



# A Notice of the Origin, Progress, and Progress Condition: Of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By W S W Ruschenberger

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Excerpt from A Notice of the Origin, Progress, and Progress Condition: Of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia The proclivities of the present age are eminently utilitarian. Before engaging in any pursuit, men wish to know in what it can profit them. Immediate and direct gain is an object of common desire; hence, those vocations which promise a speedy compensation for labor are most popular, and the paths travelled by those who have been fortunate in pursuit of wealth are most eagerly sought. Agriculture, the mechanic arts, and commerce, which supply the wants, the comforts, and luxuries of man, employ the great masses of society. A love of wealth is a stronger incentive to toil than benevolence; the fame which inures to a labor unproductive of palpable remuneration stimulates but few. Those branches of learning and philosophy which facilitate the acquisition of wealth, attract a larger number of diligent votaries than those which advantageously influence the condition of society, without adding to the pecuniary profit of those who pursue them. The utility, the beneficial influence, which natural history exercises on...



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