

W. Scott, the Science Master of the Normal School, who has not only collected assiduously himself right through the season, but has delivered a series of lectures in the Normal School, in which each student was provided with a specimen of a fresh plant—an innovation of a most valuable character. Good results cannot but follow from this method of teaching.

Professor Macoun still continues his unceasing labours with results of incalculable value. His researches amongst the mosses may fairly be said to have revolutionised our knowledge of these difficult plants. In connection with Dr. Kindberg of Linköping (Sweden), Mons. Cardot of Steiny (France), and Prof. Venturi of Nice (Italy), he is making a systematic re-examination of all the Canadian Musci, with the remarkable results that fully fifty species will be added to the North American moss flora, over forty of which are new to science. Seven of these have been found in this locality and are new to science. Two of these are named with characteristic names, i.e., *Pylaisia Selwyni*, named in honor of Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, the Director of the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, who, although not himself specially a botanist, has always given Prof. Macoun every opportunity to use to the best advantage his great talents in this line, for the benefit both of the Dominion of Canada and for the scientific world at large. *Bryum Ontariense*, of interest from having been confounded for many years with *Bryum roseum*, is named in honor of our own fair province.

An interesting re-discovery was made last spring in the form of a parasitic fungus, which was found very effective in materially diminishing the numbers of one of our injurious cutworms (*Agrotis fennica*). This fungus was named *Empusa (Entomophthora) virescens*, by Mr. Roland Thaxter, a high authority upon these forms. This species was discovered at Ottawa in 1884, when it almost annihilated a remarkable occurrence of the cutworms mentioned. A well-known example of these fungi is the *Empusa muscæ*, which causes the death of house flies in autumn, when they may be found attached to walls or windows by their probosces and surrounded by a white cloud of the spores of the fungus which has destroyed them. As the new additions to the local plants will appear in the *Flora Ottavensis* now being published, it would be useless to give a list of them here. The new species of