

These are only a few of the more salient problems to which reference will be made.

It may not be thought amiss to note first what has already been done in the field of research with which we have to deal. In the "Geology of Canada," 1863, a report by Sir Wm. Logan and staff—there is a chapter on "superficial geology" in which a number of interesting notes are recorded from Ottawa and its environs, an examination of which had been entrusted to Dr. R. Bell. Then comes the work done in the Post-Pliocene geology of Ottawa by Sir J. A. Grant who produced a number of valuable papers, some of which were published in the United States and others here in Canada. At the mouth of and along Green's Creek, six miles distant from the city, and a favourite resort for students of Post-Tertiary geology, Sir J. A. Grant and Sir W. Dawson made important discoveries. The collections of the late Dr. E. Van Cortland show that he also devoted considerable attention to these interesting deposits, whilst the late Mr. E. Billings in his Canadian "Naturalist and Geologist" published notes on the same subject. The above mentioned work was prior to the organization of the Field-Naturalists' Club which has since vigorously pushed investigation in this direction. Nearly a score of members, have taken a more or less active part in these researches, whilst the abundance of work and material make it probable that greater attention will continue to be paid to the deposits in question. The work done already is considerable; but there remains a hundred-fold more to do. Mr. Surtees, the City Engineer, has been carrying on an extensive series of excavations in all parts of the city. These excavations or trenches are dug or blasted out to a depth ranging from eleven feet to eighteen feet six inches; so that deep and interesting sections have been exposed.

For the description of the Post-Tertiary or Post-Pliocene (Pleistocene) deposits it is first necessary to ascertain whence the material came which composes them, and in order to do this it is obviously necessary to examine the older rocks of the district, and to see of what their measures consist, and know the stratigraphical relations existing between the various members of these older underlying series.