

read before this Club last winter, we have what I believe will form the first of a series of most interesting papers describing the early history of Man in this district long after the close of the Glacial period and subsequent to the Champlain period of submergence, which is followed by that in which we now live, the "Recent" period of elevation.

In all these branches of the Club's work there has been marked activity in the field. To this may be added the reports of the leaders of the branches, which form, and ever ought to form, an important feature in the Club's work, for in them suggestions for work to be done as well as to avenues open appear from time to time in order to stimulate work.

For a number of years the main object of this Club was the study of this locality alone, but with the growth of our city, and the addition of a considerable number of scientific men on the staff of the various departments of the Government service, as well as with a considerable influx of members from other parts of the Dominion who desired to join us, and who contributed papers upon the natural history of the districts in which they happened to reside, our Club was of necessity compelled, in 1890, to widen its sphere of activity, so that, to-day, besides investigating and reporting upon the natural history and geology of the Ottawa district (which it is understood comprises an area with a radius of twenty miles, with Ottawa as a centre) also publishes reports and papers bearing upon the natural history and geology of other parts of the Dominion of Canada.

Ottawa is no doubt fast becoming one of the leading centres of scientific research on this continent, and outside of the technical and professional reports, issued by authority of Parliament, there ought to be a most active and live organ or medium of publication in our midst, worthy of our Capital. Freedom in the discussion of the various scientific problems that occur in the study of any field of natural history or geological inquiry, as well as encouragement in the search for additional light upon these problems, with facility for publication, ought to be the share of every investigator. Such encouragement to research must necessarily help in developing our material resources, which must form a potent factor in building up our nation.