ARBOREAL HABITS OF SOME OF OUR NATIVE SNAKES.

BY J. ALSTON MOFFAT.

(A Paper read before the Biological Section.)

It was remarked that few believed that any of our snakes could climb trees. Mr. Moffat had seen a garter snake moving upward in the corrugations of the bark of a large pine tree, fully five feet from the ground. It was also stated that a pale green snake had fallen from a branch nine feet high, which had been struck by a stick in looking for entomological specimens. It was no uncommon thing to find this kind in trees and bushes. At Long Point, Lake Erie, he had often seen garter snakes on scrub oak five feet from the ground. One he specially noticed was out on the end of a horizontal branch, where it was not one-fourth the thickness of the snake, which, when disturbed, glided off and dropped to the ground as if it was its regular habit. A case was also mentioned of a snake of the largest kind found at Long Point being shot in the top of a maple tree a foot in diameter, with a clear stem 25 feet high, and standing alone.

PLANT COLOR.

ABSTRACT OF PAPER BY A. ALEXANDER.

(Read before the Biological Section, 20th January, 1888.)

More or less intense color always accompanies the various degrees of imperfect vegetation. Spring and autumn tints come under the same explanation as flower colors, in that there is in each case a using up of previously obtained material, not a predominance of the constructive elements throughout the cells. Reference was made to what may be seen among the cryptogams, viz.: the coloring in connection with reproduction, where the unproductive parts of many mosses are yellow or white, their energy being spent otherwise than in producing chlorophyll. Spencer and Grant Allan were quoted as pointing out that "incipient floral color is present in all imperfectly developed shoots," or "might be expected to appear in flowers because of their low constructive energy." Evidence of this may be seen in the Caulerpa, where it is often yellow when in a