

A TREATISE ON ZOOLOGY, PART IV

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A treatise on zoology, Part IV by E. Ray Lankester

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E. RAY LANKESTER

**A TREATISE ON
ZOOLOGY, PART IV**

A TREATISE ON ZOOLOGY

A TREATISE ON ZOOLOGY

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A
TREATISE ON ZOOLOGY

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PART IV

THE PLATYHELMIA, MESOZOA, AND
NEMERTINI

BY

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ADAM & CHARLES BLACK

1901

EDITOR'S PREFACE

THE present volume is the "Fourth Part" in order of a comprehensive treatise on Zoology, which has been for some time in preparation under my editorship. In this treatise each of the larger groups of the Animal Kingdom is to be described by a separate author; whilst, as far as possible, uniformity in method and scope of treatment is aimed at. The authors are, for the most part, graduates of the University of Oxford, though it may not be possible to maintain this limitation in future sections of the work.

The general aim of the treatise is to give a systematic exposition of the characters of the classes and orders of the Animal Kingdom, with a citation in due place of the families and chief genera included in the groups discussed. The work is addressed to the serious student of Zoology. To a large extent the illustrations are original. A main purpose of the Editor has been that the work shall be an independent and trustworthy presentation, by means of the systematic survey, or taxonomic method, of the main facts and conclusions of Zoology, or, to speak more precisely, of Animal Morphography.

The treatise will be completed in ten parts of about the same size as the present one. It will at once be apparent that this limitation necessitates brevity in treatment which, however, will not, it is believed, be found inconsistent with the fulfilment of the scope proposed or with the utility of the work

to students. The immediate publication of the following parts may be expected:—

Part I. Introduction and the Protozoa.

Part II. Enterocœla and the Cœlomocœla—The Porifera—The Hydromedusae—The Scyphomedusae—The Anthozoa—The Ctenophora (published in September 1900).

Part III. The Echinoderma (published in March 1900).

Part IV. The Mesozoa—The Platyhelminths—The Nemeritini (the present volume).

These parts will be issued, without reference to logical sequence, as soon as they are ready for the press. This procedure to some extent evades the injustice of making an author, whose work is finished, wait for publication until other more tardy writers have completed their tasks.

The following authors have undertaken portions of the work:—Professor Weldon, F.R.S., M.A. Oxon.; Professor Benham, D.Sc., M.A. Oxon.; Mr. G. C. Bourne, M.A. Oxon.; Mr. G. H. Fowler, M.A. Oxon.; Professor Minchin, M.A. Oxon.; Mr. F. A. Bather, M.A. Oxon.; Professor J. W. Gregory, D.Sc.; Mr. E. S. Goodrich, M.A. Oxon.; Professor Hickson, F.R.S. of Manchester; Mr. J. J. Lister, F.R.S., M.A. Cantab.; Mr. Arthur Willey, D.Sc.; Professor Farmer, F.R.S., M.A. Oxon.; Mr. R. I. Pocock; and Mr. Martin Woodward.

E. RAY LANKESTER.

July 1901.

NOTE

It is but just to the author to put on record the fact that the MS. of the chapters on the *Platyhelminia* were written during the years 1895-97; much of it was printed, and the proofs corrected in 1897; and the whole of the Part was in proof, and most of the figures were already prepared, early in 1898, when the author left England for New Zealand. At the same time the editor is satisfied that no important omissions due to this fact occur in the book, the proofs of which have been revised and some additions made during the present year.

E. R. L.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER XVI

| | PAGE |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| THE PLATYHELMIA—TURBELLARIA | 1 |

CHAPTER XVII

| | |
|--|----|
| THE PLATYHELMIA—TEMNOCEPHALOIDEA | 43 |
|--|----|

CHAPTER XVIII

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| THE PLATYHELMIA—TREMATODA | 47 |
|-------------------------------------|----|

CHAPTER XIX

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| THE PLATYHELMIA—CESTOIDEA | 93 |
|-------------------------------------|----|

CHAPTER XX

| | |
|---|-----|
| APPENDICES TO THE PLATYHELMIA | 148 |
|---|-----|

CHAPTER XXI

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| THE NEMERTINI | 159 |
|-------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| INDEX | 197 |
|-----------------|-----|