

mational names, but indicate rather, in two cases at least, a biological zone, a life-zone. The term "Perry sandstone" is also referred to (p. 14), and as is the case also of similar nomenclature in the gold-bearing series of Nova Scotia, no true formational names are assigned. For such names as the "Perry sandstones" the "Perry formation" could be easily adopted; for "Mispec group" the term "Mispec formation" employed, whilst substitutes are decidedly necessary for such expressions as "Dadoxylon sandstone," "Cordaite shales," etc., which refer to biological characters rather than stand as names of a definite formation. Dr. Ells has given us in this interesting address the nomenclature used up to recent years. It is manifestly high time, especially in Eastern Canada, that some new and more modern classification be adopted. Formational names ought to be given to the slate and quartzite series in the gold-bearing series of Nova Scotia. If areas exist which can be mapped out over extensive tracts, why not adopt some name which will be applied for instance, one to the lower and another name for the upper division of the gold-bearing rocks of Nova Scotia. The last statement refers more particularly to the nomenclature used in the excellent reports and on the maps of Mr. E. R. Faribault, where the names "slate series" and "quartzite series" are employed as formational names but are names merely based on a description of their lithological characters. Dr. Ells's paper is full of suggestions, and deserves careful perusal.

H. M. A.

SOIRÉES.

The first soirée in the winter course was held in the assembly hall of the Normal School, November 28th, when Prof. John Macoun occupied the chair. Dr. MacCabe principal of the Normal School, in a brief and forcible address bade the club welcome. He spoke of the educational work done by the club and emphasized the necessity of field work in the study of nature. Dr. H. M. Ami, the president of the club, then delivered his inaugural address, speaking of the work accomplished by the late E. Billings, who by his energy and patient research did so much for palæon-