

MONDAY AFTERNOON LECTURES.

The course of Elementary Monday Afternoon Lectures has been unusually successful during the past season, the attendance and after-discussion being particularly satisfactory. The first of these delivered upon January 7th was by Mr. F. R. Latchford upon Conchology. Owing to a serious illness, Prof. Macoun was unable to deliver a lecture on this day upon the subject of Ornithology. Mr. Latchford kindly consented to take charge of the class and delivered a most instructive address, in which he gave the club the benefit of his experience in collecting shells and preserving them for the cabinet. The second lecture, on the 21st of January, was upon the subject of Geology by Dr. Ells. This was so highly appreciated that the publishing committee was requested to print it *in extenso*, which was done in the January number of the OTTAWA NATURALIST.

The second lecture on Geology proved no less interesting than the last, as Mr. Henry M. Ami dwelt with the practical side of the science, Applied Geology. In a clear and concise manner Mr. Ami sketched the history of Ottawa from the earliest times up to the present, and arranged the various formations or sub-divisions of strata into three grand natural divisions, viz.: *The Laurentian or Archæan; the Palæozoic; the Post-Tertiary*. Each of these was treated separately, and the characters of each described in such a manner as to be easily recognized. Specimens of the formations comprised in these three great systems were passed round and examined. Interesting localities to visit and study, worthy of careful examination, were pointed out, and an earnest appeal made on behalf of geological research and enquiry, urging the members to devote some attention to geology, as the field was most inviting and the work promising. Special stress was laid upon the economic value of the several formations discussed and the occurrence of such minerals as iron, mica, graphite, apatite, galena, and many others in this district, besides the cement stones and marls with fine building stones which show how important a study geology is. A lengthy and animated discussion followed Mr. Ami's remarks.

Mr. John Stewart thought that the long ridges of boulders, &c., which occurred at Hull, Que., near Lake Flora were of glacial origin,