

## NATURE STUDY—No. XXXV.

## THE GALT PARK WILD-FLOWER GARDEN.

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About six years ago through the generosity of a kind friend, the town of Galt came into possession of some thirty acres of woodland, lying on a rapidly rising upland, which forms the west bank of the river Grand and immediately adjoins the western limit of the corporation.

At one time this area was heavily timbered with white pine but later was devastated by fire. At the present time it is covered with a dense growth of young trees, such as red and white maple, white oak, wild cherry, juneberry and poplar, with here and there a tall white oak or beech, raising its head high above its fellows.

A condition attached to the gift was that the woodland should be left as far as possible in a state of nature. The present dense growth, however, and the consequent obliteration of herbaceous plants has robbed the region of much of the beauty of ordinary woodland, and some changes are in contemplation so as to bring it into a state more in keeping with the conditions that prevail in the majority of our Ontario woods.

The surface varies in its conformation. There is a gradual ascent to a divide on the western edge of the area; but this is broken by many minor sharp ridges and deep depressions, so that in one part may be found the conditions of dry rich woods, in another those of open and rocky woods, and here and there are the moist woods and pond conditions.

A commission of citizens, was appointed by the municipality to plan, construct and maintain a system of parks for the benefit and pleasure of the citizens of Galt. A competent landscape gardener was engaged, who after careful examination of the situation, drafted plans for a system of park development, which is at present in process of evolution. Driveways have been made and bridle paths cut through the underbrush. Feeble and stunted trees are being removed, so that the more perfect specimens may develop and light and air may penetrate.

**Nature Study Club's Opportunity.**—For several years Galt has had an enthusiastic Nature Study Club, organized as a scientific society, but latterly as an association in which nature study methods might be discussed and preparatory work done by the teachers of the town. Much interest has thus been created in