

**STUDIES IN ZOOLOGY: A BOOK
DEVOTED TO ANIMALS AND
ANIMAL LIFE AT THE CINCINNATI
ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649445585

Studies in Zoology: A Book Devoted to Animals and Animal Life at the Cincinnati Zoological Garden by C. L. Williams

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Cover @ 2017

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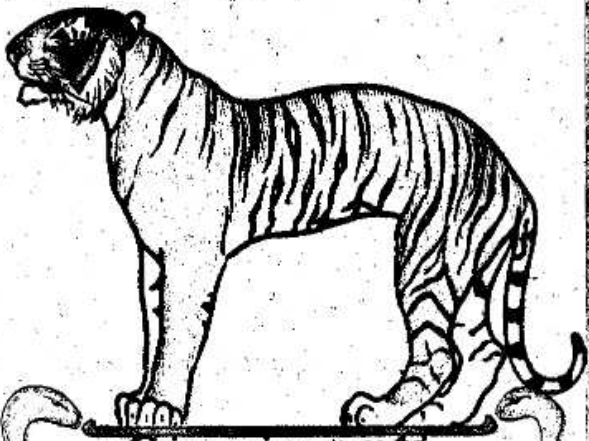
C. L. WILLIAMS

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INC. 1913.
No. 513
Box 67
G. A. PARKER.

STUDIES *in* ZOÖLOGY



Cincinnati
Zoological Gardens



Studies in Zoology

A BOOK DEVOTED TO ANIMALS
AND ANIMAL LIFE AT THE



**Cincinnati
Zoological
Garden**

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PUBLISHED BY

The Cincinnati Zoological Company

CINCINNATI, OHIO

U. S. A.

PREFACE.



THE object of this book is to enable the visitor to make an intelligent tour of our Zoological Gardens. Preliminary to a consideration of the various departments, a short history of the Gardens is given and a few observations on Zoology are presented. The description of the Gardens, as now constituted, then follows, taking up each house and enclosure separately. This method, it is believed, is less confusing to the visitor than an attempt to describe the specimens under a Zoological outline. The reason for this is that it is often necessary, for economic or other prudential reasons, to place specimens in one department that naturally belong to another. Thus departments are constantly overlapping and do not conform to the departments of an outline of Zoology. But the student of Zoology will be in no danger of losing his way on this account. This Guide locates the specimens in the various buildings and enclosures, and in the pursuit of the systematic study of Zoology the student can go from department to department—Zoological textbook or field book in hand—and easily find that for which he seeks, classifying his observations as he goes.

Of course, in a book like this, it is not possible to be minutely descriptive, and so the author has aimed to tell as simply as possible what the attractions of the Gardens are and where they may be found, and gives a description, on a scientific basis, of the character and habits of many animals, birds and reptiles, with the hope that something may be found within the covers of the volume that will inspire more than one visitor to take up the careful study of Zoology—a branch of science one of the most useful because its study trains to habits of close observation and brings us “near to nature’s heart.”

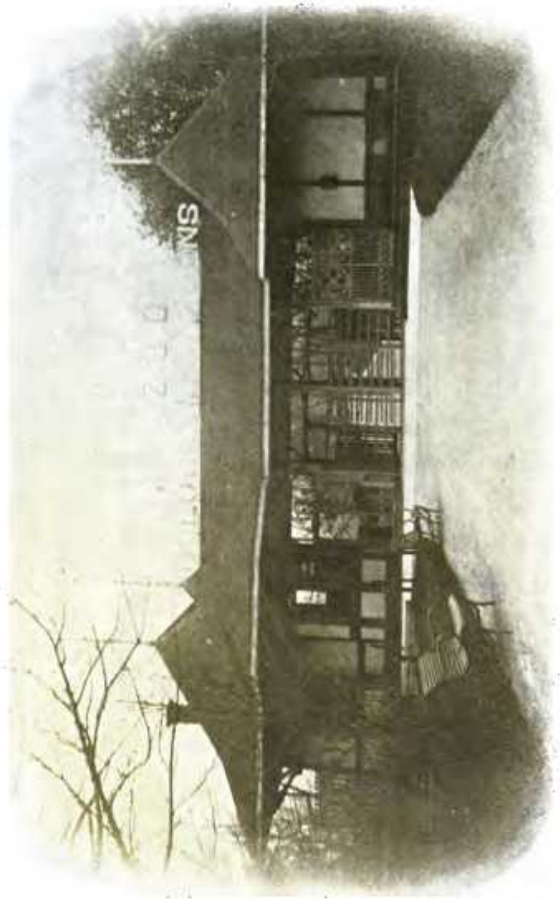


Photo by Enno Meyer.

MAIN ENTRANCE

HISTORY

OF THE ZOO—

ANDREW ERKENBRECHER will always be known as the founder of the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens. From early youth Mr. Erkenbrecher was a lover of birds and animals, and manifested this affection for our furred and feathered friends by keeping a great many bird and animal pets on his farm. A large cage is still exhibited at the Gardens which Mr. Erkenbrecher formerly used on his farm in which to keep his birds, and it is still utilized for this purpose. Mr. Erkenbrecher for years previous to the establishment of the Zoo had such an institution in mind, having often spoken of it to Mr. Florence Marmett, Albert Fischer and many others of his business and social associates. Prior to the organization of the Zoological Society, the Society of Acclamation was in existence. It was at a meeting of this in June, 1873, that the question of Zoological Gardens for Cincinnati was first formally discussed. A letter from Dr. Brehm, the world famous zoologist, gave rise to the discussion which became enthusiastic, and it was resolved to call a meeting for June 30, in the Board of Trade rooms, to which all persons favoring the establishment of a Zoo were invited.

At this meeting arrangements were made for the organization of a stock company, and in less than a month afterward a large amount of stock was subscribed and a Board of Directors elected. At first it was thought that Burnet Woods Park would be the proper place for the Zoo, and an effort was made to get the city authorities to grant this Park for such purpose, but without success.

The present site was afterwards purchased. The original tract of land embraced 67 acres. It cost a great deal of money to grade it, enhance its natural beauty and erect the necessary buildings, but the founders were men of means and spirit, and every obstacle was overcome.

The Gardens were formally opened to the public Sept. 18, 1875. But the receipts did not equal the expenses, which were great, involving as they did not alone the preparation of the grounds, the erection of buildings, and the purchase of birds and animals, at the start; but also the maintenance and constant enlargement of the collection, and constant improvements of grounds and buildings. And so it was that a large debt began to accumulate. This was liquidated by selling off part of the land, not used, for a subdivision.

With renewed hope the Gardens were then greatly improved. The animal and bird displays were added to from time to time until the collection in point of variety was equal to any in the world. Then, the general financial distress fell on the country, hard times and dark days came again to the Garden (Zoo) and in 1897 it was found that the debts had accumulated beyond any possibility, of their being paid by the Garden, and, after careful consideration, it was decided to place the company in a Receiver's hands. This was done January 22, 1898. The Court named as Receiver Hon. Albert Fisher, who has always been a staunch friend and supporter of the Garden since its inception, and Hon. Gustav Tafel. Later Mr. George Hafer was appointed co-receiver when Mr. Tafel became Mayor of the City. These gentlemen undertook the difficult affair with only one object in view, namely, to "save the Zoo."

Fortunately they, and others greatly desiring to preserve the Zoo to the City of Cincinnati, were able to interest a large number of the most public spirited citizens of

the City, and the large amount of money necessary to satisfy the debts (many debtors and old stockholders proving to be the most lenient) and take the Garden out of the Receivers' hands was generously subscribed by these men who were not looking to their financial advantage but to the main object of preserving the Zoological Garden, making it one of the City's chief attractions, and a pride to all Cincinnatians.

Thus the money was raised, the present company, composed of many of Cincinnati's most public spirited and wealthiest citizens, was organized, and the "Zoo was saved."

A study of the Garden for the past few months will show with what energy the work has been undertaken.

Mr. Hagenback of Hambourg (a high authority), who visited the Garden recently said that within fifteen months he had visited all the principal Zoological Gardens in the world and that as to the condition of the collection, buildings, grounds, the care displayed and success achieved with the animals and birds, the Cincinnati Zoological Garden was second to none, without exception, and in many respects was superior to any other.

The management confidently rely upon the co-operation and support of all the citizens of Cincinnati and with their help believe that the Garden will continually grow more beautiful, enjoyable and instructive, will rank among the great Zoological Gardens of the World, and be a continual source of pride to the City of Cincinnati.



ZOOLOGY

The present state of Zoological Science gives the original divisions of which the Animal Kingdom is composed, they are as follows:

VERTEBRATES—The highest and most important branch of the Animal Kingdom, embracing all animals that have a backbone.

MOLLUSCA—Are animals which have soft bodies enclosed in a muscular skin, the majority being protected by a shell, as the Oyster, Mussels, Cuttle Fishes, Snails and Slugs.

ARTICULATES—Are jointed animals, comprising Crabs, Lobsters, Worms and Insects.

COELENTERATA—Jelly-fishes and other marine animals belong to this division.

ECHINODERMATA—So named on account of the star shaped body. Star Fishes and Sea Anemones are examples of this class.

The term Zoology, includes the whole of the Animal Kingdom, besides which different departments have received particular names as Ornithology, for birds; Ichthyology, for fishes; Entomology for insects; and Conchology for the soft bodied animals.

The Vertebrates include all animals which have a bony or cartilaginous axis, called Spinal Column. Our Zoological collection is only represented by the first division namely the Vertebrates--which comprises five great classes as follows:

- 1st. Mammalia, all those animals which suckle their young by means of breasts.
- 2nd. Aves, or birds.
- 3rd. Reptilia, comprising animals that creep, as serpents, lizards and turtles.
- 4th. Batrachia, animals which are destitute of scales, as frogs, toads, salamanders and newts.
- 5th. Pisces, or fishes.