

## OTTAWA FIELD-NATURALISTS' CLUB.

The 25th anniversary of the foundation of this active and useful organization was celebrated in the large assembly hall of the Normal School on Tuesday evening, December the 15th, and proved of much interest to the large audience present. The inaugural address of the president, Mr. W. T. Macoun, dealt with the present work of the Club, and of projects for the future. Principal White, of the Ottawa Normal School, in a concise and well-expressed address of welcome, attested to the public appreciation of the efforts of the Club, and the important work they were engaged in in connection with the educational institutions of the city. All the speakers were members of the first Council of the Club in 1870.

Lieut.-Col White, C. M. G., the first president of the Club, spoke upon *Natural History at Ottawa before the formation of the Club*, giving many pleasing reminiscences of former workers, and the difficulties under which they laboured.

Mr. Robert B. Whyte spoke upon "*Botanical Conditions around Ottawa twenty-five years ago.*" He went carefully over the old hunting-grounds, many of which are now covered with buildings, and recalled with pleasure the finding of special rarities, and the companionship of friends bound together by ties of mutual scientific interest. He spoke particularly of the delight of the Honourable Joseph Martin, who at that time was an enthusiastic student of botany, when he found his first plant of the Showy Lady's Slipper.

Dr. Fletcher dealt with "*Ottawa as a Natural History locality twenty-five years ago.*" He reviewed in order the old localities which were most productive for the naturalist, mentioning some of the rarer objects found, and drew attention to the changes which had obliterated some of these since the Club started; but pointed out that there was still much to be done close to, or even within the city limits, in the different branches of Natural History. Reference was made to the great stimulus given to scientific work in Ottawa by the advent of the Geological Survey of Canada.

Lieut.-Col. Anderson gave an address upon the "*Workers in Natural History at Ottawa twenty-five years ago,*" paying a tribute to the good work done, and to the constancy with which the enthusiasm had been kept up. A striking feature was the encouragement which had always been given to beginners by the leaders.

Dr. H. B. Small's subject was, "*What the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club has accomplished.*" He recalled many interesting characters and