

EXCURSION No. 3.

Taking advantage of the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. William Borthwick, which had been standing for some time, the Club made its third excursion for the present season, on Saturday, 8th July, to Borthwick's Springs, in the Township of Gloucester, some seven miles east of Ottawa. Mr. Borthwick has entered upon the production of fruit as well as the sale of it, and large plantations of small fruits have been made, with promise of great success. About thirty members attended. The trip was made in vans, starting from the Post Office at 2 p.m., and in spite of a violent thunderstorm which overtook them on the way, all reached the objective point without mishap shortly before four. Here they were hospitably received by Mr. and Mrs. Borthwick, and the weather soon clearing the party proceeded to inspect the spring. This lies in a marshy tract at the foot of the hill on which the house stands, and close to one of the branches of Green's Creek. A building has been placed over the spring, with appliances for barrelling and shipping the water, which is sold largely in and about Ottawa. It is of a rather pleasant saline taste, and is celebrated for its mildly aperient properties. An analysis made several years ago by Dr. J. Baker Edwards, of Montreal, is given below. The well known peat-bog, the *Mer Bleue*, commences a short distance farther to the east, and it had been intended to pay it a visit, but owing to the condition of the ground after the storm this had to be omitted. After a generous lunch, provided by the hostess, the Vice-President, Mr. F. T. Shutt, took the chair, and devoted a few opening remarks to the subject of mineral springs, their geological origin and chemical constituents. He then introduced Messrs. R. B. Whyte and John Craig, who delivered addresses upon the botanical specimens collected during the afternoon. Mr. Whyte drew attention to a number of beautiful flowers of easy cultivation, such as the Cone flowers (Rudbeckia) and native orchids, characteristic of that district, which should be found in every garden. The apt and striking way in which the distinguishing points between different species were described gave Mr. Whyte's lecture additional interest.

An addition was made to the local list of plants, in the shape of *Ranunculus sceleratus*, found by Mr. J. F. Whiteaves.