

MEETING OF THE BIOLOGICAL CLUB.

Monday Evening, December 2, 1901.

The Biological Club met in Orton Hall, and was called to order by the President, Prof. Mills.

Under the head of personal observations Prof. Hine reported the duck hawk as a new campus bird; it was captured in Townshend Hall. The Zoological department has received lately a fine specimen of cassowary from Sells Brothers; it will be mounted and placed in the museum. Mr. Tyler reported finding a species of Sphagnum on the shale cliffs north of Worthington.

In the reports on current literature Prof. Schaffner reviewed Mr. Pieters' paper on "The Flora of Lake Erie." Prof. Osborn called attention to the bulletins of the New York State Museum, Nos. 46 and 47.

Prof. Schaffner read an interesting paper on the "Self-Pruning of Woody Plants." Many woody plants get rid of their superfluous twigs in this way, and occasionally these twigs are cut off while green, so that green leaves are carried down with them. A cleavage plane is usually formed, but in the willows a brittle zone is formed near the main branch which answers the same purpose.

Mr. Morse gave a paper on the "Reptiles of Ohio," in which he gave a review of the lists so far published. The first list was published in the Ohio Geological Survey of 1838. This includes twenty-seven reptiles, about two-thirds of the number that we now know from the state. Dr. Smith listed thirty-six species. Prof. Cope, in the Report of the U. S. National Museum for 1898, gives thirty-three reptiles, and Jordan's Manual gives forty reptiles and twenty-seven batrachians that might occur in the state.

"The Caladium Rust" was the subject of the next paper by Mr. Jennings. This rust is said to appear only on the leaves and petioles and on the spathe of various species of Araceæ. He had found it; however, on the inner surface of the ovulary of *Arisæma triphyllum*.

Mr. V. H. Davis was elected to membership. The club then adjourned.

F. J. TYLER, *Secretary.*