EVENING LECTURES.

THE OPENING ADDRESS, DELIVERED DEC. 11, 1890.

The first meeting of the course of Thursday Evening Lectures, arranged to take place during the winter, was held in the Normal School on the above date, at the advertised time. Dr. J. A. Mac-Cabe, the Principal of the Normal School, opened the meeting by delivering an Address of Welcome. He stated that owing to the fact that they were in the midst of the closing examinations it had been quite impossible for him to prepare the address he had proposed. He had two objects in view in granting the use of the Normal School Lecture room for these Free Popular Lectures, which he was certain could not but be of great value to the students attending the school and to the citizens of Ottawa. The first object was to show, as expressed in the title, that "Science" was given on the programme for his address " an aid to general education," the second was a very easy and pleasant one, namely, to extend to the members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club and their friends a very hearty welcome.

Speaking of the educational value of science he drew attention to the fact that no one was too old to learn—the time never came to anyone when he could say he had finished his education. A person's education was always progressing, and was influenced by every person or object with which he came into contact. Taking this into consideration, he said we all must appreciate that the great fountain and source of knowledge lies outside the class-room, and is not found in text books alone, but must be sought in the great world of Nature. Teachers are frequently told to study Nature's methods ; he would go further and say : Study Nature herself.

Speaking of the good work which had been already done by the club, Dr. MacCabe foresaw great advantages from the present course of lectures, not only to the Normal School and the city of Ottawa, but to the whole district.

He concluded by wishing the club every success, and then introduced Dr. Ells, the president of the club, who delivered the following :—