

EXCURSIONS.

During April and May the Club held the following sub-excursions.

April 19th. About one hundred and seventy-five members and friends of the Club visited Aylmer, *Epigaea repens* was abundant.

May 3rd. Beaver Meadow, Hull, was visited and although the day was chilly and threatening about fifty attended. Several species of plants were collected.

May 10th. Rideau Park. Billing's Bridge, was chosen as the Club had not collected there for some years. Between forty and fifty were present. The severe frost of the previous night destroyed many plants, but a few species were found unharmed. A small collection of *Utica* fossils was also made.

Excursions had been arranged for April 12th and 26th but rain prevented their being held.

It is seldom that an excursion is as entirely satisfactory as that of the first general excursion of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club to Chelsea on Saturday, May 17th. The weather was perfect, being neither too hot nor too cold, and the scene of the outing afforded plenty of interest, not only for botanists and geologists, but also for those who simply wanted to enjoy nature. The only thing that was lacking was bird life. As Mr. A. G. Kingston explained to the company, when the time for speech-making came, one can see just as many birds in the city, during the migrating season, as in the country, and in either case, the afternoon is not the time when they are most in evidence.

The party included nearly all the students of the Normal School, accompanied by Dr. Sinclair, Miss Keyes and Miss Bolton and numbered about three hundred. On arriving at Chelsea at two o'clock, wraps and lunches were deposited in one of the cottages of the "deserted village," formerly occupied by the employees of Gilmour's mills, and then the company broke up into smaller groups, which scattered far and wide and spent the afternoon according to individual inclination. Dr. Fletcher conducted a party of botanists, and a detachment of small boys went geologizing along the railroad track with Mr. W. J. Wilson. The clearing in Gilmour's grove was appointed as the place of *rendezvous*, and shortly before seven the company reassembled to listen to speeches by Prof. Macoun, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Jas. Ballantyne, Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Sinclair.

Dr. Sinclair referred to the natural beauties of Chelsea, which he considers unsurpassed in the world, and Dr. Fletcher said a few words about the plants that had been found. Mr. Wilson spoke