

the Ottawa, and extends upwards along its principal tributaries for nearly one hundred miles, we have, but little reliable information. It is possible, therefore, that a few notes, founded upon a somewhat extensive two years' wanderings through this territory, may possess some points of interest to the readers of our journal, more particularly in view of the fact that, by means of canoes, many charming holiday excursions can be made along the network of streams and lakes, which intersect this northern country, presenting not only beautiful bits of natural scenery, but, to the student of nature, excellent opportunities for extending our knowledge of the plants, insects, birds, etc., of our more immediate vicinity.

Among the more important of the streams which traverse the Laurentian area north of the Ottawa, are the St. Maurice, the Rouge, the North Nation, the Lièvre, the Gatineau, and the upper part of the Ottawa itself; to the west of Ottawa city, are the Black, the Coulonge, the Dumoine and the Kippewa, by means of which, and by crossing short portages, the great chain of lakes lying to the north, for thirty to one hundred miles, are rendered easily accessible. Most of these lakes abound with fish, such as pike, bass and trout, while the woods are alive with deer. The Gatineau itself can be traversed for over 200 miles to its source, whence, by a short carry, it is possible to reach the Ottawa on the west, and then descend to Lake Temiscamingue; or, if it is preferred, an equally short portage will enable one to launch his canoe on the head-waters of the St. Maurice, by descending which, after a journey of about 250 miles, through some of the grandest scenery of the Laurentides, he can reach the St. Lawrence at Three Rivers, half way between Quebec and Montreal; or a route can be taken northward which will reach the country of Lake St. John, from which a descent can be made by the Saguenay. Along the Gatineau and the Rouge well constructed roads extend for over 100 miles, and thus anyone desirous of investigating the botany and other branches of natural history in this section, can very easily and quickly place himself in an almost entirely unknown country in this respect.

While it must be admitted that much of the country occupied by Laurentian rocks is rough and unfitted for agricultural pursuits, there are a great many areas, often of considerable extent, to which this remark will by no means apply. On the Gatineau and Lièvre, after