

The lecturer began by defining the limits of his subject and by showing the lines which separated the animal kingdom from the mineral and vegetable kingdoms. He said that while it was an easy matter to distinguish between animals and vegetables of the higher orders, it was exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, when we descend to the protozoic forms of animals and the correspondingly low forms of plant life. He stated that, apart from what could be seen in the more highly organized, the essential difference between plants and animals is that the former absorb from the air carbonic acid and give off oxygen, while the latter do the opposite, a most beautiful illustration of the mutual dependence of the different orders of created beings upon one another.

The lecturer explained briefly the classifications of zoology from the vertebrata down to the protozoa. His explanations were of the most lucid and concise nature, and so clear that his hearers could not fail to understand.

In conclusion he advised and urged on his hearers to take up the study of Nature, if it was only for the benefit of their health, and advised them, if they wanted to study any branch of natural history, to begin with some branch of zoology, as it was impossible to acquire a thorough knowledge of geology or any of the other branches without some knowledge of the animal kingdom. That he knew of no place so favorable to the study of science as Ottawa, with its free libraries, museums, and masters of science, who were always willing to help beginners. For anyone who wanted to study zoology he recommended the hand book on that subject by Sir William Dawson, and closed his excellent lecture with an appeal to the members present to undertake some original work in some particular direction. Mr. Taylor concluded by stating that he believed it one of our duties as well as of our privilege to study the great diversity of the animal creation, and that after the study of God's Word should come the study of God's works.

The president alluded animatedly to the fact that no effort had been made on the part of any member of the club to acquire a knowledge or even to give a list of the vertebrate animals of this vicinity, and thought that it was a pity that a subject which was of such importance, as Mr. Taylor had shown this to be, should be left untouched