

path had been. Now, had we, scattered over the Province, a large body of correspondents who would send us descriptions of the appearance, positions, directions, &c., of such meteors as they might see, we might add greatly to our knowledge of this interesting subject. In the department of meteorology good work might be done by correspondents who would send us extracts from the log-books of ships, descriptive of unusual meteorological phenomena. Had we funds to supply such correspondents with simple instruments we might get valuable data with regard to magnetic and tidal phenomena. But as the funds are wanting the collective investigation of phenomena requiring them is beyond our powers.

In the departments of Natural Science there would seem to be many subjects in which collective investigation is both necessary and possible. I would suggest merely observations of the times of the flowering of plants, the migration of birds, the movements of fish, the first appearance of insects, a systematic record of which would seem to be comparatively easy to obtain and would certainly throw much light both on the life history of the plants and animals themselves and on the variation of our climate.

It would seem to be eminently desirable, not only that our Institute should itself undertake the superintendence of some forms of collective work of this kind, but also that it should induce other Canadian Societies to co-operate with it, and perhaps prevail upon the Royal Society of Canada to collect and systematise the results which the local Societies might be able to supply year after year.

Besides purely scientific work, a Society such as ours, which exists in a community as yet but slightly developed in the direction of scientific education, ought to do something towards stimulating outsiders to an interest in scientific work; and not only ought to do so, in fact must do so, if it is to have a successful career. The stimulating in the non-scientific a desire to become scientific can be done only by making some or all of our meetings more popular and more attractive than the ordinary meeting of a Scientific Society usually is. Outsiders are accustomed to think of us as a lot of old fossils engaged in riding