

## SUB-EXCURSION.

A sub-excursion of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club was held on Saturday, June 20th. It was the first fine day for over a week. The few who took part in this outing, enjoyed it very much. The meeting-place was at Victoria Park; but it was some minutes after three before a sufficient number of members were assembled. As there were so few present, it was decided to have no after-speeches; and we were soon divided into groups, botanical, entomological, etc. One of the first specimens to attract the attention of the botanical group was the Wood Nettle. And not far off from it was seen growing the natural antidote to its sting, the Bitter Dock. In the same rich damp soil were found several other interesting specimens: the Fringed Bindweed with its racemes of white flowers and the minute cilia at its joints, the Honewort with its irregular umbellets of tiny white flowers, the creeping Hog Pea-nut, hardly yet in flower; but we wander on, seeking for rarer species. Many a treasure of earlier excursions is now passed by as common, or is scarcely recognized, now that it is seed-bearing, such as the Mitrewort and False Mitrewort, the Jack-in-the-pulpit, the Star-flower, the Painted Trillium, and several species of Violet, and of the more common Crowfoots.

We cross some open fields and see some of the agricultural weeds: the Common Milkweed with its drooping umbels of sweet-scented purple flowers, the Common Gromwell, which is recognizable all through the winter by its ivory-white sessile nutlets, the Common Hound's-tongue, with its barbed nutlets, by which it is so often carried away unconsciously by man and by beast. Then there are some prettier weeds, such as the Ox-eye Daisy and the Tall Buttercup. But the weeds are too numerous to be all recorded, and we pass on. "We may find some interesting specimens by that stream," says our leader. And, true enough, each of us adds to his collection something interesting. There are two Bedstraws, the Rough and the Sweet-scented; in the marsh is the Bur-weed, a close relative of the common Cat-tail; the Common Elder, which flowers rather later than the red-berried one, was there with its flat cymes of a heavy sweet scent. The