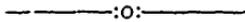


serine ancestors, and, if so, he is in this respect less swift-like than his brethren who have, with the swifts, adopted the ways of civilization.

Other examples could be cited of this principle by which a superficial likeness is produced in really different birds by similar environment, as for instance the resemblance of the shrike or butcher-bird to the hawks; but, perhaps, in the whole class there is no case where the real difference and the apparent similarity are at once so great as in this of the swift and the swallow.



EXCURSION No. 3 (1891).

The completion of the first section of the Gatineau Valley Railway, running into the heart of the Laurentian Mountains, will afford easy access to a district which has always possessed great attractions for the collector and observer in almost every branch of natural history. The excursions of the Field-Naturalists' Club to King's Mountain have usually been amongst the most satisfactory outings of each season both from a scientific and financial point of view; but attempts to penetrate *en masse* further into the hills have generally proved unsuccessful owing to the wearisome length of the drive. The Excursion Committee expect shortly to complete arrangements with the Railway Company for an excursion of the Club to the village of La Peche, or Wakefield, which is pleasantly situated in a widening of the valley, at a point where a smaller stream, the Rivière de la Peche, empties into the Gatineau, about twenty-one miles from Ottawa. Several members of the Club can vouch for the beauty of the scenery upon the route, running, as it does, in and out of the hills along the river bank.

To be transported to the midst of the Laurentians in an hour's time will be a novel experience for Ottawa excursionists, and it is hoped that a large number of members and their friends will attend. The event will probably take place within the first fifteen days of September. Due notice will be given by circular.