LESSONS ON FAMILIAR PHILIPPINE ANIMALS (PART ONE). BULLETIN NO. 22.-1905

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Lessons on Familiar Philippine Animals (part One). Bulletin No. 22.-1905 by Edgar M. Ledyard

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EDGAR M. LEDYARD

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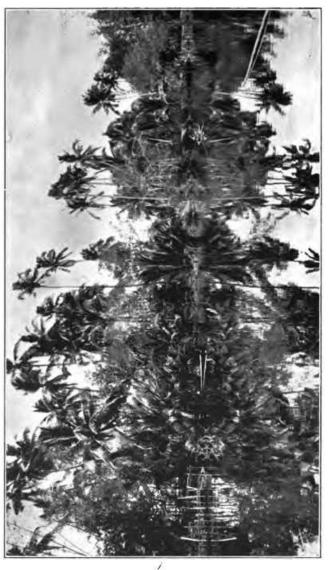


PLATE I. THE NATURAL HOME OF THE LAND AND WATER ANIMALS. (FRONTISPIECE.)

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BUREAU OF EDUCATION

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BY EDGAR M. LEDYARD MANILA BUREAU OF PUBLIC PRINTING 1905

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PREFACE.

It is not claimed for these lessons that they add anything to the world's store of knowledge, but it is hoped that they may be helpful toward making available for schoolroom use a beginning knowledge of the more common forms of life found in the Philippines.

The interest manifested by the writer's pupils, with whom the work has been tested, encourages this expectation. As the pioneer in its field, those into whose hands it may come are relied upon to be indulgent of its imperfections. Criticisms, corrections, and suggestion are invited and will be gratefully received, for only by such assistance can the more elaborate work of which this is the forerunner be made serviceable to all parts of the Archipelago. It is certainly unnecessary to offer advice to teachers of the class employed in these Islands as to the manner of presenting the subject-matter, so that I shall confine myself to a few suggestions of what I have found helpful, leaving the rest to the judgment of the instructor.

Of first importance is to have the specimen in each case, and where not possible to obtain it I believe the lesson might better be omitted. An effort has been made to use only such forms as are general throughout the Archipelago, and if not in the vicinity the specimen can usually be found in a neighboring town.

Departing from custom I have begun with the higher forms of life, primarily, because few schools are supplied with the apparatus necessary to work among the simpler life forms, so what is done must be of a nature only to require the unaided eye. Again, interest must be awakened, and that will not come if the beginning work is on matter which is beyond the comprehension of the pupil.

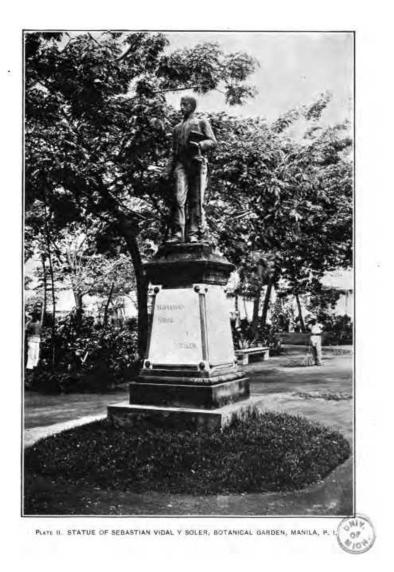
Furthermore we are working among a people characteristically eager to give assistance, and they will become more interested in the work if they can be the means of helping us to gather, for the

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use of the schools, objects which have been before them all their lives, in many cases the very objects by which they live.

Agriculture in the United States is meaning more to the farmer's boy and girl than ever before, and this has been brought about by such men as Prof. L. H. Bailey, of Cornell University; President Jordan, of Leland Stanford Junior University; and Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, of Iowa, who have taught us how beautiful and interesting are the things which surround the children on the farm and in the country, and that they need only to be studied to reveal themselves. In its industries lies the future of the Philippines, and greatest among all is agriculture. Our duty it is to try to instill into the minds of the young such a love for the things of nature that they may want to produce them. This task must be wrought out with patience and will require genuine and persistent effort upon the part of the instructor, but its possibilities for the Philippines are stupendous. In a few years the Department of Agriculture at Washington has grown to be the largest and best equipped institution of its kind on earth. The Government is willing and anxious to assist, the people are interested, and in most cases the success or failure of the work will rest with the teacher.

The illustrations, which are from photographs taken expressly for use in these pages, it is believed will be found a most helpful feature. To the Jesuit Fathers, to whom science in the Philippines is so deeply indebted, for courtesies at their magnificent museum, and to the authorities of the Government Botanical Garden for many favors, I desire to express my grateful appreciation.



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