

THE STORY OF ANIMAL LIFE

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The Story of Animal Life by B. Lindsay

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B. LINDSAY

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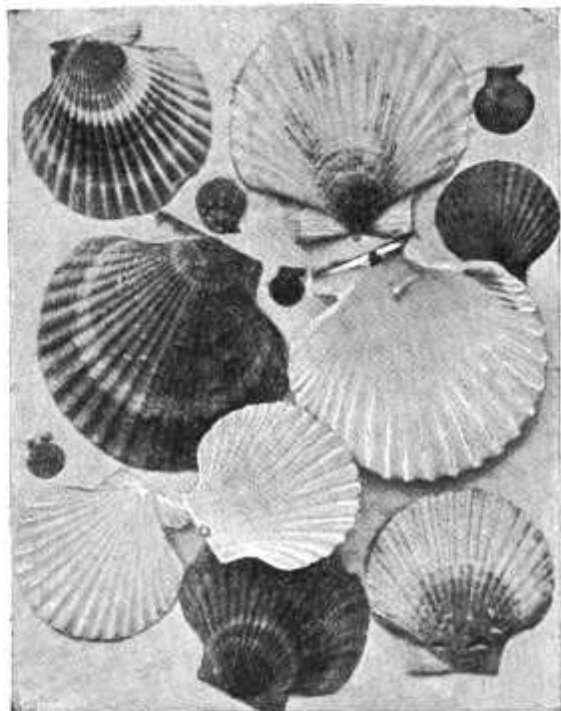


FIG. 1.—THE SCALLOP SHELL, *Pecten Opercularis* (see page 107), SLIGHTLY REDUCED IN SIZE. THE LARGER SHELLS ARE FROM DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN; THE SMALLER SHELLS ARE YOUNG SPECIMENS FROM LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.

THE STORY OF ANIMAL LIFE

BY

B. LINDSAY



WITH FORTY-SEVEN ILLUSTRATIONS

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PREFACE

Of the diagrams which illustrate this little volume, the majority were prepared by Miss E. C. Abbott (formerly Bathurst Scholar at Newnham College, Cambridge); the sketches were made from specimens in the South Kensington Museum of Natural History, which has kindly granted permission for their use. In addition to these, there are several figures that are taken from specimens in my possession, photographed by the publishers; two or three cuts are diagrammatic; and I owe to the kindness of Mr. J. Craggs, formerly president of the Northumberland Microscopical Association, the drawings of *Polycystina* and of the scales of the Sole.

B. L.

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THE STORY OF ANIMAL LIFE

CHAPTER I

THE STORY OF ANIMAL LIFE

IF the microscope had never been invented, the *Story of Animal Life*, as it is related by modern science, could never have been told. It is to the microscope that we owe our knowledge of innumerable little animals that are too small to be seen by the unassisted eye; and it is to the microscope that we owe the most important part of our knowledge about the bodies of larger animals, about the way in which they are built up, and the uses of their different parts. The earlier opticians who toiled, one after another, to bring the microscope to perfection, never dreamed, in their most ambitious moments, of the value of the gift that their labour was to confer upon mankind. For the microscope alone has made it possible for men of science to study the world of living things. This is the value of honest and thorough work in almost every department of intellectual labour; that it builds a firm and sure though perhaps hidden foundation for the loftier and more perfect work of after days.

The microscope has shown us the intimate structure of every organ of the animal body; and