

manner as to make the audience wish they could at once go to the woods and put the president's precepts into practice. The germination of seeds and the important part played by the cotyledons was illustrated by a good supply of young plants of turnips, peas and wheat, which had all been grown specially for the purpose.

The interest shown in the subjects presented by the full attendance at these afternoon lectures is a source of great encouragement to the council, who trust that a lasting result will be shown by increased efforts during the coming season to work up the natural history of the district.

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## REPORT OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL AND COLOGICAL BRANCH FOR THE YEAR 1888.

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READ ON THE EVENING OF 28TH FEBRUARY.  
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*To the President and Council of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club.*

GENTLEMEN,—In making up the report of this branch for the past year the leaders have adopted a new plan, and instead of publishing the usual list of arrivals and departures of the birds they have thought it advisable to substitute the following synopsis of the year's work :—

There were five observers at work who made reports of their observations, viz. : the leaders (Prof. Macoun and Mr. Geo. R. White), Mr. J. F. Bowerman, Mr. N. Ballantyne and Mr. W. Lees. Prof. Macoun's list of 106 species (most of which were shot) was made during the months of April and May. Mr. White's list of 98 species extends from 28th Jan. to 28th May, and was published in the spring report of the Club in the July number of the NATURALIST. Mr. Bowerman shot at Ottawa, between 2nd April and 19th June, 47 species, besides 20 others in Prince Edward County not included in this report. The skins of these were, however, not preserved. The observations of Messrs. Ballantyne and Lees, who worked together, and whose lists of 101 each are almost identical, began with February and