

REPORT TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

Read at the Fourth General Meeting, May, 1885.

As delegate from the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club, I am able to report that the past year has been for it one of continued progress and success. Its two-fold work of studying local natural history, and of endeavouring to popularize science has been vigorously prosecuted and its membership has been largely increased. Forty persons joined the Club during the year, of whom several reside in distant parts of the country and have sought to evidence their interest in the welfare of the Club by enrolling themselves in its ranks. The membership is now one hundred and seventy.

Four large excursions were held last summer, at the first of which the Club was honored by the presence of many Fellows of your Honorable Society, and delegates thereto. Sub-excursions or "working parties" were also held on alternate Saturdays during the season, and contributed largely to a fuller knowledge of our geological formations and of our fauna and flora.

At the winter Soirées (six in number) "reports" by the leaders appointed in Geology, Botany, Entomology, Conchology, Ornithology and General Zoology were presented, and the following papers of much interest and value were read:—

The President's Address, H. Beaumont Small, M. D.

The Canadian Otter, W. Pitman Lett.

The Minerals of the Ottawa District, C. W. Willimott.

Wheat, (with special reference to that grown in Ottawa District)
Wm. Scott.

Our Saw-flies and Horn-tails, W. H. Harrington.

Local Trenton Fossils, W. B. Billings.

Classes in Botany, Mineralogy and Ornithology were conducted during several weeks; the first named subject under the very interesting treatment of Prof. Macoun being specially attractive to the members and their friends.