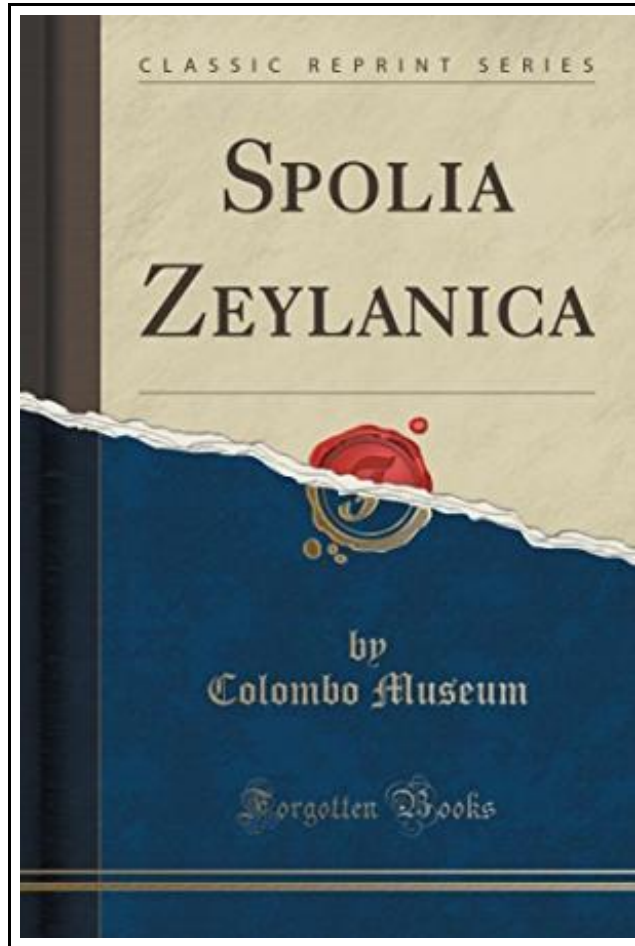


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Spolia Zeylanica Among the introductory paragraphs of Sir J. Emerson Tennent s Sketches of the Natural History of Ceylon (1861), the following quotation reproduced from his classical Account of the Island(1859) contains a succinct statement of the principal literature written in the English language in which the Fauna of Ceylon had been dealt with in a more or less comprehensive or special manner before his time. I will repeat in full the paragraph to which I am referring, because Sir Emerson Tennent s words will perhaps form a fitting prelude to the quarterly record of observations and experiences, of which this is the first number to issue from the Ceylon Government Press: - Regarding the Fauna of Ceylon, little has been published in any collective form, with the exception of a volume by Dr. Kelaart, entitled Prodrornus Fauice Ziylunice [1852]; several valuable papers by Mr. Edgar L. Layard in the Annals and Magazine of Natural History for 1852 and 1853; and some very imperfect lists appended to Pridham s Compiled Account of the Island 1849. Knox, in the charming narrative of his captivity, published in the reign of Charles II. [1681], has devoted a chapter to the animals of Ceylon, and Dr. Davy [1821] has described some of the reptiles: but with these exceptions the subject is almost untouched in works relating to the Colony. Yet a more than ordinary interest attaches to the inquiry, since Ceylon, instead of presenting, as is generally assumed, an identity between its fauna and that of Southern India, exhibits a remarkable diversity, taken in connection with the limited area over which the animals included in it are distributed. The...



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