

skirts the swamp and worked their way towards Billings Bridge. The Sugar maples were now just at the fullest glory of their golden splendour. How strange it is that, often as the maple is written of and depicted, little is said of the extremely beautiful flowers which hang in copious silken tassels from the tip of every twig, their yellow flowers and anthers hanging on the slender thread-like pallid pedicels contrasting with the delicate green of the expanding foliage and making up for their small size by the profusion in which they are produced. Passing on towards Billings Bridge the only Ottawa locality for *Claytonia Virginica* was visited. Close by fine specimens of *Viola Cucullata* in varying forms were collected. Before the close of the Excursion Mr. Frank T. Shutt joined the party and added to the interest of the outing. The wild Plum was one of the conspicuous ornaments of the open woods.

No. 5.—To New Edinburgh, May 14th. A rather dull morning with a sharp shower was followed by an exquisite afternoon and a most pleasant outing was enjoyed in the woods between Rideau Hall, Hemlock Lake and Beechwood. The party was led by Dr. Fletcher, Miss Whyte and Mr. Halkett. The rocky hill by the Governor General's bay produced many interesting specimens—*Hepatica triloba* with pink, blue and white flowers attracted the attention of all. *Corydalis aurea* and *Pedicularis Canadensis* were first recorded to-day for this season. *Aquilegia Canadensis* was found in quantities. This pretty plant sometimes called inaccurately "Honeysuckle" seems to have given its namers some trouble, its Latin name, *Aquilegia*, is derived from *Aquila*, an eagle while its English name, Columbine, comes from *Columba*, a dove. Several birds attracted attention, among these the beautiful Brown Thrasher and its relative the Catbird, both close kinsmen of the true Mocking bird and themselves mockers of no mean attainments. The Purple Finch poured forth his delightful song with special fervour in honour of his visitors. In the cedar woods near Crichton Lodge the naturalists had a good opportunity of examining closely a fine American Hare which