

of the forms obtained from our rocks have been identified by American paleontologists. The State collections of New York and Massachusetts have to be consulted in order to place the matter correctly before the Canadian public. Of course this must be expected from persons having only a limited knowledge of abstruse forms found occasionally in our rocks. The Ottawa F. N. Club have now the Geological Survey Museum to consult, and with students like J. A. Grant, M.D., F.R.C.S., Edin., F.G.S., London; the Billings'; W. P. Anderson, C.E.; W. H. Harrington, and others working in the fossil valley of the Ottawa, will, we trust, add a fresh stimulus to geological study, and compel the salaried gentlemen who write on these remarkable things to be diligent and thoroughly accurate regarding them. The Transactions of the O. F. N. C. are extremely valuable, and they will, doubtless, continue to be so as long as the Club is presided over by a student like our congenial friend J. Fletcher. Mr. G. E. Heron, a young conchologist, gives a very good paper and list of the Land and Fresh-water shells of the Ottawa. Mr. W. H. Harrington's papers on Insects are valuable to the young beginner. We would like to see the authorities given in all cases after species. At page 44, No. 1, occurs *Polydrosus elegans* of Couper, which is correct according to LeConte's Catalogue; and at page 33, No. 2, the latter Weevil is called *Scythropus elegans*, Couper, from Crotch's Catalogue or Check-list. We care not who authorized the revision, but simply say that the genus *Polydrosus* should hold priority. At page 31, No. 2, a Weevil is mentioned as *Hylobius stupidus*, and on referring to the list (page 33) it is given as Schœner's species. We have no knowledge of this insect, and never met it under the name of *stupidus* in Canadian collections. There has only been two or three species of the genus *Hylobius* found in Canada, the last one was described some years ago as *H. pinicola*, Couper. It was prior to that a M.S. species called *heros* by LeConte, a gentleman who

stands at the head of all American Coleopterists. We are sorry to say that there are too many writers in the United States, who are fond of making changes of this description, and if Crotch gives this *Hylobius* as *stupidus*, Sch., we would like to examine a specimen. It is strange that the latter species should lie dormant so long when men like Billings and the writer collected together for three years around Ottawa. Ibbotson, Croft and the writer for several years around Toronto, and that *H. pinicola* was discovered in two distant places, i.e., Lake Superior, where Dr. LeConte found fragments of one which formed the MS. for his *heros*, and the others were living specimens taken on pine trees at Quebec by the writer, and described by him in the *Canadian Naturalist & Geologist*, published at Montreal, either in 1865 or '66. We are pleased to notice Mr. Fletcher's "Flora Ottawaensis" in the first number, with an addition to it in the second. We know that the late Mr. Billings published a local list of plants in the Transactions of the Literary and Scientific Society of Ottawa. In closing, we will here notice a descriptive paper on the genus *LILIUM*, by our old friend Lt.-Col. White, an associate, who is always willing to aid literary institutions. In all, we commend the Transactions of the O. F. N. C. to all those who take an interest in the Natural History of Canada.—C.

## Correspondence.

### "LEGEND OF THE CROSSBILL."

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN SPORTSMAN AND NATURALIST:—

SIR,—I notice considerable correspondence appearing in your columns on the Robin. I am a student of ornithology, therefore, I would like to say a few words on the subject. I consider Dr. Garnier is justified in shooting *Turdus migratorius* in the autumn and winter seasons, as, during that time, they are very good eating. I have enjoyed the winter sport, shooting Blackbirds, Thrushes, Larks, Redwings and Fieldfares in England, and can vouch for the good pie they make. The Rev. Mr. Clementi