

EXCURSION TO GREEN'S CREEK.

The first fall excursion of the season was held to Green's Creek on Saturday afternoon, September 24th. The outing was most enjoyable in every way. The party, although only seventeen in number, left the Post Office in a large van at 1.45, and arrived at the destination an hour later. The coolness of the afternoon undoubtedly kept many from attending. It is many years since the Club used buses for an excursion, and although the result was not a financial success in the present instance, the experiment is well worth a repetition another year. In the old days of the Club many an enjoyable outing was held in such conveyances, and given warmer weather there is no reason why similar excursions in the future could not be held successfully to nearby places not reached by any of the railways.

Green's Creek is about six miles from the Post Office, out on the Montreal road. In the spring of the year when the water is higher and when there are more flowers, birds and insects about, the Club should, in the opinion of the writer, arrange to hold another outing to the same locality.

Mr. Alex. McNeill, Chief of the Fruit Division of the Department of Agriculture, piloted the party to the satisfaction of everyone. On leaving the bus we first of all went along the Canadian Northern Railroad track a short distance and examined an interesting cutting where our Leader told us much of geological interest.

Although nothing uncommon in the way of botanical specimens was collected, still many plants of interest were observed. Large beds, so to speak, of beautiful autumn asters were abundant; *Aster puniceus* was particularly admired. Mr. McNeill found a fine example of giant puff ball (*Lycoperdon giganteum*). The specimen was 41 inches in circumference; it was still in a growing condition and possibly might have exceeded even that size if it had been left longer. It was found growing at the base of a very rotten pine stump. The roots of the stump were examined and found to be permeated in every direction with the mycelium. This is a comparatively rare find, although Mr. McNeill reported that he had found a similar puff ball a few weeks previously about 200 yards from the spot where the above specimen occurred. When taken home and cut it was found to be in perfect condition, and when cooked proved excellent eating to those who tasted this delicacy. Practically all of the family of puff balls are edible. Many are fairly abundant, and, for want of information, large numbers are allowed to go to waste. Those who have tried puff balls, either