

REPORT OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL BRANCH OF THE
OTTAWA FIELD-NATURALISTS' CLUB FOR

1901-1902.

The report of the Ornithological Branch is comparatively brief, as the notes taken and records made during the year have been to a large extent published in *THE NATURALIST* and are thus already known to the members of this society. Although it is a matter of regret that more active work is not done by our local members, it cannot be said that less has been done than in previous years; but while those living at or near Ottawa have done little more than in previous years, outside members by their work and writings have done much more than in the past to make ornithology a prominent feature of *THE OTTAWA NATURALIST*. The valuable papers contributed by Mr. W. E. Saunders, London, Ont., are deserving of special mention, and the thanks of this committee are tendered to him and others for the stimulus they have given to the delightful study of bird life. Mr. Saunders' lecture on "Native Birds; their characteristics and habits," will also, we believe, do much towards awakening that love for the "Pretty feathered poets of the grove," which everyone must have, did he only know it. Others outside this city who have contributed ornithological papers during the year are: Mr. W. L. Kells, Listowel, Ont.; Mr. H. Gould, London, Ont.; Dr. G. A. McCallum, Dunnville, Ont.; Mr. L. H. Smith, Toronto, Ont.; Mr. Allan Brookes, Penticton, B.C.; Mr. R. C. Scott, Aylmer, Ont.; Mr. W. H. Moore, Scotch Lake, N.B.; Mr. R. Elliott, Bryans-ton, Ont.; Mr. R. Boutelier, Sable Island, N.S. As the titles of the papers contributed by the above may be found in the index of *THE NATURALIST*, it is unnecessary to mention them here.

Last year, as in previous years, all the local members who made bird notes were asked to send them to the ornithological editor for compilation and publication in *THE NATURALIST*, as by this means the earliest records (in the case of the arrival of birds) could best be obtained. This was done, and as a result the dates of arrival of 107 species were published and notes on about 20 more species were received which have not yet been published. A large