

FIELD DAY AND EXCURSION TO CHELSEA, QUE.

The first general excursion or field of the Club was held on Saturday, 23rd May, 1896, when Chelsea and the beautiful district thereabout were visited.

Close upon two hundred excursionists left the city *via* the Ottawa & Gatineau Valley Railway. The party was composed chiefly of members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, but there were present also in goodly numbers, students of the Provincial Normal School, Ottawa; besides members of the Ottawa Camera Club and various friends of these institutions.

Among those present were noticed: Dr. James Fletcher, Dr. R. W. Ells, F. T. Shutt, Esq., H. B. Small, Esq., R. B. Whyte, Esq., W. J. Wilson, Esq., D. B. Dowling, Esq., M. O'Brien, Esq., W. C. Bowles, Esq., R. A. A. Johnston, Esq., S. B. Sinclair, Esq., Miss Marion Whyte, Miss G. Harmer, Mrs. R. W. Cowan, and many others.

The weather was all that could be desired and everything went off very well. On alighting at the station in Chelsea—on the very edge of the Laurentide Hills—the President. Mr. F. T. Shutt, addressed the party and pointed out the various places of interest in the neighbourhood, intimating at the same time the names of those gentlemen who were present to pilot the various sections of the Club. The attractive and bewitching appearance of the woods afforded to the botanists a fine field for research, soon the scene of great activity. The geologists followed the railway track and examined the cuttings along the way in a westerly direction, devoting particular attention to the Pleistocene clays, gravels and sands occurring there.

The valley of the Gatineau is particularly wild and enchanting in the month of May. The swollen waters were busily carrying upon their bosom the wealth of the forests of the north, and one after another in rapid succession the logs could be seen gliding along smoothly, now in a placid basin, where the delicate green tracery of the foliage was beautifully mirrored—then,