's gull
 zonorhynchus. Rich.
 glaucus. Brunn.
 atricilla. Sw.

CLASS REPTILIA.

Order Chelonia

- Cistudo clausa*. Say. Box tortoise
Emys picta. Schw.
 geographica. Say.
 guttata. Schw.
 pennsylvanica. Harl.

Chelydra serpentina. Schw. Snapping turtle

Order Ophidia

- Coluber obsoletus*. Say.
 constrictor. L. Black snake
 sipedon. L. Brown water snake
 saurita. L. Ribbon snake