

botanical student will here find much to enrich his herbarium. It is stated that as many as 500 species have been identified, a list of which has been compiled and published. No wonder the idea occurred to Prof. Panton, of the Ontario Agricultural College, that here would be an admirable point at which to gather a band of students for practical instruction in the sciences of Botany and Geology during the summer vacation. We met him on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 23rd of July, leading a band of twenty-six ladies and gentlemen, for an excursion along the river margin in search of specimens for analysing,



FIG. 63—THE PRINCIPAL ENTRANCE.

each one with his copy of Spotton's Botany, and many of them provided with tin boxes slung from the shoulder for the better preservation of the plants. Many of the students were teachers preparing in this way for more thorough work in their own schools. We followed the peripatetic Professor on an excursion along the margin of the river, listening to his practical method of teaching; and on the following morning attended two of his morning lectures. The course, it seems, extends over a period of two weeks, and consists of

a series of lectures in Botany and Geology, ten on each subject. We believe this is the true way to study these sciences, viz:—beginning with the objects themselves, and gradually proceeding toward the technical and the abstract. The contrast was very marked with the university mode of years ago, when we waded through books and took notes of lectures upon these subjects, committing whole pages of technical names, and of classifications, without so much as ever seeing the objects themselves.

In our ramble along the river margin we found a beautiful specimen of *Campanula Americana*, the tall Bell-flower, in full bloom, and also the coarse growing *Polymnia Canadensis* or Leaf Cup, which is only known to occur here. But the richest returns were found in the walk to the

DUFFERIN ISLANDS

than which a more attractive resort for the lover of Nature can not well be imagined. "Riverside Ramble;" "Lovers' Walk"; "Lovers' Retreat," etc., are names suggestive enough of romantic retirement; and the reality is no disappointment. Amid the dense forest growth through which these walks are laid out, leading the Rambler across rustic bridges, along streams and brooks, lined with ferns and wild shrubs of many species, numerous fine specimens were found. *Daphne mezereum* was there in abundance, with its load of red berries, as also was *Actaea spicata*, with similar fruit, known commonly as the Baneberry. *Onoclea sensibilis* or the Sensitive fern, grows abundantly in wet places