

FLORA OTTAWAENSIS.

BY JAMES FLETCHER, F. R. S. C., F. L. S.

It is now eight years since my first list of the plants of this district was prepared for the members of the club. This was merely a bare list of the names of 810 species collected by the writer during the summer of 1879. "This district" was then understood to mean a radius of about twelve miles from the City of Ottawa, and was defined as the country lying between the following points:—Meech's Lake in the Clelsea Mountains on the one side, and the Mer Bleue on the other. Down the Ottawa River, East Templeton and Green's Creek were included, and up the river, Britannia and the islands above Aylmer. Latterly, however, by general consent of the botanists of the club, this radius has been extended to about 30 miles, so as to include Casselman on the one side, and Wakefield on the other; and up the river as far as the Chats Rapids and down to Buckingham.

Previous to the appearance of the above-mentioned list, there had been printed by the Ottawa Natural History Society a "List of plants collected by Mr. B. Billings in the vicinity of the City of Ottawa during the summer of 1866." This contained the names of 404 species, with the dates of their inflorescence, which appear in the present list marked (B).

The following collections had also been made previous to 1879:—By Mr. B. Billings, (1866-7) which is now in the museum of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society; by Mr. A. H. Moore, an energetic collector, and one who added largely to our knowledge of the flora of the vicinity (1870-78). Through the generosity of the last named gentleman, this collection now forms part of my own herbarium; by Mr. Robert Whyte and Dr. H. B. Small, who began to collect about 1875, and are still active members of the Botanical Branch of the Club. The present list contains every species up to this time found in the district and identified with certainty; further additions will be published annually, as they are recorded. It has been prepared at the request of the Council, more especially as an aid for those beginning to study our flora.

The 1879 list gave merely the names of all species at that time known to have been found at Ottawa ; but gave no information upon some of the most important points the local botanist requires to know about, such as the prevalence of any species in the locality, whether it be indigenous or introduced, plentiful or scarce.

Certain plants common in some localities are rare here, and *vice versa* ; again, plants indigenous to Canada, but not to the Ottawa district, have been introduced either by accident or have escaped from cultivation. All of these facts should be made known to students, or they may fall into error. It was therefore thought well, this time, to add short notes under each species, giving the general habitat special localities and approximately the date in the year when collectors may expect to find the different species in flower.

With the exception of two or three species, all have been found by the writer in the localities mentioned, and in every case the actual specimens recorded have been carefully examined by him.

A general habitat is given for each species, and in the case of rarities, exact localities are mentioned. When no special locality is given, it is intended to show that the species is of common occurrence.

When no collector's name is given after a locality, or the initials (J. F.) appear, the writer is responsible for the record. When a plant of interest is recorded from other localities than those where the writer has found it, the name of the collector is given in parentheses. In instances where a person's name is followed by an asterisk, (*) it is to show that this was the first record of the plant having been discovered in the Ottawa district.

In indicating the time of the year when the plant may be looked for in flower, the months have been divided into four quarters, so that when the name of a month is followed by the numbers 1, 2, 3 or 4, it shows that the plant may be expected to flower in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th quarter of the month.

Synonyms have been, for the most part, omitted, except in cases where plants appear in the list under other names than those given in Dr. Gray's "Manual." These, as well as introduced plants, (whether into this district or into Canada) are printed in Italics.

In compiling this new list, Prof. Macoun's catalogue, issued by the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, 1883, *et seq.* has been followed, and as Canadian botanists now arrange their collections by that excellent catalogue, I have thought it well to give before each species Prof. Macoun's number.

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POLYPETALOUS EXOGENS.

RANUNCULACEÆ.—Crow-foot Family.

CLEMATIS, L. Traveller's Joy. Virgin's Bower.

1. C. VERTICILLARIS, D C., (Mauve-flowered Clematis).

Atragene Americana. Sims.

Creeping over rocks and low shrubs. King's and other mountains, Chelsea, P.Q. Not uncommon. May—4.

2. C. VIRGINIANA. (Common Virgin's-Bower).

Borders of streams. Aug.—1.

ANEMONE, L. Wind Flower.

12. A. CYLINDRICA, Gray, (Long-fruited Anemone). Dry pastures. Ju.—2.

13. VIRGINIANA, L.

Rocky, open woods. There are two forms of this plant, (i) with greenish flowers like the preceding, but always with much shorter heads of fruit; and (ii) with white flowers almost as large as those of No. 15. From this latter, however, it is easily distinguished by the woolly seeds. (i) Common, (ii) on the rocks round Lake Flora, Hull, P. Q. Ju.—2. (B).

15. A. DICHOTOMA, L., (Round-headed Anemone).

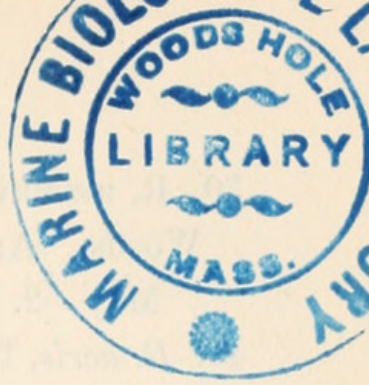
A. Pennsylvanica, L.

Along river margins and in low meadows. Ju.—2. (B).

17. A. HEPATICA, L. (Liverwort. Blue May-flower).

Hepatica triloba, Chaix.

Dry, rocky, woods. One of our earliest flowers; not quite as common as No. 18. Ap.—3. (B).



18. *A. ACUTILOBA*, Lawson, ("May-flower.")

Dry, shady, woods. Ap.—3. (B).

THALICTRUM. Tourn, (Meadow-rue).

20. *T. DIOICUM*, L. (Early Meadow-rue).

River banks and low woods. Ju.—1. (B).

21. *T. PURPURASCENS*. (Purplish Meadow-rue).

Templeton and along the Ottawa below the city, (H. M. Ami*), Hull, (J. F.). This species is distinguishable from *T. Cornuti* by having the anthers drooping on capillary filaments, and the flowers greenish purple. On the other hand, *T. Cornuti* has white flowers, short filaments and anthers not drooping.

22. *T. CORNUTI*, L. (White-flowered Meadow-rue).

Islands and wet meadows and swamps; a tall handsome plant. July—1. (B).

RANUNCULUS, L. (Crow-foot. Buttercup).

28. *R. AQUATILIS*, L. *v.* *TRICHOPHYLLUS*, Chaix, (White Water-Crow-foot).

Stagnant and slow-flowing waters. Ju.—1.

29. *R. MULTIFIDUS*, Pursh. (Yellow Water-Crow-foot).

In shallow water, and creeping over mud, Mallock's Bay, Dow's Swamp and Kettle Island, (J. F.) Billing's Bridge. (R. B. Whyte). Ju.—2.

Var. *y.* *REPENS*, Watson.

Leaves all round-reniform, palmately, 3—8 cleft; stems creeping in mud, Casselman and Gatineau Point, (Prof. Macoun). Ju.—2.

31. *R. FLAMMULA*, L. *var.* *REPTANS*, Meyer, (Smaller Creeping Crow-foot).

Mud-flats and river margins. July—1.

32. *R. CYMBALARIA*, Pursh, (Salt-water Crowfoot).

In a low wet meadow, at Thurso, P. Q. Ju.—2.

37. *R. ABORTIVUS*, L. *var.* *MICRANTHUS*, Gray, (Small-flowered Buttercup).

Woods and Meadows. From Macoun's Catalogue, Part III., p. 480. It would appear that our Ottawa plant is not the type of *R. abortivus*, L. May—2. (B).

30. *R. RECURVATUS*, Poir, (Downy Wood-Buttercup)

Woods. An attractive species with large leaves and small flowers.
May—2. (B).

45. *R. acris*, L. Meadow Buttercup.

Introduced from Europe. Very abundant in meadows. June. (B).

47. *R. PENNSYLVANICUS*, L. (Bristly Buttercup).

River flats and swampy woods. July—2. (B).

48. *R. Repens*, L. (Creeping Crowfoot).

Introduced from Europe. Governor-General's Bay, New Edinburgh. I have not succeeded in finding the native form of this species at Ottawa.

CALTHA, L. Marsh Marigold.

54. *C. PALUSTRIS*, L. (Water-Cowslip).

Margins of streams and in swamps. May—2. (B).

COPTIS, Salisb. Gold-thread.

57. *C. TRIFOLIA*, Salisb, (Three-leaved Gold-thread).

Low woods and on hummocks in swamps. A lovely little plant with shining leaves and white starry flowers. May—1. (B).

AQUILEGIA, Tourn, Columbine.

59. *A. CANADENSIS*, L. (Wild Columbine "Honey-suckle.")

Rocky woods. A beautiful plant well worth cultivation for its red and yellow flowers. May—3. (B).

DELPHINIUM, Tourn, Larkspur.

65. *D. Consolida*, L. (Blue Field Larkspur).

Introduced from Europe in seed grain, and escaped from gardens. Flowers sometimes pink or white. June—4.

ACTÆA, L. Baneberry.

73. *A. ALBA*, Bigelow, (White-berried Cohosh).

Woods and river banks. The spikes of flowers longer and blooming a week later than those of No. 74. The conspicuous waxy white berries on their thick red pedicels, render this one of our most notable berry-bearing plants. May—4. (B).

74. *A. SPICATA*, L. *var. rubra*, Ait. (Red-berried Cohosh).

Rich woods. The flowers in a more compact head than the preceding, on longer pedicels and of a clearer white. A white-berried variety of this species frequently occurs; but it may be



Fletcher, James. 1888. "Flora Ottawaensis." *The Ottawa naturalist* 2(2), 28–32.

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