

and spruces. The different species of ash also attracted attention. Some of the early butterflies were noticed, but none of them were numerous. The early white *Pieris oleracea-hiemalis* was the most abundant, and some nice specimens were secured. A single example of the small Fritillary (*Argynnis bellona*) was seen flying; the 9th May is an early date for the species.

Shortly after 5 o'clock the company gathered near the Director's house, where Mrs. Saunders had kindly prepared most welcome refreshments. At the request of the President, Dr. Saunders gave an interesting talk relating to some of the work carried on by the Dominion Experimental Farms. Special mention was made of the value of the experiments in the hybridizing of fruits for the North-west, which gave every promise of great success. On invitation from the President, several questions were asked by some of those present, on natural history and farm work. Short addresses were also delivered, appreciative of the good work being done by the Club, by Mr. White, the Principal of the Normal School, and by Father Lajeunesse, of the Ottawa University. Before the members dispersed, the President drew their attention to the presence, in a near-by tree, of the Purple Finch and the Brown Thrasher. These charming birds were singing merrily, each vying with the other to enchant the visitors with the sweetness of their notes.

#### A. G.

The excursion of May 30th to Queen's Park, Aylmer, was attended by some twenty members of the Club—mainly from the botanical section. The burnt grass and the scarcity of many of the flowering plants told of the unusual spring drought but emphasized the beauty of the trees and shrubs. Especially worthy of note was the tall, graceful Sweet Viburnum (*V. lentago*), very prominent near the Chute.

During the afternoon Prof. Macoun found *Salix longifolia* and *Salix amygdaloides*, and Mr. O'Brien discovered both species of Hepatica. *Ranunculus septentrionalis* was found along the line of the railway, and a fine patch of the large yellow Water-Crowfoot (*Ranunculus multifidus*) in the swamp. Prof. Macoun and Mr. Clarke came upon a nesting whip-poor-will in a shady, retired spot. The bird floated from the nest in its moth-like