

## THE ROCKWOOD REVIEW

day, a matron Raccoon was seen in transitu with her four cubs, which were about the size of groundhogs. (This was in the month of June, and the fires continued for five or six weeks,) and in an evil moment for the family party, it came under the ken of one of the woodmen's dogs, who despite the brave fighting of Materfamilias in defence of her progeny, soon succeeded in worrying to death one of the cubs. Another couple of full grown racoons, in course of their migrations through the bush, got into a fierce growling and fighting contest, and one of the combatants got captured ere he could climb to the security of the tree tops. A neighbour boy is now trying to tame this Procyon as a pet. The quadruped is said to be lean and mangy-looking in condition, as if having recently passed through some fiery hardships, and he does not take kindly to the restraint of kennel life.

Among the secrets revealed by a walk over the ashes-strewn area, after the extinguishment, was that a black Squirrel, despite his nimbleness and sagacity, had perished in the burning death trap, and the line of residue of his skeleton testified to where the life movements had ceased.

The tolerably complete skeleton of what a local expert pronounced to be that of a half grown Fox, was also gathered up, and also the burnt and broken remnants of the shelly integuments of mud turtles. This sort of suggestive evidence goes to show what a miscellaneous assortment of animal life still lingers in the bits of primitive forest that have been allowed to remain in the vicinity of long cultivated, well settled districts.

The forest fire alluded to is not quite extinguished yet. It has caused much trouble and loss of time, and despite all our efforts and watchfulness, "stole a march upon

us" at last. It got into our small timber reserve and sugar bush, of about twelve acres, and burnt the line fence or a part of the same, and overran about four acres, killing about forty of the useful maple trees. We think we can prevent its further spread now the rain has come, and have little apprehension of serious loss.

My toning of photo prints was a failure to-day, through the deterioration of the acetate of soda, but I send the specimen. It is a representation of a Picnic Party, on last Queen's Birthday, on the Otter Creek, eight miles from here. The young fellow sitting on the rustic bridge is a relative of ours, just out from England, and named Grosvenor.

Yours sincerely,  
W. Y.

### BOTANICAL NOTES.

Among others the following specimens have recently been collected by the editors:

Lathyrus Palustris, Marsh Everlasting Pea, Sagittaria Latifolia, Arrowhead, or Water Plantain.

Gallium Trifidum, Small Bedstraw.

Convolvulus Sepium, Hedge Bindweed.

Datura Stramonium Thornapple, or Deadly Night Shade, Staphylea Trifolia, American Bladder Nut.

Epilobium Angustifolium, Great Willow Herb or Fireweed, Inula Helenium or Elecampane.

Saponaria Officinalis, Bouncing Bet.

Rubdeckia Hirta, Cone Flower.

Lobelia Syphilitica, Great Lobelia.

Lobelia Inflata, Indian Tobacco.

Steironoma Ciliatum, Fringed Loose Strife.

Polygonum Amphibia, Knot Weed.

Sedum Acre, Mossy Stone Crop.

Hypericum Perforatum, Common St. John's Wort, Lysimachia Stri-