

salmon rather diminish than increase during their sojourn in rivers, and he illustrates this and other points of his subject by numerous experiments and observations.

2. "On the Geology of Roxburghshire." Part II. By David Milne, Esq.,—the conclusion of a very interesting report.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MAIANTHEMUM BIFOLIUM.

THIS very pretty plant, recorded as British in the 'Annals' for January, is a rediscovery and not altogether new to the British flora. It has been already figured and recorded as English, but a long while ago. In Gerarde's 'Herbal,' 2nd book, 90th chap. p. 409, will be found a very characteristic portrait of it under the name of *Monophyllum* or *One blade*. He classes it with his *Wintergreenes* (*Pyrolæ*), and says "it growth in Lancashire in Dingley Wood, six miles from Preston in Aldirnesse, and in Harwood near Blackburne likewise." "It floureth in May, and the fruit is ripe in September." Let the Lancashire botanists look out for it next spring. It is strange that Gerarde's notice of it should have escaped our older botanists; and stranger still, that in the Linnæan Society's copy it is marked "*Convallaria bifolia*" in Sir James E. Smith's own handwriting, apparently without his having noticed the localities given for it below. In the south of Norway it is very abundant in pine-woods on a gneiss soil*, and should be looked for in similar situations in the north of Britain.—EDWARD FORBES.

DR. PATRICK NEILL.

There are few whose claims to public commendation are stronger than those of Dr. Neill, who has been one of the most useful, but least ostentatious, of Edinburgh's citizens. At a late meeting of the Caledonian Horticultural Society, Lord Murray proposed that the members should at their first meeting in their new hall express their sense of the obligations under which the Society lay to that gentleman for his distinguished and laborious services; which was carried by acclamation. In addition to this, it is proposed to request Dr. Neill to sit for a bust, to be executed by John Steell, Esq., R.S.A. This mark of approbation, however, should not be confined to the members: the Doctor's services as a citizen of Edinburgh, and the interest he has taken in every public and benevolent undertaking, entitle him to a more general compliment.

TO ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL COLLECTORS.

Mr. William Gardener, Dundee, will prepare during the ensuing summer "Botanical Parcels," each of which "will contain 500 species of Scottish Phænogamic and Cryptogamic plants, including as many of the rarer species as possible, carefully selected, dried, named, and localised; and the charge, inclusive of printed labels, paper and

* It is also a common plant in the neighbourhood of Berlin, where it occurs in profusion in the Park on a sandy soil.—W. FRANCIS.

packing, will be 2*l*." Subscribers are requested to give in their names as early as possible ; and we may add, that the good condition and drying of former parcels of plants are borne testimony to by Professor Balfour of Glasgow, J. G. Children, Esq., E. Doubleday, Esq., &c.

THE COLLECTION OF BIRD-SKINS BELONGING TO THE LATE
DR. WILLIAM HOOKER.

This collection of bird-skins is to be disposed of ; it consists of from between 800 and 1000 specimens from various countries ; but it is chiefly valuable for the number of *Peruvian* and *Chilian* species which served Mr. Swainson for his descriptions in his "Two centenaries and a quarter" and other works, and which would be valuable for consultation in a public museum. Information regarding them will be given by G. Wails, Esq., Newcastle.

PROFESSOR TRAIL'S MINERALOGICAL COLLECTION.

The Mineralogical and Geological collection of Professor Trail of Edinburgh is to be disposed of, containing above 5000 specimens. The mineralogical series contains about 3000 of these. The geological series is particularly illustrative of Scotland, Spain, Brazil, Greenland and the Arctic regions, and among the fossil remains are a set of the fossil fishes of the Orkney Islands, named by Agassiz.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR DECEMBER 1842.

Chiswick.—Dec. 1. Slight rain : overcast. 2. Densely clouded : clear and fine. 3. Foggy. 4. Foggy : overcast. 5. Light haze : very fine : foggy. 6—9. Foggy. 10. Overcast. 11. Foggy : clear and fine. 12. Rain : overcast and mild. 13. Very fine : overcast. 14, 15. Exceedingly fine. 16. Very fine : densely overcast. 17. Very fine. 18, 19. Foggy : clear and fine. 20, 21. Hazy. 22. Very fine. 23. Rain. 24. Very fine. 25. Clear : overcast and fine : stormy at night. 26. Cloudy and windy. 27. Rain : cloudy and damp : frosty. 28. Frosty : clear and fine. 29. Densely clouded. 30. Cloudy and very mild. 31. Very fine.—Mean temperature of the month $4^{\circ} \cdot 12$ above the average.

Boston.—Dec. 1—3. Cloudy. 4. Foggy. 5. Cloudy. 6. Foggy. 7. Cloudy. 8, 9. Foggy. 10. Foggy : rain early A.M. 11. Cloudy. 12. Rain : rain early A.M. 13. Cloudy. 14, 15. Fine. 16. Cloudy : rain P.M. 17—19. Fine. 20. Cloudy. 21, 22. Fine. 23. Cloudy. 24. Fine. 25. Fine : rain P.M. 26. Windy : rain P.M. 27. Cloudy : rain early A.M. 28. Fine. 29. Windy. 30. Fine. 31. Windy : stormy P.M.

Sandwick Manse, Orkney.—Dec. 1. Rain : cloudy. 2. Showers : cloudy. 3. Clear : showers. 4. Cloudy : drizzle. 5, 6. Bright : cloudy. 7. Cloudy. 8. Drizzle. 9. Fog. 10. Fog : cloudy. 11. Cloudy. 12. Rain : cloudy. 13, 14. Cloudy. 15. Bright : cloudy. 16. Bright. 17, 18. Showers. 19. Showers : clear. 20. Showers : cloudy. 21. Cloudy : drizzle. 22. Showers. 23. Showers : snow. 24. Showers. 25. Rain. 26, 27. Hail-showers. 28, 29. Cloudy. 30. Rain : drizzle. 31. Showers : frost.

Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire.—Dec. 1, 2. Rain and wind. 3. Fine and fair. 4. Rain A.M. : cleared. 5, 6. Rain P.M. 7. Fair and fine. 8. Fair A.M. : drizzly P.M. 9. Fair but cloudy. 10. Drizzly. 11. Fair : overcast P.M. 12. Wet all day. 13. Storm : wind : rain : flood. 14. Rain P.M. 15, 16. Storm : wind : rain P.M. 17. Fair. 18—23. Showers P.M. 24. Hoar-frost A.M. 25. Very wet all day. 26. Very wet A.M. 27. Slight shower : frost P.M. 28. Frost A.M. : rain P.M. 29. Rain, but mild. 30. Rain and high wind. 31. Rain : cleared P.M.

The high temperature of December is remarkable, being nearly 10° higher than the mean of the last twenty years, and 7° higher than Dec. 1841.

Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society, LONDON, by the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Robertson; by Mr. Thompson at the Garden of the Horticultural Society at CHISWICK, near London; by Mr. Veall, at BOSTON; by the Rev. W. Dunbar, at Applegarth Manse, DUMFRIES-SHIRE; and by the Rev. C. Clouston, at Sandwick Manse, ORKNEY.

Days of Month.			Barometer.				Thermometer.						Wind.				Rain.				Dew-point																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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1843. "Miscellaneous." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 11, 158–160. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03745484309445280>.

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