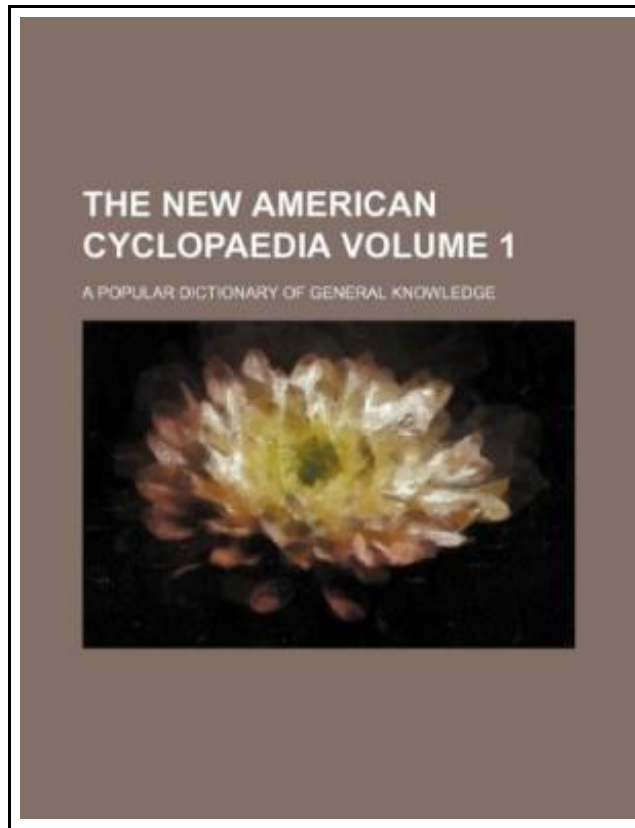


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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1857 Excerpt: .the great instrument of progression to the animal when in the water, and its great weapon of defence when surprised on land. Both species, the alligators and crocodiles, hybernate, or retire to rest, taking no food during the winter months; the Nilotic crocodiles, according to Pliny, withdrawing into caves and holes in the banks, while the alligators of America bury themselves in the mud of the stagnant rivers, which they frequent. The principal food of both alligators and crocodiles is fish, but they watch for, capture, and devour all land animals, which descend to the banks of the waters, which they frequent in order to drink, or which endeavor to pass across them. Even men are constantly seized by these fierce and voracious reptiles; and it is even said that in the rivers of the Carolinas, Louisiana, and the Mississippi country, their favorite food is the flesh of the negro, which they are supposed to prefer to all other diet. It is alleged that the musky fluid secreted from the glands of the throat, acts as a sort of bait, and attracts the fish on which they prey, within reach of their terrible snapping jaws. The alligators are distinguished from the true crocodiles, according to Cuvier, by having the head less oblong than the crocodiles. Its length is to its breadth, measured at the articulation of the jaws, as three to two; the teeth are unequal in length and size; there are at least nineteen, sometimes...



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