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## Report of the Curator of the Minnesota Academy of Natural Sciences, for 1876

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**REPORT OF THE CURATOR OF THE MINNESOTA  
ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, FOR 1876.**

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The By-Laws of the Academy require the Curator to have the custody of the collections belonging to it; to receive, label and arrange specimens, and present annually a report, stating the number, kind and sources of the additions to the Museum.

For a variety of reasons that need not to be enumerated here, but which all new organizations are liable to encounter, it will be impossible for me to comply with the letter of those by-laws, but I confidently believe that before another year passes the obstacles will be removed.

It takes time to get into complete working order the machinery of a society that embraces so large a field of observation as the Academy has marked out for itself. It is but four years since its organization, and only one year since we have had a place in which to arrange its collections in a systematic manner.

We have gratifying assurances that what has been done is appreciated by our citizens, who often inquire after the welfare of the Academy, and give words of encouragement, and specimens for the Museum, the additions to which have been larger than during any previous year, besides being much more valuable.

Besides the before mentioned, there have been received for safe-keeping, from the Minneapolis Athenæum, a small collection of birds and animals, and from several individuals a number of valuable specimens that will add to the interest of the Museum.

The following are the contributions to the library:

- Transactions Geological Society of Glasgow, vol. 4, part 3,  
and vol. 5, part 1. From Society.
- Abstract Proceedings Liverpool Geological Society, 1873-4.  
From Society.
- Geological Survey of the Northwest, by Featherstonhall.  
From G. W. Sweet.
- Origin and progress of Academy of Natural Sciences of Phil-  
adelphia.
- Second Annual Catalogue of International Sciences.
- Department Agricultural Report, 1867. From J. B. Clough.
- Bulletin of American Geographical Society. From Jas. T.  
Gardner.
- Department Agriculture Report, 1863. From J. B. Clough.
- Smithsonian Institute Report, 1854.
- Fourth Meteorological Report, 1854. From J. B. Clough.
- Report of Geological Survey of Territories, 3. Cretaceous  
and Vertebrates. From Prof. F. V. Hayden.
- Transactions of Academy of Sciences, St. Louis, vol. 2 and 3.
- Constitution and By-Laws of Georgia Historical Society,  
1871. List of members.
- Three Annual Reports of State Fish Commissioners, Minne-  
sota. From R. O. Sweeney.
- Bulletin of the United States National Museum, 1875. No.  
2, Department of Interior.
- Bulletin of the United States National Museum, 1873. No.  
1, Check List Department of Interior.
- Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical  
Survey of Territories, No. 5. From Department of  
Interior.
- Bulletin of Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, vol. 3, No. 2.

- Bulletin of Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, vol. 3, No. 1.  
Certificate of Incorporation, Constitution and By-Laws of Buffalo Historical Society, published 1875. From Society.
- Catalogue of Plants of Minnesota, Dr. J. A. Lapham. From Prof. N. H. Winchell.
- Abstract of Proceedings of Liverpool Geological Society, 1873-4.
- Bulletin of United States Geological and Geographical survey of Territories, vol. 2, No. 1. From Washington Printing Office.
- Bulletin of United States Geological and Geographical survey of Territories, vol. 2, No. 2. From Washington Printing Office,
- Geological Survey of Alabama, report 1875. From Prof. A. Smith.
- Annual Report of Auditor of Canal Department, Tolls.  
Trade and Tonnage of the the Canals, 1871, N. Y.
- Fourth Annual Report of State Board of Health, Minnesota. From R. B. Langdon.
- Second Annual Report of Progress of the Mineralogical, Geological and Physical Survey of the State of Georgia. From Frank J. Mead.
- Report of Progress of the Mineralogical, Geological and Physical Survey of Georgia. From Frank J. Mead.
- Annual Report of United States Geological and Geographical Survey of Territories, embracing Colorado and adjacent Territories, 1874. From F. V. Hayden.
- Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 5.
- Catalogue of the Fishes of Bermuda. From G. Brown Goode.
- Contributions to the Natural History of Kerguelen Island, made in connection with the United States Transit of Venus, vol. 2, 1876. From J. H. Kidder, M.D.

- The Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota, 1875. From Prof. N. H. Winchell.
- The Molluscous Animals and other Shells of Chester County, Pennsylvania, by Wm. D. Hartman, M.D.
- Report of the Condition of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and moving into new edifice, by Rev. E. C. Mitchell.
- The Empire of Brazil at the Centennial, 1876, Philadelphia, by Rev. E. C. Mitchell.
- Agricultural Instructions to those who emigrate to Brazil, 1876, by Rev. E. C. Mitchell.
- Subsidies to the formation of the Physical Map of Brazil, 1876, by Rev. E. C. Mitchell.
- Patent Office Report, 1869.
- Geological Survey of Ohio Geology, vol. 2. From Cincinnati Society of Natural History.
- Geological Survey of Ohio Palæontology, vol. 2. From Cincinnati Society of Natural History.
- Ohio Agricultural Report, 1874.
- Patent Office Report, 1861.
- Proceedings of Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences. From Academy.
- Proceedings and Transactions of Nova Scotia Institute of Natural Sciences. From Society.
- Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural History. From Society.
- Bulletin of the Geographical and Geological Surveys of the Territories, vol. 2, No. 3. Department of the Interior.
- Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 4. From the Department of the Interior.
- Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 3. From the Department of the Interior.

- Tides of the Arctic Seas, by Rev. Samuel Houghton.
- The Redpath Lyceum Circular. From Authors.
- Archives of the Tyler Museum, Harlum, France, vols. 123-4.  
12 volumes in all.
- Invertebrate Cretaceous and Tertiary Fossils of Upper Missouri Country. From F. V. Hayden. Vol. 19, 1876.
- United States Geological Survey of the Territories. From F. V. Hayden. Vol. 10, 1876.
- Transactions of Connecticut Academy of Natural Sciences, vols. 3 and 71. From Academy, 1876.
- A Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas, November, 1875. From F. H. Snow.
- Transactions of Kansas Academy of Sciences, vol. 4, 1875. From Academy.
- Birds of the Northwest Coues, 1874. From Prof. F. V. Hayden.
- Geological Survey of Canada, 1873-4. Report of progress. From Robert Bell.
- Geological Survey of Canada, 1874-5. Report of progress. From Robert Bell.
- Descriptive Catalogue of Economic Minerals of Canada. From Robert Bell.
- Smithsonian Report, 1875. From Smithsonian Institute.
- Miscellaneous Collections, No. 254, Synopsis of American Wasps, December, 1875. From Smithsonian Institute.
- Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, No. 268, The Winds of the Globe, and No. 277, Tables, Distributions and Variations of the Atmospheric Temperature of the United States. From the Smithsonian Institute.

By order of the Board of Trustees, the Curator subscribed for a book on Ornithology. Twenty-three numbers

have already been delivered. It is expected that the work will be standard authority for that department.

Contributions to the Museum have been made by the following persons:

- Capt. John S. Pendleton—Mummified Bird.  
 E. Altman—Coquina Fl.  
 Geo. Davis—Pottery, Archiological specimen.  
 Geo. W. Tinsley—Sea Bean.  
 Chas. Simpson—Fossiliferous Sandstone.  
 Geo. B. Bradbury—Fossils. 12 specimens.  
 Gen. T. L. Rosser—78 specimens Fossils Yellowstone.  
 James Hankinson—Copper Spear. Nicollet Island.  
 A. E. Johnson—Fungi, and other specimens.  
 Mr. Holt—Sulphur and Sand. Honolulu.  
 Geo. Townsend—Red Granite, polished, from Maine.  
 Thos. H. Perkins—Stone Hatchet.  
 J. B. Clough—Lepidodendron. Kentucky.  
 Frank J. Mead—Alabaster Lime. Georgia.  
 P. L. Hatch—Specimen from Petrified Forest, California.  
 Wm. Carbet—Fossil Boulders.  
 O. J. Griffiths—Mica Crystal.  
 S. K. Kincaid—Colcoli, from horse.  
 L. P. Plummer—Flint Arrow Heads and Fossils.  
 E. C. Mitchell—Japanese Coin and other curiosities.  
 Wm. D. Hartman—Minerals from Chester Co., Pa. 8 spec.  
 John E. Bell—Fossil, Santa Barbara.  
 B. L. Taylor—Mineral. Chester Co., Pa.  
 Joseph G. Taylor—100 specimens of Fossils. Charleston, S.C.  
 James Borst—Fossils. Rochester, Minn.  
 James D. Hutchinson—Tellurions. Colorado.  
 A. F. Elliott—Fossils.

The above constitutes, I believe, all that have been contributed to the geological and mineralogical departments. Many of the contributions have been large and valuable. There has been many contributions to the ornithological and other departments of the Museum, as well as to the library.

It is hardly necessary for the Curator to urge the members to be diligent in obtaining specimens for the Museum. Each and every one ought to constitute himself a committee to solicit specimens wherever they can be obtained. It is only by this personal effort that we can hope to fill our cases to overflowing.

The Museum committee have added two fine specimens of wild cats and one sett of deer horns.

The naming, classifying and labeling the specimens has not progressed as rapidly as desired. Still there has been a gratifying progress over previous years. The Committee on Geology have made considerable progress in classifying its fossils. In Prof. Winchell's paper at the last meeting of the Academy, he states how many of our fossils have been identified at the University Museum, and which will apply to our Museum. The Committee on Mineralogy have identified and named most of the specimens on hand.

The Committee on Entomology have named and labeled all the specimens brought to their notice. The number is small and ought to be increased abundantly during the next season.

The Committee on Ornithology have identified and named all the specimens added to the Museum during the year. They will be numbered and labeled as soon as the Museum Committee provide a suitable record and labels. The Committee on Conchology have named what specimens have been gathered in that department. None has been added during the past year.

The balance of the committees on science have answered, "nothing to report."

The specimens, when received, are referred to the proper committees for identification, and when named, are recorded and numbered. They will be labeled as soon as labels are provided by the Museum committee. It is hoped that the committee will give this subject their early and earnest attention.

Respectfully submitted.

A. F. ELLIOT,  
*Curator.*

January 2d, 1877.