REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH FOR THE YEAR 1887-1888.

To the Council of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club :—

The past season has probably been the most active for the Entomological Branch since the organization of the Club. Special efforts were made by the Leaders to bring this important study before the members and to gain their assistance and sympathy, Every exertion was made to have at least one Leader present at each Excursion or Sub-Excursion, so that beginners might always have someone to consult with reference to any insects captured or observed during the outing.

No opportunity was lost on such occasions to give information both by means of conversation during the outing, and by elementary addresses when the party had re-assembled preparatory to the return home. The activity thus forced upon the Leaders in striving to carry out the wishes of the Council helped them materially in building up their collections, and combined with their work at other times, resulted, as in former years, in adding largely to the knowledge of our local insect fauna.

Particular attention was given to the study of gall-forming insects and of the small Hymenoptera belonging to the families Cynipidæ, Chalcididæ and Proctotrupidæ, regarding the Canadian species of which but little was previously known. The results have been very satisfactory, but show that very much work will be yet required before our knowledge of these interesting forms will be in any degree complete.

In last year's report mention was made of the fact that this locality had already yielded 100 new species of Hymenoptera, and it can now be recorded that the number has been raised to fully 200, while undoubtedly many others are still in our collections awaiting study and description. In addition, very many rare species not hitherto recorded from Canada have been captured.

Among injurious insects the only ones demanding special attention were the two species of Clisiocampa, or Tent-caterpillars, which appeared in greater numbers than for many years previously ; forest trees for