

FIFTEENTH.—On the afternoon of the 28th September a few active workers of the Conchological Branch, including two ladies, met at Ratté's and procuring a large skiff rowed down the Ottawa to Duck Island. This locality is remarkable for producing in abundance one of the most beautiful shells found in the inland waters of North America. A few specimens of this species, *Unio occidentis*, Lea, were observed on the bar which runs from the head of the island towards the Quebec shore; but no attempt was made at collecting until a landing had been effected opposite Templeton Wharf, and the appetites of the party, sharply whetted by the long pull down the river, had been appeased by a hearty luncheon. The excursionists then divided, some remaining on the Northern shore and the others crossing the island. On the Southern side *Unio Occidentis*, *U. borealis*, *U. ellipsis* and a large coarse form of *U. complanatus* were very common. A still larger but less ponderous variety of *complanatus*, pale in color and beautifully rayed, was found sparingly, and for the first time since 1881. One specimen of *U. alatus*, and a few *U. gracilis*, *U. rectus* and *U. gibbosus* were taken near the lower end of the island, all in fine condition. In the meantime those upon the North shore had not been idle. They had collected great heaps of *Unio occidentis*, *U. complanatus* and *U. ellipsis*, with several *U. borealis* and a few *U. gracilis*. One specimen each of *Anodonta undulata* and *Margaritana undulata*, the latter of remarkable size, was also found. The material of the afternoon's collecting was carefully examined before leaving, and any not required were replaced in the waters. All the shells selected were remarkable for size, beauty or variety, and the *Unio occidentis* rival in brilliancy of lustre and variety of form and coloring the choicest productions of tropical seas. A long pull, after a second attack on the lunch baskets, landed the party at Ottawa highly pleased with the result of the excursion.

SIXTEENTH.—The special object of this sub-excursion of the 1st October was to investigate the different species of *Fraxinus* found in the locality.

Rockcliffe was the locality visited, and many different trees were examined. Specimens of the seed of the Red Ash (*F. pubescens*), the White Ash (*F. Americana*) and the Black Ash (*F. sambucifolia*) were