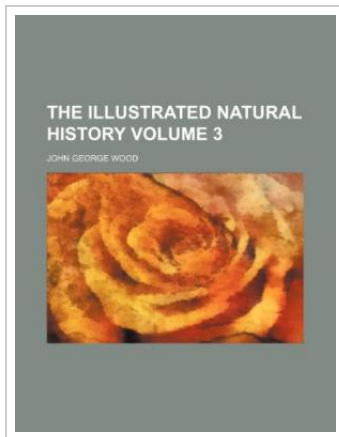




The Illustrated Natural History Volume 3

By John George Wood

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. 1871 Excerpt: .is a most beautiful creature. A Veey curious example of this family is found in the Thorny Oyster, a species that is remarkable for the singularly long projections from the shell. The object of these spines is rather obscure, but is said to answer a double purpose, the one being to act as a chevaux-de-frise, whereby the attacks of marauding fish or other foes may be repelled, and the other to aid in fixing the animal to the spot on which it has established itself Any fish, however, that would be strong-jawed enough to crush the shell, even without the spikes, would care no more for them than does a donkey for the prickles of a thistle; and the smaller and more insidious enemies would receive no check from the hedgehoglike array of bristling points. The animal of the Thorny Oyster is eatable, and in many...



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