

inframarginals on the bridge) in *Baëna hatcheri* and *Baëna marshi* it is possible that these two species may be found to be referable to *Boremys* rather than to *Baëna*.

Supramarginal shields are described as occurring in *Proganochelys quenstedti*, Baur, from the Upper Trias (Keuper) of Wurtemberg. They are stated to be present in *Platycheilus oberndorferi*, Wagner, of the Upper Jurassic of Bavaria, although in the figures of the carapace it is not made clear to what extent they are developed. Also they are found in the living *Macroclermys temmincki* (Alligator Turtle) of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

The presence of supramarginal shields in the carapace of this Cretaceous species is regarded as an archaic character handed down from earlier forms. The presence of six costal shields on each side also appears to be a stage in the gradual reduction of the total number of shields of the carapace.

BOTANICAL BRANCH.

On the evening of January 4th, the following members of the Botanical Club met at the residence of Mr. A. E. Attwood: Prof. Macoun, Dr. Ami, Dr. Blackadar, Messrs. W. T. Macoun, R. B. Whyte, T. E. Clarke, W. C. Ewing, and D. A. Campbell.

The greater part of the evening was devoted to discussing the merits of a plan or key for the easy identification of the ferns of Ontario. It was decided to test the efficacy of the so-called popular key next summer.

Some time was devoted to microscopic work, after which Dr. Ami showed a large number of specimens of fossil fruits collected some years ago in the State of Vermont. Dr. Ami has written an interesting account of these fossil fruits, and his paper will appear in a future number of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

A. E. A.