the occurrence of uncommon species in particular localities will contribute much to the common knowledge of the flora of the district, and add greatly to the pleasure and profit of excursions and rambles in the neighbourhood of Montreal. J. B.

CHEMISTRY.

WATERS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—In Dr. Dawson's Report on the Geological Structure and Mineral Resources of Prince Edward Island, published in 1871, attention was called to the deficient supply of water to Charlottetown, and suggestions offered with regard to obtaining a supply by means of boring. The question is one of much importance and has been too long neglected, for much of the water at present used there is totally unfit for drinking purposes. The 'American Chemist' for May, 1873, contains the following note by S. D. Hayes, of Boston:

"There is probably no city of ten thousand inhabitants on this continent, that is suffering more for want of pure water than Charlottetown, the capital of Prince Edward Island. The public and private wells of this city are unfit for use from the presence in them of animal matters in uncommonly large proportions, and they undoubtedly constitute the primary cause for some of the diseases prevailing among the people there. The inhabitants of this city are literally dependent upon a water cart or two and a spring just outside of the city limits for every drop of water fit to use for cooking or drink; and this water, which is itself not by any means of the best, is sold from the carts for nearly one cent per gallon. For more than two years the City Council have had this matter under consideration, and the first complete analyses of their waters were made in November, the sources of the different specimens being unknown at the time. In recording only partial results of these analyses, it should be understood that the constituents called *organic matter*, consist of the volatile matters after correction and deduction of carbonic and nitric acids, water of composition, etc., belonging to the mineral and saline constituents determined by full analyses.

One United States gallon (231 cubic inches) of these waters contained in grains:

Source of waters analysed.	*Inorganic matter.*	*Organic matter.*	*Total weight of residue.*
City pump well	50.61	5.95	56.56
Park spring	5.05	3.17	8.22
Winter river, six miles from the city.	4.21	2.46	6.67