

## SUB-EXCURSIONS.

About fifty members and friends of the club met at St. Patrick street bridge on Saturday afternoon April 11th. The leaders present were Professor John Macoun, W. T. Macoun, Andrew Halkett, A. E. Attwood and W. J. Wilson. The party proceeded to Beechwood and McKay Lake collecting plants, animals and rock specimens by the way. The plants found in bloom were *Anemone Hepatica*, *A. acutiloba*, spring beauty, *Claytonia Caroliniana* and blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*). The three first named were found in considerable abundance. Attention was directed to the rock formations as shown on the map of the Ottawa district. In going from St. Patrick street bridge the Utica shale outcrops in numerous places and is seen up to the first road leading into Beechwood. Then by a fault the chazy limestone comes up on the left and a narrow band of Black River limestone on the right. About half way from Beechwood gate to McKay Lake chazy shale appears, and this is the surface rock to the river where it is well seen at Rockcliffe. The pleistocene formation round McKay Lake is of much interest. The water in this lake was at one time at least twenty-five feet higher than at present, and was then held in by a deposit of Leda clay through which the small stream which drains it has slowly cut a deep channel to the Ottawa River. All along the eastern shore there are large deposits of shell-marl, composed chiefly of fresh water species, many of which are now living in the lake. Under these deposits are beds of stratified sand and clay which hold marine shells, though we were not fortunate in finding any specimens of these on Saturday. In a sand pit recently opened there is a splendid section of the stratified material. The lower part is very irregular and shows false bedding, while the upper part is in horizontal layers.

At five o'clock the company assembled on a hill overlooking the lake and listened to short talks by some of the leaders on the specimens collected during the afternoon. Professor Macoun spoke on the plants and pointed out many interesting facts about the trees growing close by as to their mode of growth, branching, etc. Mr. Andrew Halkett showed a number of Zoological speci-