

hood, which enabled him to publish those excellent Decades, or Descriptions of Canadian Organic Remains, and give to the world much information respecting the ancient life of those early seas which once covered this portion of the North American continent.

Outside of this but little systematic work had been published or recorded from this locality until the Club made its appearance, and sought to develop and search out the geological, botanical, entomological and other resources at our very doors. In the department of Entomology, and through the writings of Dr. Fletcher, of Mr. Harrington and of Mr. T. J. McLaughlin, the Transactions of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, in the first six parts, and in THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, which followed, contain probably more information regarding the insect life of our district than can be found recorded for any other city in Canada. In the department of Botany the good work of Dr. Fletcher, in his early edition of the Flora Ottawaënsis, which served to guide many of us in the pleasant paths of flowering plants, with his enthusiastic co-worker, Mr. R. B. Whyte, in the opening year of our Club, gave an impetus to the study of plants which was only enhanced by the advent of Prof. John Macoun, M.A., F.L.S., and his family to our city. In Ottawa, the active, genial and militant professor was made welcome, and he has given the Club the constant benefit of his wide experience, urged everyone to more objective work and greater effort in carrying out the objects of our Club. "What are you doing for the Club, or for natural history?" was the constant question put. It is a notable fact that the botanical branch of our Club has been ever the most popular. The second edition of the Flora Ottawaënsis, in which Dr. Fletcher gives the precise locality in which each species can be found, besides its name, common and scientific, proved a further boon to botanical students. A careful use of this work and dilligent search after the rarer specimens of plants about Ottawa, invariably led those devoting their attention to this fascinating branch to discover their prize and complete their herbaria.

Whether on the mountain top or in the valley, or again by the riverside or along the brooks or lakes of our district, in the swamps and rocky places, in the diversified regions such as we