

These enthusiastic leaders, whose unselfish interest in their work and untiring zeal in trying to cause others to enter upon this field of work, should be rewarded by noble *results* and a deep *feeling of gratitude* from those who have enjoyed the opportunities of listening to their lucid discourses in our winter gatherings, or to the familiar talks upon the finds of the day, when we gathered on some shady slope or grassy knoll, after a day's ramble amongst the birds and insects in our flowery fields. We are given so much knowledge—knowledge that has been attested, proved and reduced to a concise, definite form, and which we could not have gained by our own isolated efforts without the labor of reading more than one book on the subjects of botany, entomology, geology and ornithology.

In closing this feeble effort to show that the study of Natural History offers to all opportunities for its promotion as a *science*, some of the more direct advantages of its bearing on man's corporeal wants, as well as upon his mental and moral state, have been briefly noticed as being an important part with which most of us can effectively deal, and a part in which the human tendencies for a love of the marvellous, merely superficial and somewhat credulous may be influenced and directed to a healthy mental development and invigoration, by a selection of the proper mental food.

For a better treatment of the subject, I must refer you to the inaugural address by our worthy President, Dr. Ells, which you have in a printed form in the January number of the "Ottawa Naturalist," which records the transactions of "The Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club."

I've done my little for the club in this paper from a deep sense of gratitude for the great pleasure and profit I've derived from the meetings of this society and from social intercourse with its members.