

much needed rain, which had kept off during the day, began to fall and continued to do so all night.

SUB-EXCURSIONS.

The Sub-Excursion arranged by the Botanical and Entomological Leaders for the 2nd July had to be postponed on account of wet weather.

SEVENTH.—On the 9th of July, notwithstanding the excessive heat of the day, about fifteen members of the Club, including several ladies, turned up at the usual rendezvous—the General Post Office. At 2 o'clock the party started in the Billings Bridge stage for Dow's swamp. This locality, which lies about two miles south of the city, is one possessing special attractions to the Entomologist and Botanist. The Botanists were under the leadership of the President, Mr. R. B. Whyte, who also delivered the address upon Botany, none of the regular leaders being able to attend upon this occasion. Many plants of interest were collected and their important features were drawn attention to in a pleasing and simple manner, by the President. The magnificent white panicles of the Meadow Rue, *Thalictrum Cornuti*, were conspicuous objects in the cleared spaces of the bog, and beneath the shade of the cedars the rare little orchids, *Microstylis monophyllos* and *M. ophioglossoides*, were found. These treasures only reward the patient searcher or the Botanist with a well-trained eye. Another orchid of interest, but like the last named, possibly more inconspicuous than scarce, was *Liparis Læselii*, of which a few specimens were secured. In all about forty species of plants were collected in flower. Mr. Fred. Magee represented the Entomologists and exhibited his collections of the afternoon. Dow's Swamp is one of our few localities for the beautiful butterfly *Melitæa Phaeton*, which may still be found in an open glade to the south east of the lake, where it was noted by the late Mr. B. Billings many years ago. Its bright colours, rich velvety black spotted with red and white, make it a conspicuous object as it flits slowly over the low bushes. Its food plant, *Chelone glabra*, grows here in abundance.