

EXCURSION No. 1 TO CHELSEA.

The first General Excursion of the year was held on May 28th to Gilmour's grove at Chelsea. This beautiful spot overlooking the rapids of the Gatineau, never loses its charms for our members. Here all, whatever their tastes, can be satisfied, the wild grand scenery, the cool woods and rocks rich with specimens of all kinds, and the facility of reaching the locality, all tend to make this an ideal spot for a naturalist's hunting ground.

About 175 Members of the Club and their friends left Ottawa by the 1.30. train. The weather was proclaimed on all sides to be simply perfection and the afternoon passed all too quickly. Mr. Shutt, the always reliable, Chairman of the Excursion Committee had made the arrangements so well that everything went off with the smoothness of clock-work, except perhaps that he had not arranged to have the sun put back an hour to give the Excursionists more time to enjoy themselves. Specimens of many kinds were collected by eager hands, plants, insects, shells, minerals, etc. The lovers of birds were peering into every tree and bush with eyes no less sharp than those of the birds they were observing.

The Botanists brought in many specimens for the leaders to name and explain the characters of—*Cypripedium acaule* was found in some numbers, the beautiful flowers calling the attention of the most unobservant. One enthusiastic botanist was seen ruthlessly picking off the flowers from a clump of plants "to prevent thoughtless people digging up the roots which they cant grow and cleaning out the locality" he said.

The small but striking flowers of *Corydalis glauca* and Canada Columbine were found on the rocks, as well as the vines of *Epigaea repens*. *Viburnum lantanoides* was one of the most beautiful flowering shrubs observed, but most of the bushes were past flowering.

Viola Cucullata was in great beauty and a few fungi were collected. The most interesting being a very large specimen of