

species each, are worthy of special mention, as also the collections of Miss L. Mabel Graham, Miss Van Alstyne, and Miss M. M. Mackenzie.

The Judges report that it was no ordinary task of awarding the prizes, as the all-round excellence of the collections demanded critical comparison of specimens with specimens throughout, before decision could be arrived at.

P.S.—The Judges appointed by the Club were :—Dr. James Fletcher, Prof John Macoun, and the President of the Club, Dr. H. M. Ami.

#### THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.

I am not one of those whose motto is "despair." In fact it is with considerable satisfaction and reasonable hope that we look forward to the early meeting of the Canadian Parliament when the realization of the promises made by our worthy representatives are to be fulfilled. We expect a National Museum—a building commensurate with the needs of the times, adapted for the specific purposes for which it is designated—as a repository of authentic and representative specimens illustrating the immense wealth and natural resources of our great Dominion. We hear from all sides the cry that the present building on Sussex street, the building on O'Connor street and other repositories of Canadian collections are "too small," "very inadequate," "totally unfit," "dangerously situated" and running the daily risk of being destroyed by fire, although they contain probably more "types" and typical series of collections illustrating the mineral wealth, forest products, products of earth, sea and sky of Canada than would take a half century to acquire and replace. The fact is, ladies and gentlemen, if the types now displayed, say, in the Geological Museum on Sussex street, were ever destroyed, they could never be replaced and an irreparable loss to Canada as well as to science (or exact knowledge) would be the result. The people of Canada, all the Natural History Societies of the Dominion, the Council of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, and its members will hail with special delight the first tangible proof of the erection of a National Museum at the capital.

#### ROYAL SOCIETY MEETING.

In May of this year, the Royal Society of Canada again met