

the few leaves of perennials protruding above the ground, betokened the backwardness of the season.

A. H.

Ottawa, 24th April, 1907.

The second field excursion of the season was held by the Field Naturalists' Club on Saturday at Beechwood, the search for *Hepatica* being one of the chief interests.

The day was perfect, and a good crowd arranged themselves at three o'clock under the direction of the various leaders. Mr. Wilson, the President, took charge of the Geological section, Mr. Halkett, of the Entomological, Mr. Eifrig, of the Ornithological, and Messrs. Attwood and Blackadar, of the Botanical section. At the close of the afternoon, the Club assembled at the green-houses and speeches were delivered on the various interests of the afternoon's outing.

The President, Mr. Wilson, spoke of the formation of the rocks in the neighborhood, making special reference to the cliffs about McKay's Lake, which, from a distance, have a white, ashy appearance, but which are composed of shells of varying sizes now in process of solidification into fossil rocks. Mr. Attwood spoke on the necessity for having correct names for things, whether the names be English or Latin, and of the disadvantages of misleading names founded on a superficial and unscientific classification, such as that of our American "Robin," which is not a robin at all but a thrush.

Mr. Eifrig reported that though the day was warm, there were few birds to be seen, which he attributed to the preceding cold snap, causing the birds either to return further south, or else to remain quietly here in some very sheltered spot. He also spoke of it being an "off season" in migration for a couple of weeks, the early birds having arrived some time ago, and it not yet being late enough in the season to expect the warblers and later varieties. He also gave a list of the various species that have already been noticed this season.

Mr. Halkett exhibited a number of specimens collected during the afternoon, amongst them being the somewhat rare Salamander Batrachian. Mr. Blackadar named the various plants that had been gathered by the members during the afternoon.

ANNA E. SINCLAIR.

O. F. N. C. BOTANICAL CLUB.

April 11. An interesting meeting of the Club was held at Dr. Fletcher's house, present: J. Fletcher in the chair, Prof. Macoun, Dr. H. M. Ami and Messrs Attwood, G. H. Clarke, T. E. Clarke, Harrington, J. M. Macoun and R. B. Whyte.

The chairman alluded to the suspension in the work of the