

EXCURSIONS.

The excursions arranged for May 1st and 8th were cancelled, the former because on the day before a great mass of sleet and snow had fallen, which made woods and roads impassible, the latter because of much rainfall up to the day before. However, that Saturday turned out to be fine, thus again upsetting all preconceived plans and well meant intentions.

BRITANNIA.

On May 15th the excursion to Britannia was held. It was a lovely day, perhaps the first all-round satisfactory one up till then of the season.

About 40 or 50 members of the Club assembled at the park, where Vice-president Halkett gave out the shibboleth for the day. The botanists under the leadership of Dr. Blackadar, turned to the left to Graham's woods, a good spot for the first wild spring flowers. The zoologists with Mr. Halkett as leader, the geologists under Mr. Wilson and the ornithologists with the undersigned, went to the right into the tamaracs and gravel pit, the ornithologists going farthest afield, beyond the Richmond Road.

After two hours the party assembled again at the starting point. Dr. Blackadar showed specimens of many of the plants that had been found, and spoke at length on the flowers of the trees, especially the poplars, maples, elms, birches and alders. Mr. Wilson, for the geologists exhibited a piece of conglomerate, the process of whose forming could be seen bodily in the exposed lower strata of the adjoining gravel-pit. The undersigned spoke on the birds observed during the short perambulation, which numbered 40 species, as follows: 4 Kingbirds, 1 Least Flycatcher, 1 Crested Flycatcher, 1 Phoebe, 3-4 Meadowlarks, 2 Redwinged Blackbirds, 4-5 Bronzed Grackles, Crows (one nest), 2 Baltimore Orioles, many Robins, 4-5 Veeries, 4 Bluebirds, many Song, White-Crowned, Clipping and Vesper Sparrows, all in song, 2 Juncos, 2 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Goldfinches; Chimney Swifts, and even Kingfishers were common, about 8-10 of the latter being seen or heard, (in the gravel-pit several nesting tunnels); Tree, Barn and Bank Swallows (already making nesting holes), 5-6 Flickers, 1 Sapsucker, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Yellow Warblers, 3-4 Black and White Creeping Warblers, 2 Black-breasted Green, 2 Myrtle, 1 Parula, 1 Palm Warbler, 1 Yellowthroat and 1 Water-thrush; 4-5 House Wrens and 2 Brown-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Spotted Sand Pipers, and 2 Greater Yellow Legs:

Mr. Halkett exhibited quite a collection of batrachians,