Foods, delivered before the Field Naturalists' Club during the winter of 1892. The sugars are the most soluble and the simplest members of this group. Their study from a chemical standpoint is exceedingly interesting, especially in relation to plant life, since it is highly probable that the other carbohydrates are formed from them.

REPORT OF THE CONCHOLOGICAL BRANCH, 1893.

Presented at the Annual Meeting, March 20, 1894.

To the Council of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club.

The leaders of this branch beg to report that while they have not during the year given as much attention to the study of the shells of this vicinity, as they, in duty, were probably bound to do, they have nevertheless something of interest to report as the result of their observations. Two new shells were added to the Ottawa list during the year, both discoveries having been made by the Rev. G. W. Taylor. *Pupa curvidens* was noticed among a number of small shells taken at Hull. In ponds near St. Louis Dam, the small English *Planorbis nautileus* var. *cristatus* was taken for the second time on this continent. It had previously been found in America only at Hamilton, where it was collected three years ago by Mr. A. W. Hanham. The occurrence of this shell at Ottawa, nearly 4,000 miles from its home, indicates how readily, in modern days, shells may become widely distributed. Its presence in the ponds at St. Louis Dam is in great probability due to the large quantity of refuse packing material, such as straw envelopes, marsh grass, etc., which have for years been thrown into these ponds. It may be that the shells themselves could not withstand the changes to which the straw and grass would be exposed from the time it was gathered in England until it was thrown into the ponds, but from the extraordinary vitality which the eggs of molluscs are well known to possess, these might continue unimpaired even under the trying circumstances that must have obtained in this case.

An important find of the exceedingly minute and rather rare *Vertigo milium* was made in Billings's bush, one wet afternoon in August on the bark of a fallen oak. Here, in ten minutes, many more specimens of this shell were found than the collector had previously