on my grounds. The cherry died, and in a few years the bark and wood rotted. Where this occurred the old stem of the Virginia Creeper commenced to send out rootlets. These rootlets seem to die annually, as they do in *Rhus radicans*. The main stem is a mass of rootlets. I have observed that the plant does this sometimes in the shade on stone walls, and at times when there is not so much shade. Perhaps some plants or some forms may have a greater tendency to root than others.

Another curious thing is that when the Virginia Creeper sends out these aerial rootlets, the wood has excentric circles, as the poison vine always has.

A matter which has interested me is the manner in which the branchlets disarticulate in the fall of the year. When a Virginia Creeper reaches the top of its support, it sends out weak laterals. In the fall these are all thrown off down to the lowermost bud. In other words the lateral branches increase only by the addition of one node a year. Remembering however the above cited tilt with the author of *How plants Behave* I must protect myself by remarking that though I say “these are all thrown off,” I should not be surprised if some one were to show me a case where it is not so.

These observations have been recorded from time to time as made, in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy. As recent attention has been drawn to the plant, it may be useful to present all in one chapter.—Thomas Meehan.

Plants of Belle Isle, Michigan.

Detroit, the most beautiful city of the West, has the honor of possessing what will some day be one of the most delightful parks. It is the Belle Isle, situated a few miles up the river and connected by constantly going steamers with the wharves of the city. It is still in an almost primitive condition and certainly must be a treasure to the botanists of Detroit, affording a vegetation at once varied and quite free from the introductions that attend the progress of civilization. This is the locality from which Bigelow obtained his specimens.

A few steps from the landing at the island, *Lythrum alatum*, *Potentilla Anserina*, and *Lathyrus paluster* were growing abundantly. A few rods beyond the bath houses *Habenaria leucophora* everywhere threw out its spikes of fringed flowers from among the grasses. *Rubus occidentalis* appeared, this time with an amber colored fruit, escaping the attention of groups of children busy in collecting the more common black variety. *Rosa setigera* was constantly in demand for the rural bouquets of excursionists, which seemed to have no definite size, but always had room for one more *Habenaria*, *Lysimachia stricta*, *Lobelia spicata*, or *Hypericum perforatum*. On the drier ground we saw *Geum strictum*, *Lobelia in-
flata, Calamintha Clinopodium, besides numerous ferns and other
plants, which, however, have already been credited to this part of
Michigan in Wheeler and Smith's catalogue. Near the water
works, east of the city, Zizania aquatica grew among millions of
Wolffiia Columbiana, interspersed with Lemma trisulca and L.
polyrhiza, which the catalogue indicates as growing throughout
Southern Michigan. Sonchus oleraceus was represented by a few
stray individuals; also Polygonum Pennsylvanicum and P. inca-
natum. Among the more common weeds may be mentioned Cich-
orchium Intybus and Atriplex patula, var. hastata, both of which are
found in unusual abundance throughout the city. Along the rail-
roads (Einoothera biennis, var. muscicata, Diplopappus umbellatus
and Cenchrus tribuloides, were well represented, the last plant
very troublesome to the collector. A few other plants may be
mentioned, which were found north of the city; Solidago ulmi-
folia, Rudbeckia speciosa, Lactuca leucophaca, Spiranthes Roman-
zovii, Botrychium ternatum, var. obliquum and var. dissectum.
The flowers of the Spiranthex wind in three ranks about the stem,
but they are so arranged as to form 4 vertical rows in each spike.
I also observed that young individuals were developed from the
axils of the lower leaves, which I suppose furnish a means of pro-
pagation to the plant—not being well known that most orchids are
slow to seed, requiring the agency of insects in securing fertiliza-
tion. Proliferous specimens of Scirpus atrovirens were frequently
seen in the fall.

Fungi were rather scarce. However, the species found were
abundantly represented. Among these were Scleroderma vulgare,
Ceaster triplex, Jungh., Borista plumbea, Pers., Cyathus striatus,
Hoffm., Boleus castaneus, Bull., Agaricus confluentis, Pers., and

Notulae Californicae.

The plant commonly known as German ivy (Seneio mikan-
oides, Otto) acts much as if it could become naturalized in Califor-
nia; though thus far one does not see it growing wild except along
streams, and in places where its shoots may have found a lodgment
after having been thrown away with the refuse of the gardens. But it
is already of quite frequent occurrence in the ravines back of Oak-
land and Berkeley, where it flowers regularly and profusely shortly
after Christmas.

Its dense masses of yellow bloom, upon the background of the
dark foliage of live oak and bay over which it climbs, give a warm
and cheerful look, at this season when flowers are few.

Owing to the climatic peculiarities of the past winter the com-
mon deciduous shrub, Neillia opulifolia, Benth. & Hook., will have
shed its foliage twice in 1883. Its habit is, in this region, to put
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