

## The Field Club.

The unusual lateness of the spring and the continual cold weather, was responsible for much delay in the organization of the Field Club. But although Mr. Morris was delayed from making the usual announcement by that and other reasons, a considerable number of eager would-be members, as well as most of the "old reliables" were not behind hand in making their applications. At present it appears that we are to have an unusually large club, even though we do not include the ornamental fixtures. Fixtures entirely unnecessary but of which the Club has never been and never can be free. Why these individuals should wish to be mere ornaments we don't venture to state, but nevertheless we imagine that people are quite capable of guessing.

The initiating of new members need have no terrors for our timid brothers who have not yet collected enough courage to undergo the ordeal. It consists of a question or two by the authority. The answer by the candidate to the question—"For what are you joining?" is commonly—"Bugs."

But members are not expected to bind themselves to beetles. Last year an excellent collection of moths and butterflies was made by Pepler ii and Tett i, and this year it is the hope of Mr. Morris that a greater interest will be shown, not only in those orders but in flowers and ferns as well. Probably the fact that beetles are easy to mount and to care for is responsible to a great extent for the preference shown to them; but the numbers should be considered. We don't think much of a beetle collection of one summer which numbers less than two hundred distinct species, and we wouldn't be surprised at seeing a collection of nearly three hundred.

As for ferns Mr. Morris thinks twenty species is a lot for one district, and this district is very rich in the fern line.

Beetles are found in a great variety of places—under stones, lying wood, in rotten stumps, and beneath the bark of decaying trees—particularly of pine. Before long many kinds will be found feeding on the nectar or pollen of our blossoming trees and shrubs. The blossoms of Elder, Hawthorn and "New Jersey Tea" have a special attraction for the longicorns and for some butterflies; while the leaves of almost any plant form the feeding ground of the leaf eating beetles, of the "June Bug" and potato beetle families. In the ponds and streams are to be found a great many water beetles, including the huge black and yellow water tiger beetles, which, it is as well to say, cannot take very much in a bite. Occasionally we find them in the lake and in "Duck Harbour" which, by the way, is a splendid place for those chrysomeliids that attack the water-lily.

It would not be a bad idea for collectors to make two collections as some are already doing—say ferns and beetles or butterflies. One of our Brooklyn friends is taking butterflies and moths, with a side line of beetles; but we think that when two collections are made one of them should be of plants. Variety always makes the work more interesting.

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## Cricket.

Up to date the cricket practice has shown up the team as a vigorous combination. The cold season has made it very dull and backward for practice, but the crease is in fairly good condition, and the team have diligently followed their regular and evening fielding practice.