

the common edible fungi found in the neighbourhood of Ottawa, and also referred to the use made of the Fly Agaric (*Agaricus muscarius*) by the peasants of Northern Russia, who steep it in alcohol to produce prolonged intoxication.

Dr. Baptie said that many fungi undoubtedly contained a very powerful poison, and that people who collected or ate mushrooms ought to examine them carefully. He also drew attention to the fact that some species might be quite wholesome when fresh, but might become poisonous as soon as decomposition set in.

*Fourth.*—The fourth meeting of the winter course was held on the evening of February 14th, and was made very interesting by the leaders of the entomological section. The report on the work of the branch during the season of 1888 was read by Mr. Fletcher. Several new and rare species had been added to the list of species recorded from the locality since the last report, and much useful work in economic entomology had been prosecuted.

Mr. W. H. Harrington delivered an admirable address upon the Capricorn beetles, which commit such serious ravages by boring timber after it is cut in the woods. This address was illustrated by a beautiful collection of these beetles which had been made in the locality by Mr. Harrington.

There was considerable discussion upon the habits of insects, and many enquiries were made as to the best methods of meeting the attacks of injurious species.

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## THE ANNUAL MEETING.

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The annual meeting for the election of officers for the coming year will be held on Tuesday, 19th March, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon in the usual place, the museum of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society. All the members are earnestly requested to be present, as matters of great importance to the welfare of the club are to be discussed. Any who have not already paid their subscriptions are requested to do so before the meeting.