

of closely allied species, are subject to attack by numerous gall midges, indicating an extremely close relation between the infested plant and the insect dependent thereupon. The bud-inhabiting gall midges are potentially the most destructive, and, owing to the known prolificacy of certain gall midges, it is to be expected that injuries by species referable to this group will become more, rather than less, apparent with the advance of time.

### EXCURSIONS.

The second excursion of the season was held on the afternoon of Saturday, May 9th, the locality visited being the north shore of the Ottawa River above the Chaudiere Falls. The rock formations were rich in fossils; the trees and general vegetation, at this season, were assuming their spring verdure, and the pools by the banks of the river contained a variety of forms of life. A large attendance of members was present and much interesting material was examined and collected. The President, Mr. Arthur Gibson, was in charge of the party. At the close of the outing addresses were delivered at the side of a grassy knoll close to the river, and the first leader called upon to speak was Mr. Halkett, of the zoological branch. Specimens of two kinds of small crustaceans—one an amphipod (*Gammarus*) and the other an isopod (*Asellus aquaticus*), as well as several kinds of fresh water pulmonate gastropod mollusks were passed around and points explained regarding their life-habits.

Miss Fyles spoke of the plants which had been observed or collected. Several specimens of *Geaster hygrometricus* were found. It was pointed out that the Geasters were distinguished from the puffballs by the outer coat, which breaks and spreads out in the form of a star, whence the name Earth-star. This odd and interesting fungus is very sensitive of moisture, spreading out its star-like coat in wet weather and folding in its points when the atmosphere is dry. Miss Fyles also gave an interesting account of the life-history of the Horse-tails (*Equisetum* spp.) and of many other plants which were handed to her to name.

A very interesting account of the herbs used by the Iroquois medicine men was given by Mr. Waugh, a leader of the archaeological branch, the substance of which he has since supplied in manuscript notes, which, given in his own words, are as follows:—

"A large number of animal and vegetable materials are used in the Iroquois medicines. Although many of the herbal or vegetable preparations are most effective from a therapeutic standpoint, a great deal of reliance is placed in sympathetic