

NOTES—CONCHOLOGICAL AND OTHERWISE.

In the January *Nautilus*, Dr. Sterki describes a new species of mussel, under the name *Musculium declive*. A number of the specimens upon which the species is based were obtained in the County of Renfrew; the others were found in Michigan. The Renfrew shells were discovered in September, 1911, in a lake about a mile west of Brudenell, known locally as Lake Gorman. It is a beautiful sheet of water set among the Opeongo Hills which though depleted of the pine still preserves on all sides of the lake the aspect of the primeval forest. About ten years ago when charged *inter alia* with the administration of the Fish and Game Department of Ontario, I arranged for the seining at Long Point, Lake Erie, of large numbers of adult small-mouthed black bass, and the distribution of them in suitable localities—barren or depleted—throughout the province. At the request of my old friend, the Rev. F. J. French, of Brudenell, I sent him about fifty fish to stock Lake Gorman, which contained no game fish. Many died *en route* between the railway at Killaloe and the lake. Probably not more than twenty were living when placed in its water. The few, however, found their new home so congenial that they increased and multiplied to such an extent that the lake now fairly swarms with this gamiest of inland fishes. I have in common with my good friend a regard for these bass which is almost paternal; yet when an opportunity presented itself last September of accepting his oft repeated invitation to revisit Brudenell, neither he nor I allowed our interest in the bass to interfere—at least for a time—with our more primitive instincts. The sport was glorious. Every fish was a fighter, leaping repeatedly from his element into ours. It would have been sinful to catch more than we had use for, and we refrained from any excess. It then occurred to me that the lake might yield other specimens than *Micropterus dolomieu*. I looked for and found shells in abundance. The only large mussel was *Unio complanatus*. A fine *Physa*, probably *P. sayii* Tappan, spotted the rocks near the boathouse, and with it was a remarkably beautiful, pearly form of *Planorbis bicarinatus*. On the sandy beach at the northern end of the lake occurred a large, and, I think, undescribed, *Sphaerium*. It differed widely from the other large *Sphaeria*,—*S. sulcatum* and *S. crassum*. Many were collected and cleaned. They were regarded as particularly precious, and were put away with that excessive care which, like ambition, sometimes "o'erleaps itself and falls on t'other side." They have not yet been found.

The surprise of the day—for me—was the finding of another