

would give elementary lectures at each of them similar in character to those we have always had at the general excursions. My thanks are due to the leaders, particularly to Messrs. Fletcher, Harrington and Ami, for the able and efficient manner in which my suggestion was carried out. At nearly every outing simple elementary lectures were given on the Geological formation, plants and insects of the districts visited, in such a style as to be interesting and instructive not only to the student of those branches, but to every one present, no matter how slight their knowledge might be of Natural History. That a great additional interest was taken in these excursions, on account of the addresses, was evident from the improved attendance and the anxiety shown by those present to be at the rendezvous in time to hear the leaders, and by the manifest interest taken in their remarks.

The council of last year recommended to their successors that instead of issuing our transactions in a yearly part, which rarely appeared before the following winter, we should publish a monthly magazine under the name of the "Ottawa Naturalist." We have carried out their recommendation, and I think our little paper has been received with general favor by our members. Most of the papers and reports read at last winter's Soirées have appeared in it, and the next number will contain the last of them. We will now be able to print our papers shortly after they are read instead of waiting eight or ten months as in the past, when, as in many cases, they had ceased to be of interest. Another great advantage of a monthly publication is that we are able to give an official account of all our excursions during the month that is past and announcements of those for the following month, so that those members who are not able to take part in them are in a much better position to know what the Club is doing than by the old system. The last number issued (December) contains the programme of Soirées and afternoon Lectures for the present winter season, and you will, on referring to it, find that the meetings promise to be no less instructive and interesting than those of former years.

The number of our corresponding members remains the same as last year. Prof. Saunders, who has been in that position for several years, having been appointed Director to the Experimental Farm, and