

MEETING OF COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Council of the Club was held in the Normal School on April 30th, with the President, Mr. W. J. Wilson, in the chair. The members present were, Messrs. Halkett, Gibson, Gallup, Lemieux, Eifrig, and Clarke, Miss Jackson, and Miss Ritchie. The following new members were elected: the Director of the Christian Brothers' Academy, Sussex St., Messrs. W. C. Ewing, M.A.; R. M. Baker, G. S. Malloch, B.A., Ed. Hampson, and Miss K. Waddell. A communication was read from the New York Academy of Sciences, inviting the Club to participate in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Swedish naturalist, Carl von Linné, by sending an authorized representative and by presenting an official document, appreciative of the work of Linné, to be read before the members of the New York Academy of Sciences and the assembled guests. It was felt that the Club could not send a representative, but arrangements were made for the preparation of the document suggested.

SUB-EXCURSIONS

The first sub-excursion of the season was held at Rockliffe, on Saturday afternoon, 20th April. About fifteen persons attended, including four leaders of branches. The day was rather cold, but the sun shone brightly in a clear blue sky, so that a very pleasant time was spent. After exploring the woods, the more open spaces, or the cliffs, the party re-assembled at the side of a sunny knoll, where the President called upon a few of the members to speak on what they had observed; the following is a summary of what was said.

Mr. McNeill was first called upon, and spoke in an interesting way about the harmonies to be observed in nature, pointing out how the lichens absorb elements out of the stones, and decompose them, so that other plants can assimilate them as nutriment. He also said that there is a harmonious co-mingling of colors among certain plants during winter (so that that phenomenon is not altogether peculiar to the milder seasons): instancing that the dog-wood is red, the conifers green, and the birches white.

Rev. Mr. Eifrig was next called upon to speak about the birds seen by him, which embraced two juncos (*Junco hyemalis*), two song-sparrows (*Melospiza fasciata*), two phoebes (*Sayornis phoebe*)—which were mating—a large flock of red-polls (*Acanthis linaria*), and five or six robins (*Merula migratoria*). He said that more birds would evidently have been seen had not the day been windy, as birds venture out less in windy than in calm weather.